



Agenda Item 66

**Approvals:**

City Manager RJH

Dept. Head ES

Attorney JD

Finance JV

# AGENDA REPORT

SAN CLEMENTE CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Meeting Date: July 15, 2014

**Department:** Finance & Administrative Services  
**Prepared By:** Thomas Rendina, Business Services Officer

**Subject:** ***PROPOSED TAX LIENS – 2013 WEED ABATEMENT AND STORM DRAIN/CLEAN OCEAN CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2012, 2013, AND 2014.***

**Fiscal Impact:** Yes. The City should receive the remaining \$19,984 as prior year weed abatement revenue from fiscal year 2013 and \$20,200 of Storm Drain and Clean Ocean fees from fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014.

**Summary:** Each July the Finance Division prepares a list of unpaid Weed Abatement and Storm Drain/Clean Ocean invoices. Those lists are presented to City Council for approval to add as assessments to the Orange County Tax rolls. Since these charges are eligible to add as special assessments to the tax roll, staff believes this process represents an efficient method of collection of the outstanding amounts due.

**Background:** The City's Code Enforcement Division oversees the annual Weed Abatement Program to mitigate the fire hazard of weeds and debris on vacant and unoccupied structured parcels in San Clemente. Once cleared, property owners are billed for the abatement costs. Finance processes invoice payments for the Weed Abatement Program and, once per year, converts any remaining unpaid invoices to tax liens and submits to the Orange County Tax Assessor for collection.

Unpaid Storm Drain and Clean Ocean Fees, which are overseen by Utility Billing, are also included in this tax lien process on an annual basis.

**Discussion:** **2013 Weed Abatement**  
On October 1, 2013, City Council held a public hearing and approved a motion to confirm the Weed Abatement report for 2013 and directing Stewart & Associates, the weed abatement contractor, to bill all parcel owners of lots that were cleared for the 2013 weed abatement process. \$19,984 currently remains unpaid for the 2013 abatement billings. The prior year (2012) unpaid weed abatement billings totaled \$11,780 and the five year average equals \$13,215. Staff is requesting City Council authorization to attach the amount of each unpaid bill as a special assessment (lien) against the corresponding property through the Orange County Auditor-Controller. A listing of the 2013 unpaid weed abatement charges, by parcel number, is attached to this report (Exhibit "A").

### **Storm Drain/Clean Ocean Charges**

Storm Drain and Clean Ocean Fees are billed to property owners within the City of San Clemente to develop and maintain the City's Storm Drain system and Clean Ocean initiatives. Property owners with Water and Sewer accounts are billed on a monthly basis while property owners who do not utilize the City's Water and Sewer system are billed semi-annually in January and July of each year for the previous six-month period. 4,630 accounts are billed on a semi-annual basis. 31 of those accounts have delinquent balances totaling \$20,200.38. Collection calls and reminder notices have proved to be ineffective methods of collection. Collection agencies charge 40% of the balance as a collection fee, making this form of collection, if successful, significantly more expensive than property tax liens.

California Health & Safety Code 5473 grants power to City Council to have these delinquent charges collected on the tax roll by a resolution approved by 2/3 of the Council members. Staff is requesting City Council authorization to attach the amount of each unpaid bill as a special assessment (lien) against the corresponding property through the Orange County Auditor-Controller. A listing of the unpaid Storm Drain and Clean Ocean invoices, by parcel number, is attached to this report, (Exhibit "A").

The County of Orange requires assessment submissions for the 2014-15 tax rolls be submitted on or before August 10, 2014. Staff typically presents the request for Council approval as close to the County's cutoff date as possible to allow property owners the maximum amount of time to pay the outstanding invoices prior to filing tax liens.

### **Recommended**

**Action:** STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT the City Council:

1. Adopt the attached Resolution No \_\_\_\_\_ entitled, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING THE ORANGE COUNTY AUDITOR-CONTROLLER TO ADD UNPAID 2013 WEED ABATEMENT ASSESSMENTS TO THE FY 2014-15 TAX ROLLS, and
2. Adopt the attached Resolution No \_\_\_\_\_ entitled, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING THE ORANGE COUNTY AUDITOR-CONTROLLER TO ADD DELINQUENT STORM DRAIN AND CLEAN OCEAN FEES TO THE FY 2014-15 TAX ROLLS, and
3. Direct the City Clerk to file the resolutions with the Orange County Auditor-Controller, thereby placing a lien on the affected properties in order to collect revenue owed to the City.

**Attachments:** 1. Resolution No \_\_\_\_\_ authorizing property tax liens for unpaid 2013 weed abatement  
2. Exhibit "A": Listing of all parcel numbers and amounts outstanding for 2013 weed abatement.

3. Resolution No \_\_\_\_\_ authorizing property tax liens for unpaid 2012, 2013, and 2014 Storm Drain and Clean Ocean fees
4. Exhibit "A": Listing of all parcel numbers and amounts outstanding for delinquent Storm Drain and Clean Ocean fees.

**Notification:** None.

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING THE ORANGE COUNTY AUDITOR-CONTROLLER TO ADD UNPAID 2013 WEED ABATEMENT ASSESSMENTS TO THE FY 2014-15 TAX ROLLS.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code Section 39500, et seq., the City of San Clemente has performed work in abating weeds, trash and debris on private property within the City; and

WHEREAS, the owners of those properties listed on Exhibit "A", (attached hereto) have been billed for the costs of performing these services but have not remitted payment to the City; and

WHEREAS, the City desires the County Auditor-Controller to levy the outstanding amounts against the parcels listed as described in Exhibit "A", pursuant to the authority provided in Government Code Section 39577.

NOW, THEREFORE, The City Council of the City of San Clemente does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1. The City Council hereby requests the Orange County Auditor-Controller to add the amount of the assessments indicated in Exhibit "A", to the tax rolls levied against the corresponding properties.

Section 2. The City Clerk of the City of San Clemente is hereby directed to file this resolution with the Orange County Auditor-Controller.

Section 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk of the City of  
San Clemente, California

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of the City of  
San Clemente, California

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
COUNTY OF ORANGE ) §  
CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE )

I, JOANNE BAADE, City Clerk of the City of San Clemente, California, do hereby certify that Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ was adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of San Clemente held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of San Clemente, California, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK of the City of  
San Clemente, California

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

**Exhibit "A"**  
**2013 Unpaid Weed Abatement Invoices**

057-033-46	410.00
057-153-07	450.00
057-162-15	780.00
057-162-17	780.00
058-073-40	470.00
058-073-14	470.00
058-104-03	575.00
060-041-02	350.00
675-212-13	675.00
680-301-09	1120.00
680-521-03	735.00
690-012-04	1734.05
690-012-05	1752.95
690-012-09	5547.30
690-081-05	470.00
690-433-11	380.00
690-462-07	350.00
691-041-20	550.00
692-071-05	335.00
692-075-03	375.00
692-252-01	700.00
692-272-05	275.00
692-272-06	275.00
692-361-24	425.00

\$19,984.30

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA, REQUESTING THE ORANGE COUNTY AUDITOR-CONTROLLER TO ADD DELINQUENT STORM DRAIN AND CLEAN OCEAN FEES TO THE FY 2014-15 TAX ROLLS

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Health & Safety Code Section 5471, *et seq.*, the City of San Clemente ("City") has adopted ordinances adopting a Storm Drainage Fee (Ordinance No. 1120; Municipal Code Chapter 13.32) and a Clean Ocean Fee (Ordinance No. 1273; Municipal Code Chapter 13.34); and

WHEREAS, the owners of those properties listed on Exhibit "A" (attached hereto) have been billed for one or both such fees during the 2012, 2013 and 2014 fiscal years but, as stated on Exhibit "A," have not remitted payment to the City and such amount is now delinquent; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Health & Safety Code Sections 5473 and 5473.1, the City has caused a written report (the "Report") to be prepared for fiscal years 2012, 2013, and 2014 that contains a description of each parcel of real property receiving services that is delinquent in paying the Storm Drainage Fee and/or the Clean Ocean Fee and the amount of each said delinquency, and a copy of said report has been filed with the City Clerk; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Health & Safety Code Section 5473.1, the City Clerk has caused notice of the filing of said Report and of the time and place of a hearing to be published in a newspaper of general circulation and mailed to each person who is delinquent in paying said fee(s) at the address shown for said person(s) on the last equalized assessment roll or as known to the City Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the City Council held a duly noticed public meeting to confirm the Report and direct the Orange County Auditor-Controller to add the delinquent fees to the 2014-2015 Property Tax Bills for those properties to which the delinquent fees apply on July 15, 2014, at which time the City Council considered the aforementioned Report, the evidence and information presented by City staff and members of the public, and all objections and protests of persons delinquent in paying the Storm Drainage Fee and/or the Clean Ocean Fee, as reflected in the Report; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that protests have not been filed to the Report by the owners of a majority of separate parcels of property as described in the Report.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of San Clemente does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1. The City Council overrules any and all objections to the Report and approves and adopts the Report.

Section 2. On or before August 10, 2014, the City Clerk is hereby directed to file the Report with the Orange County Auditor-Controller, together with a statement endorsed by the City Clerk on the report over her signature that the Report has been finally adopted by the City Council and requesting that the Auditor-Controller enter the amounts of the charges shown on Exhibit "A" against the respective lots or parcels of land as they appear on the current assessment roll.

Section 3. The City Clerk is hereby directed to file this resolution with the Orange County Auditor-Controller and hereby requests the Orange County Auditor-Controller to add the amount of the assessments indicated in Exhibit "A", to the tax rolls levied against the corresponding properties.

Section 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk of the City of  
San Clemente, California

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of the City of  
San Clemente, California



STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
COUNTY OF ORANGE ) §  
CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE )

I, JOANNE BAADE, City Clerk of the City of San Clemente, California, do hereby certify that Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ was adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of San Clemente held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of San Clemente, California, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK of the City of  
San Clemente, California

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

**Exhibit "A"**  
**2012, 2013 and 2014 Delinquent**  
**Storm Drain/Clean Ocean Fees**

057-193-05	1662.39
691-063-03	210.55
691-131-25	214.38
691-133-02	210.55
691-133-06	356.56
691-133-34	294.77
680-301-09	281.90
691-092-19	232.86
691-092-53	232.86
692-282-32	260.56
057-033-46	232.19
057-191-31	258.52
691-093-44	211.78
691-082-15	333.05
690-351-22	209.13
692-272-04	232.19
692-401-01	253.74
691-097-01	342.23
691-433-03	4940.25
701-121-33	291.06
701-091-52	263.67
701-201-35	201.65
701-244-76	291.06
701-041-39	4812.19
930-026-51	271.67
930-026-00	271.67
708-033-23	246.96
708-033-06	266.94
708-093-18	295.47
701-322-09	1722.11
708-092-06	295.47

\$20,200.38

