

**STAFF REPORT**  
**City of Lancaster**

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Date: June 10, 2008

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: James R. Williams, Public Works Director

Subject: **Lancaster Drainage Benefit Assessment District Annual Assessment for Fiscal Year 2008-2009**

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**Recommendation:**

- a. Adopt **Resolution No. 08-40**, generally describing any proposed improvements or substantial changes in existing improvements and ordering the City Engineer to prepare and file a report for Lancaster Drainage Benefit Assessment District.
- b. Adopt **Resolution No. 08-41**, preliminarily approving the Engineer's Report, fixing time and place for public hearing on the levy of the proposed assessment and declaring its intention to levy and collect assessments within Lancaster Drainage Benefit Assessment District.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Each benefit unit annexed prior to Fiscal Year 2005-2006 will be assessed \$50.00. The proposed assessment is the same as the previous year's assessment. Each benefit unit annexed beginning Fiscal Year 2005-2006 will be assessed \$58.21. The proposed assessment includes the CPI adjustment. A total of \$1,237,397 will be assessed against the benefiting properties, which will be used for maintenance expenses.

**Background:**

The City Council previously formed the Lancaster Drainage Benefit Assessment District, including establishment of separate zones, and submitted the proposition to the eligible voters in each respective zone. The majority of voters approved the formation of the District, the separate zones, and the levying of the assessment. The first year's assessment was paid by the developers of the property. Each year, thereafter, the City Council, after public notice and hearing, may determine and impose an annual assessment. Due to the cost and complexity of accounting for separate zones of benefit within the District, separate zone designations were eliminated in 1993 by City Council action.

The drainage improvements in the District have been completed and accepted by the City Council and will be maintained with funds generated by the Drainage Benefit Assessment District. Each lot or parcel within the District that was annexed prior to Fiscal Year 2005-2006, as indicated on the diagram, will be assessed a unit assessment of \$50 per equivalent drainage unit (EDU) for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. The unit assessment for Fiscal Year 2008-2009 is the same as Fiscal Year 2004-2005, except for those parcels that were annexed during Fiscal Year 2005-2006 or subsequent fiscal years, which will be assessed at a rate reflective of an annual index increase consistent with the consumer price index for Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange Counties. Last year's rate was \$56.46. For the FY 2008-2009 annexations, the rate of assessment will be \$58.21 per assessment unit including the established CPI adjustment of 3.1% ( $\$56.46 \times 1.031 = \$58.21$ ).

The method of assessment is based on proportionate storm water runoff, thereby assessing developments with more impervious area a proportionately larger share of the total assessed costs. Refer to the attached Engineer's Report and Assessment for details.