



CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: July 11, 2017

DEPARTMENT: FINANCE DEPARTMENT

FROM: MATT N. PRESSEY, FINANCE DIRECTOR

TITLE: RESOLUTION TRANSMITTING THE FY 2017-18 ASSESSMENT AND MAINTENANCE DISTRICT LEVIES TO THE MONTEREY COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a resolution transmitting the annual levies to Monterey County for the collection of the City's assessments and property related fees and charges and agreeing to indemnify and defend Monterey County with respect to challenges to the levy and collection of the assessments on the City's behalf.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve a resolution authorizing staff to transmit to the Tax Collector's office of the County of Monterey the annual levies for assessments and maintenance district fees and charges.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City Council considers this action annually as required by Monterey County before the City's assessment and maintenance district charges are levied and collected on property tax bills.

BACKGROUND:

Annually, the City of Salinas transmits Assessment Bond and Maintenance District levies to Monterey County to be included on property tax bills for collection. A list of the levies for FY 2017-18 is attached to this report for reference. The assessments related to the bonds are fixed at the time the bonds were originally issued, unless there are subsequent parcel splits or a change in paying agent fees. No parcel splits occurred for this year's assessment. The Maintenance District levies, were determined by Public Works staff are submitted to City Council for approval on the same date as this report.

Staff has reviewed the City Assessment and Maintenance District levies for Fiscal Year 2017-18 and has concluded that the City is in compliance with all applicable laws. The City's existing assessment districts are pledged to bond repayment. Existing maintenance districts are in compliance since there are no changes to the method of calculating assessments.

Before it will agree to collect the assessments on the City's behalf, the County requires the City Council to adopt a resolution holding the County harmless from any action brought against the County for collection of the City's levies.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378). In addition, CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 includes the general rule that CEQA applies only to activities that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. Because the proposed action and this matter have no potential to cause any effect on the environment, or because it falls within a category of activities excluded as projects pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378, this matter is not a project. Because the matter does not cause a direct or foreseeable indirect physical change on or in the environment, this matter is not a project. Any subsequent discretionary projects resulting from this action will be assessed for CEQA applicability.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

Transmitting the annual levies to Monterey County promotes the City Council's goal of Effective Sustainable Government.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The levies for assessment bonds (\$919,150.00) and maintenance districts (\$1,642,521) must be transmitted to Monterey County by August 1, 2017 to be posted to the property tax rolls for collection. These funds must be collected to pay assessment district bondholders and the cost of maintenance in the City's six districts during FY 2017-18.

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A
Resolution