



County of Santa Cruz 329

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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JOHN A. FANTHAM
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

APPROVED AND FILED
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

DATE: March 23, 1999
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

SUSAN A. MAUGIELLO
EX-OFFICIO CLERK OF THE BOARD

BY [Signature] DEPUTY

AGENDA: MARCH 23, 1999

March 11, 1999

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

SUBJECT: 1999/00 COUNTY SERVICE AREA BENEFIT ASSESSMENT RATES

Members of the Board:

Public Works has received notification from County Service Areas No. 13, (Zone B, Lower Hutchinson Road), No. 18 (Whitehouse Canyon), No. 34 (Larsen Road), No. 36 (Forest Glen, Baker Road Zone), No. 43 (Bonita Encino), and No. 55 (Riverdale Park, Zone B) that they wish to increase the benefit assessment rate for the 1999/00 fiscal year. The proposed increases are necessary to provide sufficient funds for the ongoing maintenance of service area roads and are outlined in Attachment A.

As County Service Area fees are considered benefit assessments, any increase in rates must comply with Proposition 2 18 procedures. These procedures require that an increase in the benefit assessment rate can only be charged if an election is held and the increase is approved by at least half of the votes cast by the property owners, with the votes weighted according to the amount of the proposed assessment of each parcel. Furthermore, a public hearing must be held to consider any protests to the proposed increase.

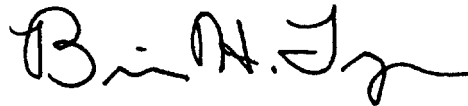
We have attached the Engineer's Reports, notice of public hearing, resolutions, and ballots for your Board's approval. The resolutions set the May 18, 1999, public hearing date on the proposed rates. These rates are set at the specific levels requested by service area representatives and include an allowance for rates to be increased each fiscal year based on the Consumer Price Index. The rates are identified in the attached Engineer's Reports. The ballots, notice of hearing, and resolutions are all in accordance with Board established rules for conducting ballot proceedings for assessments under Article XIID, Section 4 of the California State Constitution.

Actions related to County Service Areas which do not involve an increase in the benefit assessment rate for fiscal year 1999/00 will be brought before your Board for consideration on May 18, 1999.

It is therefore recommended that the Board of Supervisors take the following action:

1. Accept and approve the Engineer's Reports for County Service Areas No. 13 (Zone B, Lower Hutchinson Road), No. 18 (Whitehouse Canyon), No. 34 (Larsen Road), No. 36 (Forest Glen, Baker Road Zone), No. 43 (Bonita Encino), and No. 55 (Riverdale Park, Zone B).
2. Adopt the attached Resolutions of Intention to Authorize and Levy an Assessment for Road Maintenance Operation within the various County Service Areas.
3. Approve the attached notice of public hearing, ballot procedure, and ballots for the proposed increased 1999/00 assessment for County Service Area Nos. 13, Zone B; 18; 34; 36, Baker Road Zone; 43; and 55, Zone B.
4. Set Tuesday, May 18, 1999, during the Board of Supervisors morning agenda (which begins at 9:00 a.m.) as the date and time for a public hearing on the proposed increased assessment rates for County Service Area Nos. 13, Zone B; 18; 34; 36, Baker Road Zone; 43; and 55, Zone B; and direct the Clerk of the Board to publish a summary notice of the public hearing.
5. Direct the Department of Public Works to mail ballots to the record owners of properties subject to the proposed assessments within County Service Area Nos. 13, Zone B; 18; 34; 36, Baker Road Zone; 43; and 55, Zone B.

Yours truly,

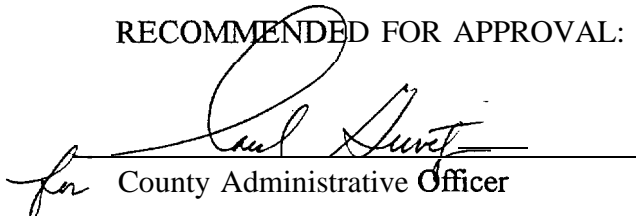


For JOHN A. FANTHAM
Director of Public Works

SRL: bbs

Attachments

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL:


for County Administrative Officer

copy to: Public Works Department

FISCAL YEAR 1999/00
COUNTY SERVICE AREA PROPOSED
BENEFIT ASSESSMENT RATES

<u>CSA No.</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>supv. Dist.</u>	<u>1998/99 Rate - \$ Per Year</u>	<u>Proposed 1999/00 Rate - \$ Per Year</u>
13	Zone B, Lower Hutchinson Road	5	\$200.00	\$300.00
18	Whitehouse Canyon	3	\$ -0-	\$ 50.00
34	Larsen Road	2	3 Zones, \$50 - \$100 (per improved parcel)	\$125.00 - 175.00 (per improved parcel)
36	Forest Glen (Baker Road Zone)	2	\$288.00	\$4,500.00
43	Bonita Encino	2	\$ 50.00	\$100.00
55	Riverdale Park (Zone B)	5	\$250.00	\$650.00

May 5, 1999

County of Santa Cruz
Board of Supervisors
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Sir or Madam:

At an upcoming public hearing, you will be considering a rate increase for road maintenance for County Service Area No. 34 (Larsen Road). This road has been in existence for over 100 years, beginning with its use as a logging road in the 1890's.

Over much of its length, the surface is asphalt laid over earth, with no provision for drainage or base. As the use of this road in recent times has been limited to residential traffic, occasional overlays and patching have been sufficient to keep it passable.

Last summer, a large logging operation took place on **Westwood** Lane, a feeder to Larsen Road, and the lower one-quarter mile of Larsen Road was part of the haul route. The residents of **Westwood** Lane were forced to sue the owner of the property to be logged to make **Westwood** Lane safe for large trucks. Geologists and engineers who testified in this suit identified two **slide-prone** areas on Larsen Road. They also noted that due to the absence of base material, the surface of the road is prone to cracking and settling. There is also a spring present which saturates the sub-base of the road. In general, these experts concluded that Larsen Road was not designed for use by heavy trucks, and would sustain increased damage if used for this purpose.

This summer, another larger property is to be logged, and the previous project is to be completed. There are other harvest plans which have been or are being prepared. They will all use Larsen Road as the haul route.

As we are required by law to make this road available to the public, and as this is the only access to some thirty-five homes for service and emergency vehicles, we are anticipating some large capital outlays for repair and improvement of Larsen Road. At an open meeting in February, 1999, to which all residents of Larsen Road were invited, the proposed increase in road fees was approved. I would urge you to likewise approve the fee schedule as submitted.

Sincerely,



Michael Hopper
President, Larsen Road Association
P.O. Box 9
Aptos, CA 95001

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