

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

FROM: Councilmember Ken Mann

DATE: July 14, 2015

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

Recommendation:

Receive a report of the proceedings and issues discussed at the June 18, 2015 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.

The Board of Directors considered the following agenda items at the June 18, 2015 meeting:

- Approved minutes of meeting held May 21, 2015.
- Approved warrants in the amount of \$384,681.57. The warrants issued by the District are for costs incurred for operation and maintenance, such as electricity, water, telephone, and chemicals, and for relatively small capital projects. Expenditures are made in accordance with the guidelines established by the budget procedure and the purchasing policy that has been adopted by the Board.
- Approved departmental invoices in the total amount of \$947,888.79 for the month of May, 2015. The invoices are an internal document that transfers each District's proportionate share of expenditures made by District No. 2, the administrative District, on behalf of the participating Districts in accordance with the authority granted through the approved annual budget and applicable joint powers agreement.
- Re: Wastewater Revenue Programs – Adopted the following ordinances and found that adoption of the ordinances is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Under Section 15273 of State Guidelines for Implementation of CEQA:

Summary: Copies of the proposed ordinances prescribing the service charge rates and mean loadings and providing for collection of the service charge on the tax roll and prescribing the industrial wastewater surcharge rates accompany the agenda. The ordinances were introduced on May 21, 2015, following a public hearing. CEQA provides an exemption from environmental review for specific activities that are deemed not to have a significant effect on the environment. Adoption of the proposed ordinances falls into this category because the service charge and industrial wastewater surcharge programs raise funds for operating expenses and for projects necessary to maintain service within existing service area. In order to obtain this exemption, the Board should incorporate written findings of the exemption in the record of proceedings.

- (a) An Ordinance Prescribing the Service Charge Rate and Mean Loadings per Unit of Usage for County Sanitation District No. 14 of Los Angeles County and Providing for the Collection of Such Charges on the Tax Roll.

Summary: In this District, the current service charge rate per single-family home (SFH) is \$41.33 per month (\$496 per year). In fiscal years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18, and 2018-19, the service charge rate is proposed to be reduced and held constant at \$39.67 per month (\$476 per year). Multiple dwelling units and commercial properties are charged in proportion to their use compared to an SFH.

- (b) An Ordinance Prescribing Industrial Wastewater Surcharge Rates for County Sanitation District No. 14 of Los Angeles County.

Summary: The proposed industrial wastewater surcharge rates are consistent with the proposed service charge rate. The proposed rates are as follows:

<u>PARAMETER</u>	<u>2015-16</u>	<u>2016-17</u>	<u>2017-18</u>	<u>2018-19</u>
Flow (per million gallons)	\$3,153.00	\$3,153.00	3,153.00	\$3,153.00
COD (per 1,000 lbs.)	354.90	354.90	354.90	354.90
SS (per 1,000 lbs.)	856.80	856.80	856.80	856.80
Peak Flow (GPM)	606.50	606.50	606.50	606.50
Short Form (per million gallons)	7,015.00	7,015.00	7,015.00	7,015.00

- Re: Wastewater Budget matters for Fiscal Year 2015-16
 - (a) Established by resolution appropriations limit of \$45,493,032 as required by California Government Code Section 7910 utilizing the population change within the County
 - (b) Adopted operating fund budget
 - (c) Adopted Resolution requesting Tax Levy of \$755,000
 - (d) Authorized appropriations per Budget

Summary: A letter discussing 2015-16 fiscal year budget matters accompanied the agenda.