

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

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06/26/07
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Date: June 26, 2007

To: Mayor Hearn and City Council Members

From: James R. Williams, Public Works Director

Subject: **Establishment of Proposed Lancaster Sewer System Service Charges and Method of Collection**

Recommendation:

Open public hearing regarding the establishment of proposed Lancaster Sewer System Services Charges and Method of Collection.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no fiscal impact by this action alone. However, the costs for operation, maintenance, replacement, and associated costs of the sewer system will be charged to the benefiting property owners once the ordinance levying the charges is adopted. This is a new sewer service charge and is based on the engineer's report on file in the City Clerk's office. The proposed charges are \$9.00 in FY 2007/08; \$62.00 in FY 2008/09; and \$78.00 in 2009/10. The large increase in 2008/09 will be mainly offset by the fact that the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District (CSMD) will not be collecting its sewer service charge of \$35.50 in the Lancaster area after June 30, 2008. The sewer charges are per sewage unit which is considered the sewage discharge from a single family residence. The sewer charges are determined based on a per sewage unit calculation. The charge to a single family residence would be based on one sewage unit. The Ordinance contains a table of sewage units for different types of uses. The table is based on the current table used by CSMD.

Background:

On December 12, 2006, City Council adopted Resolution 06-245 requesting withdrawal from the Consolidated Sewer Maintenance District. On April 24, 2007, City Council introduced Ordinance No. 876, adopting Chapter 13.09 of the Municipal Code establishing a sewer service charge and also adopted Resolution No. 07-89, fixing the time and place for a public hearing relative to the collection of a sewer service charge beginning in Fiscal Year 2007-2008. On May 8, 2007, Council adopted Ordinance 876.

The date of the public hearing was set for June 12, 2007 however, the ability to mail notices to affected property owners was delayed. Therefore, that mailing did not occur. The notice was revised to reflect a new public hearing date of June 26, 2007. At the June 12, 2007 City Council meeting, the public hearing was continued to June 26, 2007. The revised notices were mailed in compliance with state law.

After this public hearing is held, and if there is no majority protest by the affected property owners, a companion action before the Council tonight is to adopt a resolution to levy the sewer service charges.