

**SANTA YNEZ COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Loch A Dreizler, General Manager  
Alicia Marin, Office Manager/Board Secretary  
**DATE:** June 26, 2024  
**SUBJECT:** Adopt Resolution 24-06B, electing to have sewer fees collected on the tax roll for the fiscal year 2024/2025.

**Recommendation/Motion:** Adopt Resolution 24-06B to collect sewer fees on the County tax roll for the fiscal year 2024/2025.

**Policy Implications:** The California Health and Safety Code Section 5473 et seq. provides general taxes, sewer service charges, sewer availability charges, specific sewer capacity fees, and other expenses for collection on the tax roll.

Section 6066 of the Government Code specifies that the public hearing notice for collection of sewer fees on the tax roll shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the entity. If one does not exist, then in a paper published in the County.

**Fiscal Implications:** Sewer fees account for most of the Districts' annual income. Placing the sewer fees and related charges on the tax roll gives the District a lump sum revenue in December and April. In addition, it guarantees that the District receives payment when the property taxes are paid.

Placing the sewer fees on the tax roll eliminates the administrative burden of direct customer billing and collection. Collecting sewer fees on the tax roll is common for public agencies that only provide sewer services. Special Districts providing water and sewer can disconnect water service to properties when utility bills are unpaid. However, there is no mechanism to disconnect sewer services.

**Alternatives Considered:** Do not approve the Resolution. However, if the Resolution is not approved, the District will need to implement direct billing of customers. Additional administrative staff would be required to implement direct customer billing, and unpaid collections would likely be contracted to a collection agency.

**History:** The District has placed sewer fees and related charges on the tax roll as far back as the records indicate.

**Discussion:** Approving this Resolution is part of the process of placing the sewer fees and other related fees on the tax roll.

- The Report is a list of parcel numbers the District serves with the proposed charges for the fiscal year 2024/2025.
- The Public Hearing notice informs the property owners what sewer fee charges will be placed on the tax roll. This notice gets published once a week for three weeks in the Santa Ynez Valley News.
- The public hearing notice must be published in a regularly circulated community newspaper per the Government Code. Public hearing notice publication cost depends on the newspaper selected.
- The District has historically not received any public comments or protests regarding collecting sewer fees on the tax roll.
- The tax roll report is due to the County of Santa Barbara no later than August 10.

**Attachment(s):**

Resolution 24-06B

Public Hearing Notice



RESOLUTION NO. 24-06B

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA YNEZ COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT ELECTING TO HAVE SEWER FEES AND CHARGES COLLECTED ON THE TAX ROLL FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025, DIRECTING THE PREPARATION AND FILING OF REPORT, FIXING TIME AND PLACE FOR HEARING, AND PROVIDING FOR NOTICE THEREOF

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez Community Services District, Santa Barbara County (the "District"), has passed and adopted ordinances prescribing sewer service charges, sewer availability charges, and sewer capacity fees and has approved installment payment plans providing for the deferred payment of sewer capacity fees and other expenses by certain property owners; and

**WHEREAS**, under California Health and Safety Code Section 5473 et seq., this Board desires to provide for the collection on the tax roll with the general taxes of (a) sewer service charges for the fiscal year 2023-2024, (b) sewer availability charges for the fiscal year 2023-2024, and (c) certain sewer capacity fees and other expenses for which the District agreed with the property owners to defer payment (collectively, the "Sewer Fees and Charges").

**NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED as follows:**

According to Health and Safety Code Section 5473, the election is hereby made to have the Sewer Fees and Charges collected on the tax roll in the same manner, by the same persons, at the same time as, together with, and not separately from, the general taxes. District staff is directed to prepare and file with the Secretary of the Board a written report containing a description of each parcel of real property receiving sewer service and/or facilities and the amount of the Sewer Fees and Charges for each such parcel (the "Report").

A hearing on the Report shall be held before this Board on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., at 1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, California.

According to Health and Safety Code Section 5473.1, the Secretary shall cause a notice of the filing of the Report and of the time and place set for the hearing, at which oral or written presentation can be made, to be published according to Government Code Section 6066 once a week for two successive weeks preceding said hearing with at least five (5) days intervening between the respective publication dates, not counting such publication dates. The first publication date is not less than fourteen (14) days before the date set for the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation printed and published within the County where the District is located.

The Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to sign and publish said notice on behalf of the Board as ordered above.

The above-mentioned notice shall be in the form outlined in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and by this reference made a part hereof.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 26th day of June 2024 by the following vote of the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez Community Services District.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

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Frank Redfern, President of the  
Board of Directors

ATTEST:

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Alicia Marin, Secretary of the Board  
of Directors

SANTA YNEZ COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT NOTICE OF  
PUBLIC HEARING

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON ELECTION TO HAVE SEWER FEES AND CHARGES COLLECTED ON THE  
TAX ROLL AND THE FILING OF A REPORT RELATED TO SUCH FEES AND CHARGES  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT**, according to Sections 5473 and 5473a of the California Health and Safety Code, the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez Community Services District has elected to have certain charges for wastewater services and/or facilities collected on the tax roll in the same manner as its general taxes, and has caused to be filed with its Secretary a written report containing (a) a description of each parcel of real property to which such services and/or facilities are to be provided for the fiscal year 2024-2025, and (b) the amount of the fees and charges to be collected on the tax roll for each such parcel, such fees, and charges having been computed in conformity with the ordinances adopted by the District.

**NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN** that on Wednesday, July 17, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., at 1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, California, the District's Board of Directors will hear and consider all protests and objections to the Report. Oral or written presentations may be made.

A copy of the Report is available for review at the District office, 1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez, California, during regular office hours, Monday through Friday.

By order of the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez Community Sewer Services District.

Dated: June 26, 2024  
Alicia Marin, Board Secretary  
Santa Ynez Community Services District