

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

CC 16
05/26/09
MVB

Date: May 26, 2009

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: James R. Williams, Director of Public Works

Subject: **Lancaster Lighting Maintenance District Annual Assessment for Fiscal Year 2009-2010**

Recommendation:

- a. Adopt **Resolution No. 09-40**, generally describing any proposed improvements or substantial changes in existing improvements and ordering the City Engineer to prepare and file a report for Lancaster Lighting Maintenance District, pursuant to provisions of the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California; and
- b. Adopt **Resolution No. 09-41**, 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 Lighting Maintenance District, pursuant to Part 2 of Division 15 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California.

Fiscal Impact:

Each benefit unit will be assessed \$85.97 (\$45.00 in zones that voted "no" during the 2003 election). A total of \$3,789,005 will be assessed against the benefiting properties, which will be used for maintenance expenses. The total operating cost of the Lancaster Lighting Maintenance District for Fiscal year 2009-2010 is \$4,689,730. The resulting budget shortfall of \$889,211 will be funded from the City TDA Article 8 fund. Note that an operating reserve of \$2,344,865 is not funded as revenues are insufficient.

Background:

On March 11, 2003, the City Council directed that an election be held asking the property owners within the Lancaster Lighting Maintenance District (LLMD) to approve an increase in the annual street lighting assessment to \$70 per lighting unit, including a Consumer Price Index (CPI) based inflator.

Lancaster Lighting Maintenance District was formed, including subsequent annexations thereto, for the purpose of financing maintenance operations and installation of public lighting facilities, including but not limited to street lights, traffic signals, public parking lot lights, and highway safety lights (public lighting facilities) (as defined in § 22525 of the California Code) within the City of Lancaster, and assessing those properties which benefit from this service their proportionate share of the cost. Each year the City Council must, by law, order the

preparation of an Engineer's Report describing the existing and proposed maintenance services, and conduct a public hearing to establish and order the amount of assessment for the next fiscal year.

The assessment for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 is \$85.97 including a CPI factor for Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County of 3.5% per lighting unit, except for those parcels within the zones that voted "no" as shown on "Exhibit C", which will remain at \$45 per lighting unit.

The street lighting improvements in the areas within the District will be maintained with funds generated by the Lighting Maintenance District. Each lot or parcel within the District that has been annexed as indicated on the diagram will be assessed a unit assessment of \$85.97 for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Parcels within the zones that voted "no" will remain at a unit assessment of \$45.

JD:cmm

Attachments

Resolution No. 09-40

Resolution No. 09-41

Engineer's Report – (On file in the City Clerk's Office)