

Cotati City Council

Agenda Staff Report

Item type: PUBLIC HEARINGS (ACTION)
To: City Council
Subject: Establishing the Outstanding Backflow Testing Charges and Levying of Assessments for Fiscal Year 2017-18
Date: August 22, 2017
Written by: Jen O'Hagan, Administrative Analyst

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Council receive all oral and written protests to the amount of fiscal year 2016-2017 backflow testing charges and approve a resolution establishing the outstanding backflow testing charges and directing the levying of assessments for fiscal year 2017-2018.

Background

The City of Cotati (City) is required by state law to ensure all backflow devices in the water distribution system are tested annually. The City has established backflow testing procedures in Chapter 13.20 of the Cotati Municipal Code. The responsibility for testing and associated costs has been transferred from the City of Cotati to the property owners, and the City may levy assessment of outstanding backflow charges onto their property taxes. Under California State law, the City is required to hold a public hearing annually to set the assessment rates for the following year for each outstanding backflow testing charge.

On August 8, 2017 the City Council set a public hearing for August 22, 2017.

Analysis/Discussion

The City notifies all property owners annually of the need for testing and certification of their backflow devices. A portion of the property owners conduct their own testing, and submit the certifications to the City. Other property owners rely on the City to conduct the testing and certification. Following testing, any necessary repairs, and certification, the City invoices the property owner for the cost of the service. Most property owners pay the City in a timely manner. However, some are not responsive to requests for payment. These properties are listed in the attached resolution.

Adoption of the attached resolution sets the Fiscal Year 2017-18 assessments for the outstanding backflow testing charges.

Financial Considerations

The costs of back flow testing are expected to be paid by owners of the property for which the testing was performed.

Environmental Issues

None.