

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
"Creating Community Through People, Parks and Programs"
Russ Guiney, Director

March 14, 2006

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**RESOLUTION INITIATING PROCEEDINGS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FISCAL
YEAR 2006-07 ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS FOR ZONES WITHIN LOS ANGELES
COUNTY LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ACT (LLA) DISTRICT NOS. 1, 2 AND 4;
AND FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN ENGINEER'S REPORT IN REGARDS TO
ASSESSMENTS, AN AMENDMENT TO THE EXISTING RATES IN TWO ZONES, AN
ANNEXATION OF TERRITORY, AND NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
ADJUSTMENT COMPONENTS FOR VARIOUS ZONES IN DISTRICT NOS. 2 AND 4
(1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Districts - Three-Vote Matter)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD

1. Find that the proposed action is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) according to the sections of the State CEQA Guidelines and the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987 cited herein.
2. Adopt the attached Resolution Initiating Proceedings for the levying of annual assessments for landscape and park maintenance purposes for Los Angeles County Landscaping and Lighting Act (LLA) Districts 1, 2 and 4 and Zones therein, pursuant to provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, Part 2, Division 15 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California, and as provided by Article XIID of the California Constitution; and including an amendment to the existing rates for LLA District No. 4, Zone No. 68 West Creek Copperhill Village and Zone No. 69 West Creek Canyon Estates, the annexation of one new Zone, West Creek Park Zone No. 77 into LLA District No. 4 and levying of assessments therefor, and new consumer price index adjustment components for various Zones in District Nos. 2 and 4.

3. Designate the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation as the "Engineer" for purposes of implementing this procedure.
4. Instruct the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation to prepare and file an Engineer's Report in accordance with Article 4 (commencing with Section 22565) of Chapter 1, Part 2, Division 15 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California; and including an amendment to the existing rates for LLA District No. 4, Zone No. 68 West Creek Copperhill Village and Zone No. 69 West Creek Canyon Estates, the annexation of one new Zone, West Creek Park Zone No. 77 into LLA District No. 4 and levying of assessments therefor, and new consumer price index adjustment components for various Zones in District Nos. 2 and 4.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of this recommended action is for your Board to initiate proceedings for the levying of annual assessments for landscape and park maintenance purposes by directing this Department to prepare the required annual Engineer's Report, which will include an amendment to the existing rates for LLA District No. 4, Zone No. 68 West Creek Copperhill Village and Zone No. 69 West Creek Canyon Estates, the annexation of one new Zone and levying of assessments therefor, West Creek Park Zone No. 77 into LLA District No. 4, and new consumer price index adjustment components for various Zones in District Nos. 2 and 4.

This Board action only initiates the assessment process and does not, in itself, establish any assessment rates.

On July 12, 1979, August 10, 1995, and July 22, 1997, your Board approved the formation of Los Angeles County Valencia Area-Wide LLA District No. 1 and County LLA Districts No. 2 and No. 4 and Zones therein, respectively, for the purpose of providing landscaping in County-administered Landscaping and Lighting Act Districts and Zones therein pursuant to provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, Part 2, Division 15, of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California. As the governing body, the Board of Supervisors is responsible for approving the levying of annual assessments for landscape and park maintenance purposes. Board adoption of the Resolution Initiating Proceedings institutes the annual assessment process for the renewal or increase of existing annual assessments and the establishment of new assessments for the 2006-07 Fiscal Year.

Proceedings regarding the proposed amendment to the existing rates in LLA District No. 4, Zone No. 68 West Creek Copperhill Village and Zone No. 69 West Creek Canyon Estates, the annexation of one new Zone, West Creek Park Zone No. 77 into LLA District No. 4, and new consumer price index adjustment components for various Zones

in District Nos. 2 and 4 will be considered pursuant to a future Resolution of Intention, as required by the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California and as provided by Article XIID of the California Constitution.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

These actions will further the County's Strategic Plan Goals of Service Excellence (Goal One) and Fiscal Responsibility (Goal Four). These recommendations, in compliance with the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 and Article XIID of the California Constitution, will allow the County to service and maintain the park, landscaping and appurtenant facilities that benefit those that live within these zones.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

All services provided in the Districts, and Zones therein, are funded by the assessments established by the Board of Supervisors. There is no fiscal impact to the General Fund.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Landscaping and Lighting Act (the Act) sets forth procedures that must be followed for any fiscal year during which assessments levied in a prior fiscal year are to be continued. The Act, Government Code Section 53753, and the California Constitution have established procedures that must be followed for the levy of any new or increased assessments. The Act requires that the legislative body adopt a Resolution Initiating Proceedings, and generally describe any proposed improvements or substantial changes in existing improvements. The legislative body must also order the Engineer to prepare and file a report in accordance with Section 22565 et seq. of the Streets and Highways Code.

Over the next two months, we will submit for your Board's approval the required Engineer's Report and Resolution of Intention setting the public hearing date to establish the assessments for Fiscal Year 2006-07, pursuant to the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California and as provided by Article XIID of the California Constitution.

Newhall Land, as property owner, has requested the annexation of a new Zone, to be known as West Creek Park, into the existing LLA District No. 4, as Zone 77, for maintenance purposes. An amendment to the existing rates will be proposed for the existing LLA District No. 4, Zone No. 68 West Creek Copperhill Village and also for the existing Zone No. 69 West Creek Canyon Estates, in the form of an increased rate due to changes in the engineer's reports.

Finally, Parks and Recreation will be holding separate ballots for various Zones in District Nos. 2 and 4 to add consumer price index adjustment components to the annual assessment to ensure the future financial viability of these Zones.

County Counsel has approved the enclosed Resolution as to form.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

None.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed actions are exempt from CEQA according to Sections 15306 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 6 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987 because CEQA does not apply to projects consisting of basic data collection. CEQA does not apply to the establishment, modification, structuring, or approval of rates, tolls, fares, or other charges by public agencies. Approval of the amendment is also exempt from CEQA because it is for the purposes of (1) meeting operating expenses including employee wage rates and fringe benefits, (2) purchasing and leasing supplies, equipment or materials, (3) meeting financial reserve needs and requirements and/or (4) obtaining funds for capital projects necessary to maintain service within existing service areas, pursuant to Section 21080 (b) 8 of the Public Resource Code.

CONCLUSION

It is requested that an executed copy of this document be retained by the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board, one conformed copy each be forwarded to the Chief Administrative Office, County Counsel and Auditor-Controller, and two conformed copies be forwarded to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted



Russ Guiney
Director

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (22)

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**RESOLUTION INITIATING PROCEEDINGS FOR THE LEVYING OF FISCAL YEAR
2006-07 ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS FOR LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE PURPOSES
IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ACT (LLA) DISTRICT
NOS. 1, 2 AND 4 AND ZONES THEREIN; AND FOR THE PREPARATION OF AN
ENGINEER'S REPORT IN REGARDS TO AN AMENDMENT TO THE EXISTING
RATE FOR TWO ZONES, THE ANNEXATION OF NEW TERRITORY INTO LLA
DISTRICT NO. 4, AND INCLUSION OF NEW CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
ADJUSTMENT COMPONENTS FOR VARIOUS ZONES IN DISTRICT NOS. 2 AND 4
PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS OF THE LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ACT OF
1972 (PART 2, DIVISION 15, STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE, STATE OF
CALIFORNIA) AND AS PROVIDED BY ARTICLE XIID OF THE CALIFORNIA
CONSTITUTION**

WHEREAS, on July 12, 1979, August 10, 1995, and July 22, 1997, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles approved the formation of County Valencia Area-Wide Landscaping and Lighting Act (LLA) District No. 1 and Los Angeles County Landscaping and Lighting Act LLA Districts No. 2 and No. 4, respectively, for the purpose of providing funds for the operation of the County-administered Landscaping and Lighting Act Districts and Zones therein pursuant to provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, Part 2, Division 15 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California; and

WHEREAS, three (3), twenty-five (25) and sixteen (16), separate Zones have been established within the Los Angeles County LLA District Nos. , 2 and 4 respectively, with each Zone consisting of territory receiving substantially the same degree of benefit from the improvements; and

WHEREAS, each of the three (3), twenty-five (25) and sixteen (16) Zones within Los Angeles County LLA District Nos. 1, 2 and 4, respectively, retain separate budgets, Trust Accounts, and Unit Numbers established by the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles previously approved the formation of the existing Landscaping and Lighting Act District/Zones for the purpose of providing funds for the provision of landscape maintenance services located therein pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles in addition to the approval of the annual levy of assessment proposes to levy and collect assessments against the lots and parcels of land with a new annexation, West Creek Park Zone No. 77, annexation into LLA District No. 4; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles additionally proposes to amend the existing rate for LLA District No. 4, Zone No. 68 West Creek Copperhill Village and Zone No. 69 West Creek Canyon Estates; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles additionally proposes to add a consumer price index adjustment to the annual assessment in District No. 2, Zones 19 (Sagewood Valencia), 20 (El Dorado Village), 21 (Sunset Pointe), 33 (Canyon Park), 34 (Hacienda), 35 (Montebello), 36 (Mountain Valley), 37 (Castaic Hillcrest), 40 (Castaic Shadow Lake), 43 (Rowland Heights), 44 (Bouquet Canyon), 48 (Shadow Hills), 55 (Castaic North Bluff), 56 (Commerce Center Area Wide), 58 (Rancho El Dorado), 62 (Canyon Heights), and 63 (The Enclave); and District No. 4, Zones 64 (Double C Ranch), and 77 (West Creek Park); and

WHEREAS, provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, Part 2, Division 15 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California require the

legislative body to adopt a Resolution Initiating Proceedings, generally describe any proposed improvements or substantial changes in existing improvements and order the Engineer to prepare and file a report in accordance with Section 22565, et. seq. of the Streets and Highways Code and as provided by Article XIID of the California Constitution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

Section 1. That the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles proposes to establish assessments for park and landscape maintenance purposes for the 2006-07 Fiscal Year to be levied against property in Los Angeles County LLA District Nos. 1, 2 and 4 and the Zones therein pursuant to provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, Part 2, Division 15 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California, and

Section 2. That the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles proposes to annex territory into LLA District No. 4 and establish assessments for park and landscape maintenance purposes for the 2006-07 Fiscal Year pursuant to provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972, Part 2, Division 15 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California, to be known as West Creek Park Zone No. 77 and levying of assessments therefor, and include maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrades to planted and irrigated slopes, turf areas, parkway panels, medians, automated irrigation system components, and park improvements within Los Angeles County LLA District Nos. 1, 2 and 4 and the Zones therein in compliance with procedures set forth in the Streets and Highways Code.

Section 3. That the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles proposes to amend the existing rate with regards to LLA District No. 4 Zone No. 68 West Creek Copperhill Village and Zone No. 69 West Creek Canyon Estates.

Section 4. That the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles proposes to include consumer price index adjustment components for various Zones in the North County area and various Zones in the East County area.

Section 5. That the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation is hereby ordered to prepare and file reports in accordance with Article 4 commencing with Section 22565, of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 15 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California.

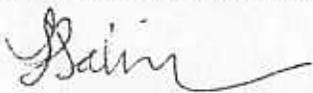
The foregoing Resolution was on the _____ day of _____, 2006, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of
the County of Los Angeles

By: _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM
BY COUNTY COUNSEL

RAYMOND G. FORTNER, JR.

By:  _____
Deputy