

**CITY OF LONG BEACH**

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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August 3, 2004

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

**SUBJECT: Resolution for the Assessment and Collection of Delinquent Weed
Removal Charges (Districts 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9)**

DISCUSSION

Chapter 8.56 of the Long Beach Municipal Code sets forth procedures for notifying property owners to clean their vacant lots of weeds and/or debris. If the owner fails to remove the weeds or debris within the time stated following notification, or if appealed by order of the Board of Examiners, Appeals and Condemnation (BEAC), the City is authorized to clean the lot and assess a levy.

The City's Superintendent of Building and Safety computes and records the cost of cleaning each parcel. Weed removal charges that are not paid within 30 days of the bill become delinquent and accrue interest. The owner may appeal the charges within 15 days of the bill. If the amount, as determined by the BEAC, is not paid within 30 days, the bill once again becomes delinquent and accrues interest. Attached is a Resolution to allow the City to collect delinquent weed removal charges, incidental enforcement costs, interest, and a lien transfer charge from the owners through their property tax bills for properties cleaned during July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004. Interest accrues at 12 percent per annum from the delinquency date through June 30, 2004.

Upon approval by the City Council, the Director of Financial Management will forward the authorizing Resolution and the prescribed reporting forms to the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller, Tax Division, for incorporation into the 2004-05 County Secured Tax Roll.

This matter was reviewed by Assistant City Attorney Michael Mais on July 22, 2004, and Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on July 16, 2004.

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TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this item is requested on August 3, 2004, as the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller requires receipt of the authorized lien assessment on July 31, 2004 or shortly thereafter.


FISCAL IMPACT

Cleaning charges and interest in the amount of \$99,878 were assessed against the 49 listed properties (Exhibit A of Resolution). The County will be requested to collect these costs through property taxes. Amounts collected will be deposited into the General Fund (GP) in the Department of Planning and Building (PB).

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

Adopt the attached Resolution directing the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller to include, on the 2004-05 Secured Tax Roll, certain assessments made pursuant to the provisions of the Long Beach Municipal Code for weed and/or debris removal in the amount of \$99,878.

Respectfully submitted,



MICHAEL A. KILLEBREW
ACTING DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER
CITY MANAGER

MK:MM:EC
T:cc\Weed Abatement 2004

Attachment