



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** May 19, 2015

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Water Resources Division, Public Works Department

**SUBJECT:** Introduction Of Ordinance Approving A Joint Powers Agreement For Wastewater Treatment In The Mission Canyon Area

**RECOMMENDATION:** That Council:

- A. Introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, An Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Approving the 2015 Joint Powers Agreement for Wastewater Collection, Treatment and Disposal for County Service Area 12 in the Mission Canyon Area Between the County of Santa Barbara and the City of Santa Barbara; and
- B. Authorize the City Administrator to execute a Joint Powers Agreement for Wastewater Collection, Treatment, and Disposal in the Mission Canyon Area with the County of Santa Barbara.

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### Background

On May 24, 1983, Council granted conceptual approval for the provision of wastewater service in the Santa Barbara County Mission Canyon Area (CSA 12). Council authorized staff to negotiate with the County Public Works Department to determine appropriate charges for connection and service. In addition, Council directed staff and the Planning Commission to advise Council of the mechanism that would provide for the interests of the City of Santa Barbara (City) while cooperating with the County of Santa Barbara (County) on planning issues. These efforts culminated in the creation of a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the County and the City, which was approved by Council on August 31, 1984.

The JPA established provisions for the CSA 12 properties to connect to and utilize the City's wastewater system for wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal purposes. The JPA delineated procedures and practices for property buy-in compensation and payment, annual wastewater service charges, City-performed maintenance services provided to CSA 12, and miscellaneous contract terms and conditions.

Current Update Process:

In 2013, County staff contacted the City to initiate a process to update the JPA. The County's primary goals in this update process are to:

- Transfer the annual sewer service billing process from the County's semi-annual billing cycle for property tax to the City's monthly water billing cycle, which would eliminate the County from acting as a pass-through agency for collecting CSA 12 property sewer fees on behalf of the City. This new transfer process allows the City to collect sewer service fees directly from 815 properties that are being served by the City.
- Eliminate existing JPA provisions related to City wastewater collection system maintenance services of the CSA 12 sewer system. The portion of the CSA 12 system which the City maintains consists of about 11 miles of 8-inch diameter sewer mains and two sewer lift stations. The County now seeks to provide these maintenance services directly to CSA 12 residents.
- Update the JPA language to provide for contemporary documentation of inter-agency services and eliminate documentation that no longer serves a useful purpose for either agency.

The draft JPA was developed in 2014 and is now being submitted for both City Council and County Board of Supervisors approvals.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

County CSA 12 ratepayers will pay individual monthly sewer service fees directly to the City through the City's current water billing process, rather than County staff transmitting these fees semi-annually to the City on behalf of property owners within CSA 12. The City Wastewater revenues will be reduced by approximately \$250,000 annually by no longer performing and billing for sewer and lift station maintenance services for the CSA 12 wastewater collection system.

**SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:**

This action will enable City staff to reallocate its time and resources toward increased maintenance of the City's wastewater collection system infrastructure.

**PREPARED BY:** Joshua Haggmark, Water Resources Manager/CJT/mh

**SUBMITTED BY:** Rebecca J. Bjork, Public Works Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office



# Joint Powers Agreement for Wastewater Treatment



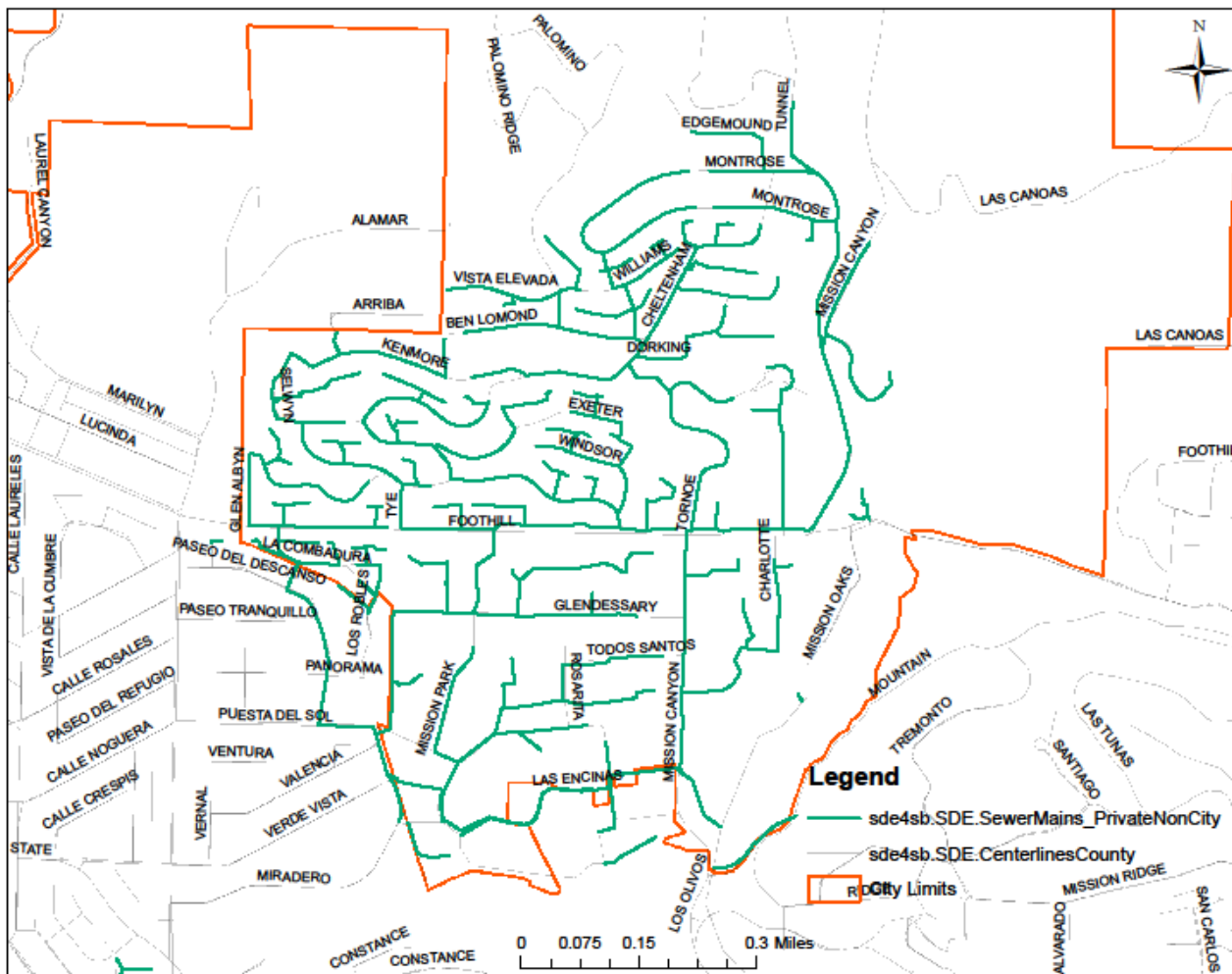
Santa Barbara City Council  
May 19, 2015



# Presentation Summary

- ◆ CSA 12 Collection System Information
- ◆ Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) Background
- ◆ Updated Joint Powers Agreement
- ◆ Financial Considerations
- ◆ Summary

# CSA 12 Collection System





# CSA 12 Collection System

- ◆ City maintained a large portion of the CSA 12 Wastewater Collection System
  - 11 miles of gravity sewer mains
    - Only 8” diameter and larger sewer mains
  - Two sewer lift stations



# JPA Background

- ◆ Existing JPA approved by City Council in May, 1983
- ◆ JPA allowed County to connect the CSA 12 wastewater collection system to City's wastewater system for transport, treatment, and disposal of CSA 12 sewage.



# JPA Background

- ◆ JPA established procedures and practices for:
  - property buy-in compensation and payment
  - Annual wastewater services charges paid to the City by County
  - City-performed maintenance services
  - Miscellaneous contract terms and conditions





# Updated JPA

- ◆ Transfers existing sewer service charges from County directly to sewer users through existing City water billing process
- ◆ Eliminates City maintenance services and payments
- ◆ Updates miscellaneous contract terms and conditions



# Financial Considerations

- City wastewater fund revenue will decrease by approximately \$250,000 annually because the City no longer will perform CSA 12 maintenance services
- Additional wastewater fund revenues will be obtained through future sewer service connections in the CSA 12 system.
- CSA 12 sewer users will pay sewer service fee based upon City water usage criteria.



# Summary

- ◆ Requests introduction and subsequent adoption of Ordinance approving the 2015 Joint Powers Agreement for CSA 12 in Mission Canyon Area
- ◆ Authorize City Administrator or Designee to execute the 2015 Joint Powers Agreement