

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

By: Marty Allan
Fleet/Fiscal Manager

Phone: 966-5356

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: (Policy Item: Yes ___ No X)

Public Hearing: Regarding a proposed increase in sewer service fees charged in the Yosemite West Maintenance District. Staff and the Yosemite West Advisory Committee recommend an increase in sewer fees to adequately cover the operational cost for sewer services to the District. Regulatory requirements and the cost to properly maintain adequate sewer services has increased to the point that the current fee structure cannot cover the cost of operations. Staff and the Advisory Committee are recommending to base the sewer charges on water consumption to address fairness between customers with low sewer flows and those with high sewer flows. The current flat rate does not recognize variable uses. The proposed rate is an increasing block rate (similar to the method currently used for water service), which encourages water conservation. This proposed rate change does not include the cost to upgrade the sewage treatment/disposal system. That will be addressed by a separate assessment. Hearing notices were mailed to the District on February 12, 1999.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:

The Board routinely holds public hearings to consider service rate changes. The last rate change for sewer in Yosemite West was July 1, 1992, raised from \$10.00 to \$12.50 per month.

LIST ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

If the Board does not grant the increase, services will have to be cut which will seriously jeopardize the viability of the system and could cause the State to shut down the system.

COSTS: () Not Applicable	
A. Budgeted current FY>	\$ _____
B. Total anticipated Costs>	\$ _____
C. Required additional funding>	\$ _____
D. Internal transfers>	\$ _____

COSTS: () 4/5th Vote Required	
A. Unanticipated revenues>	\$ _____
B. Reserve for contingencies>	\$ _____
C. Source description: >	_____

Balance in Reserve Contingencies, If Approved:
\$ _____

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:	
List the attachments and number the pages consecutively:	
#1	<u>Notice of Public Hearing</u>
#2	<u>Allocation of Budget Sewer Expense</u>
#3	<u>Revenue Projection</u>
#4	<u>Rate Comparison</u>
#5	<u>Rate Proposal</u>

CLERK'S USE ONLY

Res. No.: 99-101 Ord. No.: _____

Vote - Ayes: _____ Noes: _____

Absent: _____ Abstained: _____

Approved

Denied

Minute Order Attached

No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office

Date: _____

ATTEST: _____

MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board

By: _____

Deputy

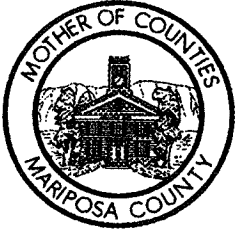
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION:

This item on agenda as:

- Recommended
- Not Recommended
- For Policy Determination
- Submitted with Comment
- Returned for Further Action

Comment: _____

C.A.O. Initials: *jk*



COUNTY of MARIPOSA

P.O. Box 784, Mariposa, CA 95338 (209) 966-3222

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MARIPOSA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

MINUTE ORDER

TO: MIKE EDWARDS, Public Works Director
FROM: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board *MW*
SUBJECT: Proposed Increase in Sewer Service Fees Charged in the Yosemite West Maintenance District; Res. 99-101

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF MARIPOSA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA,

ADOPTED THIS Order on March 23, 1999

ACTION AND VOTE:

4:40 p.m. Mike Edwards, Public Works Director;

PUBLIC HEARING Regarding Proposed Increase in Sewer Service Fees Charged in the Yosemite West Maintenance District

BOARD ACTION: Mike Edwards presented the staff report.

Public portion of the hearing was opened and input was provided by the following:

Ray Doblack, resident and contractor, stated he has transient rental property in Yosemite West and serves on the Advisory Committee for planning for Yosemite West. He presented a letter with graphs and information on water usage, and stated he feels this supports something being done with the problem with the failure of the sewer system. He further questioned why a rate increase is being proposed for failure of the system, as he feels the problem is abuse. He asked where the proposed increase in revenue from the fees will be used and how much revenue is being planned. He further advised that he will work with the Advisory Committee on these issues.

Neil Meisner, resident and transient rental operator, asked where the extra revenue will go if someone uses extra water, and he stated he feels the increase should be a flat rate as he does not feel that extra usage costs more in administration and maintenance. He suggested that the fee could be based on the number of bathrooms for the transient rentals.

Public portion of the hearing was closed. Mike Edwards addressed the questions that were raised, and he stated that he feels the current structure of a flat rate encourages more intense water use with no incentive to reduce usage. They have on-going operational costs. Relative to the proposal to base the rate on the number of bedrooms in the transient rentals, he stated it is difficult to determine the approved transient rental uses. The proposed structure charges everyone the same based on usage. Board commenced with deliberations.

(M)Reilly, (S)Stewart, Res. 99-101 adopted approving the rate increase as recommended/Ayes: Reilly, Balmain, Stewart, Pickard; Noes: Parker. Hearing was closed.

cc: Ken Hawkins, Auditor
Yosemite West Advisory Committee
Jeffrey G. Green, County Counsel
File