

# Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

March 10, 2003

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: Agreement for Sewer Service at 450 Palmerstone Drive,  
City of La Cañada Flintridge

## RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement among County Sanitation District No. 16 of Los Angeles County, the City of Pasadena, and Vartkes Najarian governing the conveyance, treatment, and disposal of wastewater from a proposed single-family home at 450 Palmerstone Drive in the City of La Cañada Flintridge, and agreeing to the recordation thereof.

## BACKGROUND:

At many locations in the hillside area easterly of the Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy in the City of La Cañada Flintridge, the site geology severely restricts the use of septic tank systems. The City of La Cañada Flintridge has no sewerage system of its own in this area. There is, however, an existing sewer line serving the Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy that is owned and maintained by the City of Pasadena.

The outlet for the conveyance of wastewater from the area served by this sewer line is the existing Linda Vista Avenue trunk sewer. A 1986 engineering study performed by a consultant to the Public Works Department found that, in general, the Linda Vista Avenue trunk sewer had substantial unused hydraulic capacity. A 1989 sewer outfall capacity analysis, based on actual flow measurements, confirmed that finding and revealed that wastewater flows had significantly declined. In general, this line has an unused capacity of about 20 percent of its total capacity.

The policy regarding sewer connections for properties within La Cañada Flintridge provides that this service may be made available provided it is done at no cost to the City of Pasadena. This policy is designed to safeguard public health by preventing potential contamination of the local ground water supply.

Since 1985, 22 separate agreements covering a total of 32 single-family home sites, a portion of the La Cañada High School, and the Hillside Developmental Learning Center have been approved under this policy. There are an estimated 20 additional lots which may connect in the future, resulting in a minimal impact to the main line capacity.

The owner of a proposed single-family home site at 450 Palmerstone Drive in the City of La Cañada Flintridge (see attached vicinity map) has requested permission to connect to the sewer within Saint Katherine Drive by gravity flow. Approval of the sewer connection will eliminate the potential contamination threat that would be posed by the use of a septic tank system for the disposal of wastewater.

Vartkes Najarian has paid the City's one-time, non-refundable "Capacity Fee" in the amount of \$3,200, which is comprised of \$2,000 for the privilege of being allowed to connect to the Pasadena sewerage system, \$1,000 for preparing and processing the agreement, and \$200 to cover the prorated cost of the previously completed engineering study of the Linda Vista Avenue trunk sewer. The \$2,000 portion of the fee represents the contribution by a new user toward the cost of facilities paid for by previous users and which require repair and occasional upgrading or replacement.

Future annual "User Fees" shall be equal to twelve times the monthly minimum fee for properties served by Pasadena's sewerage system, but not subject to the "Water Rate Ordinance" as per the rates established pursuant to Section 4.52.020 of the Pasadena Municipal Code. These fees shall be collected by preparing annual bills each July following the Council's annual adjustment, based on changes in the Consumer Price Index, of the rates therefor.

Inasmuch as the site is located in County Sanitation District No. 34 of Los Angeles County, which is an inactive district, and as the sewer owned and maintained by the City of Pasadena is tributary to a sewerage system owned and operated by County Sanitation District No. 16 of Los Angeles County, the agreement contains that agency's requirements regarding the conveyance, treatment, and disposal of wastewater. After the agreement has been approved and executed by the City of Pasadena, it will be forwarded to County Sanitation District No. 16 for approval, execution, and recordation.

#### FISCAL IMPACT:

The \$3,000 portion (connection fee and processing fee) of the non-refundable Capacity Fee collected pursuant to this agreement will be deposited in the Sewer Maintenance and Construction Fund (Account No. 7023-205).

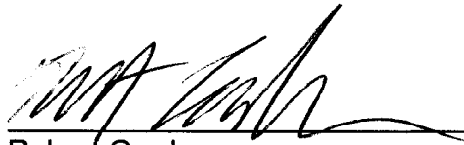
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The \$200 portion of the non-refundable Capacity Fee will be deposited in a separate Sewer Fund (Account No. 3150-205-230123659) which has been set up to accommodate monies to be collected or disbursed in connection with prior agreements for sewer service provided to La Cañada Flintridge property owners.

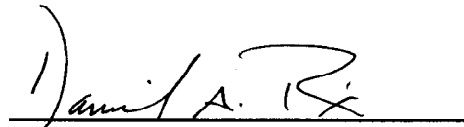
Respectfully submitted,

  
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ  
City Manager

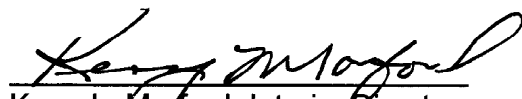
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