



April 16, 1998

AGENDA: April 28, 1998

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**SUBJECT: 1998-99 SERVICE CHARGES FOR COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 12;
WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT**

Members of the Board:

Each year your Board sets the service charge amounts for the following fiscal year for the county service areas under your jurisdiction. The purpose of this letter is to submit proposed resolutions to establish benefit assessments/service charges for County Service Area No. 12 (CSA 12): Septic System Maintenance, San Lorenzo Wastewater Management (CSA 12A), and Inspections of Nonstandard Systems (CSA 12N) for the 1998-99 fiscal year and subsequent fiscal years. It is recommended that your Board set a public hearing to consider adoption of the proposed benefit assessments/service charges and the assessment/service charge reports. The nature of these charges and the services supported by these charges are described below.

Countywide Septic System Maintenance (CSA 12)

The basic CSA 12 charge of \$6.90 per parcel is collected from approximately 22,000 developed parcels located in unsewered areas of the County. This charge provides for various services to facilitate septic tank pumping and related maintenance activities for properties with septic systems throughout the county: funding the capital costs of septage disposal facilities; promotion of regular tank pumping; and, management of a computer database containing records of septic tank pumping, inspections, and upgrades. It is recommended that this charge remain at \$6.90 per parcel, the level approved by your Board for 1996-97 and 1997-98. Your Board previously approved continuing this charge as an assessment under Proposition 2 18, in accordance with the February 3, 1997 letter of County Counsel to your Board.

San Lorenzo Wastewater Management (CSA 12A)

An additional charge of \$18.54 is collected from approximately 13,000 developed, unsewered parcels located within the San Lorenzo River Watershed (defined as Zone A of CSA 12). This provides for regular inspections, abatement of problem septic systems, water quality monitoring, investigation of community disposal alternatives for areas with problem septic systems, and administration of management programs in order to correct past wastewater disposal problems in the area. Implementation of this program is mandated by the State Regional Water Quality Control Board as a condition of continued use of septic systems by all properties within the San Lorenzo Watershed. It is recommended that this charge remain at \$18.54 per parcel, the level approved by your Board for 1996-97 and 1997-98. Your Board previously approved continuing this charge as an assessment under Proposition 2 18, in accordance with the February 3, 1997 letter of County Counsel to your Board.

Inspection and Management of Nonstandard Systems (CSA 12N)

An additional CSA 12 service charge is collected for approximately 150 parcels served by nonstandard sewage disposal systems: alternative systems, **haulaway** systems, and nonconforming systems which do not meet conventional standards. These nonstandard systems require close supervision by the property owner and the County to ensure that they function properly and do not fail. Since 1990, pursuant to Chapter 7.38 of the County Code, such systems have required regular inspection by County staff and payment of an annual fee to cover the costs of inspection and monitoring of water quality. Since 1993, this has been collected as an additional CSA 12 service charge. Property owner acknowledgment and acceptance of the ongoing annual collection of this fee is a condition of initial approval of the permit for use of a nonstandard system. As such, County Counsel has determined that these are fees imposed as a condition of development permit approvals, and are therefore not subject to the provisions of Proposition 218.

The basic service charges for Nonstandard Systems are set at one of four levels, depending on the type of system and the amount of monitoring required. It is recommended that commencing with the 1998-99 fiscal year, the fees be increased by 4% per year, consistent with increases proposed for other Environmental Health permit fees.

The proposed Nonstandard System service charges for 1998-99 are:

- \$1132 for a Level 1 Alternative System (new alternative technologies serving new development; there are no parcels in this category now),
- \$565 for a Level 2 Alternative System (mound system, pressure distribution system, or sand filter system serving new development; currently there are 7 parcels in this category),
- \$184 for a Level 3 System (alternative system serving existing development, **haulaway** system, or nonconforming system serving large uses; 50 parcels currently in this category), and
- \$87 for a Level 4 Nonconforming System (a system repair for a single family dwelling that does not meet the requirements for a standard system; 90 parcels currently in this category).

Procedure for Adoption of Service Charges

It is recommended that your Board set a public hearing for May 19, 1998, to consider the proposed resolution establishing the benefit assessments/service charges for CSA 12, **CSA 12A**, and Nonstandard System Inspections (**CSA 12N**); and, to consider the proposed assessment/service charge reports which show the specific charge for each parcel. These reports will be prepared and submitted to the Clerk of the Board for public review by May 5, two weeks prior to the May 19 public hearing.

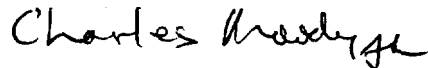
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Recommendation

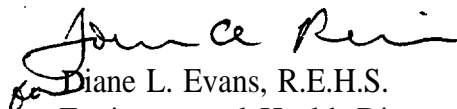
It is therefore RECOMMENDED that your Board:

1. Adopt the attached resolution setting a public hearing for May 19, 1998, on the proposed benefit assessments/service charges and the proposed 1998-99 Assessment/Service Charge Reports for County Service Area No. 12, Wastewater Management.
2. Direct the Clerk of the Board to publish the notice of the public hearing in the manner prescribed by law.

Sincerely,



Charles M. Moody
Health Services Agency Administrator



Diane L. Evans, R.E.H.S.
Environmental Health Director

RECOMMENDED



Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer

Attachments

cc: **CAO**
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Public Works
Environmental Health
HSA Administration

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION NO. _____

On the motion of Supervisor
duly seconded by Supervisor
the following resolution is adopted:

**RESOLUTION SETTING PUBLIC HEARING ON
PROPOSED BENEFIT ASSESSMENTS/SERVICE CHARGES
AND PROPOSED ASSESSMENT/SERVICE CHARGE REPORTS
FOR THE 1998-99 FISCAL YEAR FOR COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 12:
SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE (CSA 12),
SAN LORENZO WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT (CSA 12A), AND
INSPECTION AND MONITORING OF
NONSTANDARD SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS (CSA 12N)**

WHEREAS, on May 19, 1998, during the morning session (which begins at the hour of 9:00 a.m.), in the Board Chambers, Room 525, County Governmental Center, 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, California, the Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing on the proposed benefit assessments/service charges and assessment/service charge reports for County Service Area No. 12 for: Septic System Maintenance (CSA 12), San Lorenzo Wastewater Management (CSA 12A), Inspection and Monitoring of Nonstandard Sewage Disposal Systems (CSA 12N) for the 1998-99 fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors will determined the nature, extent and cost of the extended services to be provided during the 1998-99 fiscal year within County Service Area No. 12 for: Septic System Maintenance (CSA 12), San Lorenzo Wastewater Management (CSA 12A), Inspection and Monitoring of Nonstandard Sewage Disposal Systems (CSA 12N); and,

WHEREAS, the County Administrative Officer will prepare assessment/service charge reports apportioning the total cost of such extended services to parcels within the above County Service Areas in proportion to the estimated benefits to be received by each parcel; and,

WHEREAS, by May 5, 1998 said assessment/service charge reports will be placed on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Board of Supervisors that Tuesday, May 19, 1998, during the morning session (which begins at the hour of 9:00 a.m.), in the Board Chambers, Room 525, County Governmental Center, 701 Ocean Street, Santa Cruz, California, the Board of Supervisors will conduct a public hearing on proposed benefit assessments/service charges and on the reports of proposed assessments/service charges for the 1998-99 fiscal year within County Service Area No. 12 for: Septic System Maintenance (CSA 12), San Lorenzo Wastewater Management (CSA 12A), Inspection and Monitoring of Nonstandard Sewage Disposal Systems (CSA 12N).

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that at the time, date and place above, the Board of Supervisors shall hear all objections or protests, if any, to the assessments/service charges and to the reports.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors shall cause notice of the filing of the reports and the time, date, and place of hearing, to be published once a week for two successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing, in a newspaper of general circulation printed and published in Santa Cruz County, pursuant to Government Code Section 6066 and County Code Section 4.26.150.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this _____ day of _____, 1998, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS


NOES: SUPERVISORS

ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

Chair of said Board

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of said Board

Approved as to form:


County Counsel

Distribution: County Counsel
CAO
Auditor-Controller
Health Services Agency
Environmental Health Service

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
RESOLUTION NO. _____

On the motion of Supervisor
duly seconded by Supervisor
the following resolution is adopted:

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING BENEFIT ASSESSMENTS/SERVICE CHARGES
FOR COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 12:
SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE,
SAN LORENZO WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT (ZONE A), AND
INSPECTION AND MONITORING OF NONSTANDARD SYSTEMS**

Be It Resolved and Ordered by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz as follows:

Section 1. Benefit assessments for parcels within County Service Area No. 12 (CSA 12) for the 1998-1999 fiscal year, and for each fiscal year thereafter unless changed by Resolution of the Board adopted after any public hearing and proceedings required by law, shall be \$6.90 per parcel, except that assessments will not be levied on parcels in the following categories:

- a. Common Area Parcels.
- b. Unimproved parcels.
- c. Parcels with an assessed valuation of \$5,000 or less.
- d. Parcels which do not have septic systems and do not have uses which require the use of a septic system.
- e. Parcels owned by a federal, state, or local governmental agency.

Section 2. An additional service charge (property-related fee or charge) for parcels within Zone A of County Service Area No. 12 (CSA 12A) for the 1998-1999 fiscal year, and for each fiscal year thereafter unless changed by Resolution of the Board adopted after any public hearing and proceedings required by law, shall be \$18.54 per parcel, except that service charges will not be levied on parcels in the following categories:

- a. Common Area Parcels.
- b. Unimproved parcels.
- c. Parcels with an assessed valuation of **\$5,000.00** or less.
- d. Parcels which do not have septic systems and do not have uses which require the use of a septic system.

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e. Parcels with septic systems that discharge sewage outside of the San Lorenzo River Watershed.

f. Parcels owned by a federal, state, or local governmental agency

Section 3. An additional service charge shall be levied for parcels within County Service Area No. 12 that are served by nonstandard sewage disposal systems (alternative systems, haulaway, systems, or nonconforming systems) as designated by the County Health Officer pursuant to Chapter 7.38 of the County Code and where payment of a charge is required as a condition of a sewage disposal system permit. Commencing with the 1998-1999 fiscal year, and for each fiscal year thereafter unless changed by Resolution of the Board adopted after any public hearing and proceedings required by law, the fees shall increase by 3% per year. For the 1998-1999 fiscal year the charges shall be as follows:

- Level 1 Alternative System:	\$1132.00
- Level 2 Alternative System:	\$565.00
- Level 3 Alternative System or Haulaway System:	\$ 184.00
- Level 4 Nonconforming System	\$ 87.00

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa **Cruz**, State of California, this _____ day of _____, 1998, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS

NOES: SUPERVISORS

ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

Chairperson of said Board

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of said Board

Approved as to form:

Harry A. O'Connell
County Counsel

Distribution: County Counsel
CAO
Health Services Agency
Environmental Health Service

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

On the motion of Supervisor
duly seconded by Supervisor
the following resolution is adopted:

**RESOLUTION CONFIRMING ASSESSMENT/SERVICE CHARGE REPORTS
FOR THE 1998-99 FISCAL YEAR FOR COUNTY SERVICE AREA NO. 12:
SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE (CSA 12),
SAN LORENZO WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT (CSA 12A), AND
INSPECTION AND MONITORING OF
NONSTANDARD SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS (CSA 12N)**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors has held a duly noticed public hearing on the assessment/service charge reports for assessments and service charges proposed for the 1998-99 fiscal year within County Service Area No. 12: Septic System Maintenance (CSA 12), San Lorenzo Wastewater Management (CSA 12A), Inspection and Monitoring of Nonstandard Sewage Disposal Systems (CSA 12N); and,

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that no protests have been submitted or that all protests should be overruled; and,

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the assessment/service charge reports should be confirmed as submitted/amended;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors that the attached assessment/service charge reports for the 1998-99 fiscal year within County Service Area No. 12 for Septic System Maintenance (CSA 12), San Lorenzo Wastewater Management (CSA 12A), and Inspection and Monitoring of Nonstandard Sewage Disposal Systems (CSA 12N) are hereby confirmed, and such assessments and service charges are authorized to be collected as provided in County Code Chapter 4.26.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Clerk of this Board shall file a copy of this Resolution and attached Assessment/Service Charge Reports with the County Auditor on or before August 10, 1998.

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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this _____ day of _____, 1998, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS

NOES: SUPERVISORS

ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

Chairperson of said Board

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of said Board

Approved as to form:

J. L. Chabert
County Counsel

Distribution: County Counsel
CAO
Auditor-Controller
Health Services Agency
Environmental Health Service

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON BENEFIT ASSESSMENTS/SERVICE CHARGES
 AND ON ASSESSMENT/SERVICE CHARGE REPORTS FOR
 COUNTY SERVICE AREA 12: SEPTIC SYSTEM MAINTENANCE,
 SAN LORENZO WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT, AND
 NONSTANDARD SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM INSPECTIONS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Tuesday, May 19, 1998, during the morning session (which begins at 9:00 a.m.), in the Board Chambers, Room 525, County Government Center, 701 Ocean Street, Santa **Cruz**, California, the Board of Supervisors will consider adoption of resolutions establishing benefit assessments/service charge values and confirming assessment/service charge reports listing the charges to be levied on each parcel for the 1998-99 fiscal year for County Service Area 12: Septic System Maintenance, San Lorenzo Wastewater Management, and **Nonstandard** Sewage Disposal System Inspections. The following charges are proposed:

County Service Area No. 12, Septic System Maintenance

Charge per parcel served by septic system (assessment):

Proposed 1998-99: \$6.90 (Current 1997-98: \$6.90)

County Service Area No. 12, Zone A, San Lorenzo Wastewater Management

Charge per parcel served by septic system, in the San Lorenzo River Watershed (a property-related fee or charge, in addition to the CSA 12 assessment listed above):

Proposed 1998-99: \$18.54 (Current 1997-98: \$18.54)

County Service Area No. 12, Zone N Inspection of Nonstandard Sewage Disposal Systems

Charge per parcel served by an alternative, **haulaway** or nonconforming system, as designated by the Health Officer pursuant to Chapter 7.38 of the County Code and where payment of such charge is required on a sewage disposal permit (in addition to charges listed above):

	Proposed 1998-99 charges:	Current 1997-98:
- Level 1 Alternative Systems:	\$1132.00	(\$1088.00)
- Level 2 Alternative Systems:	\$ 565.00	(\$543 .00)
- Level 3 Alternative Systems:	\$ 184.00	(\$176.00)
- Level 4 Nonconforming Systems	\$ 87.00	(\$ 84.00)

The assessment/service charge reports shall be available for inspection on or before May 5, 1998, at 701 Ocean Street, Room 500, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Santa Cruz, California.

At the time, date and place stated above, the Board of Supervisors shall hear and consider all objections or protests, if any, to the proposed benefit assessment/service charge rates and to the proposed assessment/service charge reports. For questions related to these assessment/service charge reports, please contact Environmental Health at 454-2022.

The County of Santa Cruz does not discriminate and no person shall, by reason of a disability, be denied the benefits of its services, programs or activities. The Board of Supervisors Chambers is located in an accessible facility. If you wish to attend this meeting and you require special assistance in order to participate, please contact the ADA Coordinator, at (408) 454-2348 (**TDD** number 408-454-2123 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting to make arrangements.

As a courtesy to those persons affected, please attend the meeting smoke and scent free.