

CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

August 2, 2005

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL City of Long Beach California

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached Resolution directing the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller to include, on the 2005-06 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 \$ 36,135. (Citywide)

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 Building Official 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 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, 2004 through June 30, 2005. Interest accrues at 12 percent per annum from the delinquency date through June 30, 2005.

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 2005-06 County Secured Tax Roll.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney J. Charles Parkin on July 25, 2005 and Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on July 22, 2005.

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TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this item is requested on August 2, 2005, as the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller requires receipt of the authorized lien assessment on July 31, 2005, or shortly thereafter.

FISCAL IMPACT

Cleaning charges and interest in the amount of \$36,135 were assessed against the 17 listed properties (Exhibit A of Resolution). The County will be requested to collect these costs through property taxes for deposit into the General Fund (GP) in the Department of Community Development (CD) as reimbursement for Code Enforcement expenses.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL A. KILLEBREW

DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

MAK: DSN:EC

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ATTACHMENT

APPROVED:

GERALD R. MILLER CITY MANAGER

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