

**MEMORANDUM  
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

FROM: Vice Mayor Ron Smith

DATE: March 8, 2011

SUBJECT: **Report on the Activities of the Board of Directors for District No. 14 of the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County**

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**Recommendation:**

Receive a report of the proceedings and issues discussed at the February 24, 2011, District No. 14 Board of Directors meeting of the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County.

**Background:**

District No. 14 of the County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County is organized to receive through their trunk sewers the wastewater from all of the City of Lancaster, a small region of the westerly portion of the City of Palmdale, and a smaller region of the unincorporated County of Los Angeles. A Board of Directors comprised of a representative from each city and the County generally meets monthly to review and decide upon the business of the District.

At the February 24, 2011, special meeting, the Board of Directors considered the following agenda items:

- At the January 2011 board meeting, district staff was directed to evaluate for commercial customers an advance service charge reduction. Currently, district customers are billed the full allowable rate twice yearly on their property tax bill then submit their water bills demonstrating low use in order to qualify for a rebate on the sanitation charges. District staff recommended customers be allowed an advance charge reduction only if they demonstrate consistent performance (five years) of low water use. Director Smith felt a shorter time period would suffice. Smith requested staff bring back the ordinance making the change next month for a vote.
- Director Smith placed a discussion of the future management of District No. 14 on the agenda. He requested staff prepare a request for proposals for an independent firm to perform a cost/benefit analysis to evaluate the how the district should be managed in the future.
- The Board held a discussion regarding staff proposed wastewater service charge increases for fiscal year 2011-2012. The current service charge rate per single-family home is \$360 per year. In fiscal years 2011-12, 2012-2013, 2013-2014, and 2014-2015, the staff proposed rates are \$408, \$456, \$462, and \$468 per year, respectively. The Board opted to take no action to increase rates for customers next fiscal year. Staff indicated this may necessitate a greater percentage increase in fiscal year 2012-2013 to fund district costs.