



County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item Submittal

From: Community Development and Infrastructure

Subject: CSA No. 17, Empire Acres Benefit Assessment Rates for Fiscal Year 2025-26

Meeting Date: June 10, 2025

Formal Title: Hold continued public hearing to consider certification of the vote results for County Service Area 17, Empire Acres, and take related actions

Recommended Actions

1. Accept certification of the vote results for County Service Area (CSA) No. 17, Empire Acres and direct the Deputy CAO/Director of Community Development and Infrastructure to retain the ballots for at least six months following the certification; and
2. Adopt resolution authorizing and levying an assessment for road maintenance, operations, and projects within CSA No. 17, Empire Acres, for the 2025-26 fiscal year and each year following.

Executive Summary

Ballots were mailed out to the affected property owners within CSA No. 17, Empire Acres. The tabulated results confirm the property owners within the service area agree to increase the assessment rates.

Discussion

On February 11, 2025, the Board approved the Engineer's Reports for CSA No. 17, Empire Acres, directed Community Development and Infrastructure (CDI) to begin the ballot procedure, and set April 8, 2025, as the public hearing date to take testimony and accept ballots for the 2025-26 benefit assessments. At the close of the public testimony portion of the April 8, 2025 public hearing, the Board then continued the public hearing to today's date and directed CDI to return with a tabulation of the election results for the CSA.

Ballots were mailed to the 51 affected property owners within CSA No. 17, Empire Acres. Of these 51 ballots, 18 were returned to CDI with 15 yes votes and 3 no votes (weighted votes: 83.33 percent, yes, 16.67 percent, no).

The Board will now need to certify the vote results of CSA No. 17, Empire Acres and adopt the resolution authorizing and levying assessments for road maintenance and operations within the CSA for the 2025-26 fiscal year and each year thereafter.

Information about County Service areas charge reports can be found here:

<https://cdi.santacruzcountycalifornia.gov/PublicWorks/CSAs/ChargeReports.aspx>

Financial Impact

Benefit assessment or service charge revenue for Fiscal Year 2025-26 fund road maintenance, operations, and repair projects for County Service Area No. 17. The passed Election will increase revenue by \$3,825.00 annually, for total FY2025-26 annual assessment revenue of \$10,200.00. The increase affects CSA No. 17 only in

Fund 22150, GL Key 622150 GL Object 41582. The CSA is self-funded by assessments. CSAs are classified as self-sustaining special revenue funds and do not impact the County General Fund.

Strategic Initiatives

Operational Plan - Reliable Transportation

Submitted By:

Matt Machado, Deputy CEO / Director of Community Development and Infrastructure

Recommended By:

Carlos J. Palacios, County Executive Officer

Artificial Intelligence Acknowledgment:

Artificial Intelligence (AI) did not significantly contribute to the development of this agenda item.