



Legislation Text

File #: 09-0692, **Version:** 1

Recommendation to adopt resolution directing the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller to include, on the 2009-10 Secured Tax Roll, certain levies made pursuant to the provisions of the Long Beach Municipal Code for weed, debris removal and/or building abatement in the amount of \$41,971.45. (Districts 1,2,4,6,7)

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 ordered by the Board of Examiners, Appeals and Condemnation (BEAC), after appeal, the City is authorized to clean the lot and assess a levy.

Chapters 18.04 and 18.20 of the Long Beach Municipal Code authorize the City to demolish, following the appropriate hearings, any substandard building or structure, which constitutes a public nuisance. All expenses incurred by the City in connection with the removal, securing of buildings or demolition are charged to, and become an indebtedness of, the property owner.

The attached Resolution authorizes the City to collect delinquent weed removal charges and/or delinquent building abatement charges, incidental enforcement costs, interest, and a lien transfer charge from the owners through their property tax bills for properties cleaned during July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. Interest accrues at the rate of 12 percent from the delinquency date through June 30, 2010.

For weed and debris removal, the City Code Enforcement Division computes and records the costs of removing weeds or debris on each parcel. Affected property owners are notified to pay these expenses. 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 interest begins to accrue.

For building abatement, the City Code Enforcement Division computes and records the costs of securing, demolishing and/or clearing of buildings on each parcel. Affected property owners are notified to pay these expenses. If payment is not received within 60 days, the bill becomes delinquent and interest begins to accrue. Owners may appeal the charges within 30 days of notification. If the amount, as determined by the BEAC, is not paid within 30 days, the bill once again becomes delinquent and interest begins to accrue.

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 2009-10 County Secured Tax Roll.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Cristyl Meyers on June 17, 2009 and Budget and Performance Management Bureau Manager David Wodynski on June 18, 2009.

City Council action on this item is requested on July 14, 2009, as the Los Angeles County Auditor-

Controller requires receipt of the authorized lien assessment on July 31, 2009 or shortly thereafter.

Cleaning charges and interest in the amount of \$41,971.45 were levied against the thirteen listed properties (see Exhibit A of Resolution). No delinquent building charges and interest are to be collected on this tax roll.

The County will be requested to collect these costs with the annual property taxes for deposit into the General Fund (GP). These revenues are used for code enforcement related activities undertaken by the Code Enforcement Division in the Department of Community Development (CD).

Approve recommendation.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH DIRECTING THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY AUDITOR-CONTROLLER TO INCLUDE ON THE 20092010 SECURED TAX ROLL ASSESSMENTS MADE PURSUANT TO LONG BEACH MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 8.56 FOR WEED AND DEBRIS LOT CLEANING CHARGES

LORI ANN FARRELL
DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT/CFO

NAME
TITLE

APPROVED:

PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER