

Comments and Questions from
08/28/19 and 09/10/19 Stormwater Fee Outreach Meetings

Questions

1. Will part of the fee pay for \$30M infrastructure needs and lower those costs?
2. Are there limits to the annual increase that the fee can go up?
3. Does the new fee backfill the reserve fund? How does this connect to the General Fund reserve?
4. What are the grants you are applying to?
5. Why are only property owners voting? Can the burden be passed down to renters?
6. Is the City responsible for the lagoons and their walls?
7. Does the City maintain the depth of the lagoons?
8. Why dredge the lagoons but not the estuary?
9. Is the Ravens Cove wall privately owned?
10. How are the fees determined?
11. Is this fee dedicated?
12. What is the process by which the fee gets approved? (Fee Study, then Notice Issued, then Protest Period, etc)
13. Where are the 3 storm pump stations that need improvements?
14. Can we use the half-cent sales tax to fund the improvements?
15. Why didn't we plan for this like a business? Why did we ignore the problem?
16. Where are the plans to address sea level rise? Alameda Point will be underwater.
17. How much are developers paying (new projects and projects in the queue?)
18. What about people who rent paying their fair share. Can the fee be passed on to them?
19. Does this address projects stated in the CARP?
20. Is there a plan for how the money will be spent?

21. Is there an audit required?
22. Can the \$78 fee be touched? Can the City take money from the PW budget?
23. There is no end date stated for the fee. Why not have it end when the projects are complete?
24. Is there money in the fee for fixing drainage issues in neighborhoods?
25. Is the money invested? (Get details).
26. Follow up -> Cost of Living increase. Why is 3% diverted within PW?
27. The lagoon smell is embarrassing. Can you trap the floating debris?
28. The Harbor Bay lagoons all hold stormwater. Do nearby homeowners pay more?
29. I never see the Vac Truck. Where are they? What is their schedule?

Comments

1. There is solid debris in the outfall by High Street (3127 Marina Drive). The debris at the High Street bridge storm drain is a concern. 250 tons of trash per year. Properties are being damaged. Is the storm drain going to get fixed?
2. 1021 Lincoln Ave – the street is never swept.
3. 3100 Alameda Dr – there are parking restrictions but people don't adhere to them.
4. We pay a lot of other taxes.
5. I would strongly propose a higher assessment to address the future needs properly. I fear that Sea Level Rise is a much bigger problem than we think and we should collect as much as we can and as soon as possible! Assess at least \$150/yr.
6. We are on the low end when it comes to comparing the tax burden of various cities.
7. You should have reserves for emergencies.
8. Moving without a plan for sea level rise is a serious issue, especially if \$18M of capital improvements will not fund it all.
9. The Cost of Living is capped at 3% per year.
10. Legal -> property related fees cannot be used to fund what is in fee report.
11. The fee has no sunset provision, but if needs are less and the City is collecting more, the City has to return the excess. No need, no fee.

12. Beach cleanup – some EBRPD, some City. Trash capture.
13. The stormwater system is the lungs of sea level rise adaptation. It's a serious project, we won't be able to pay for it all, we need to do our fair share so we attract regional, state, federal monies. Neighbors need to do their fair share. It's both a policy and a personal responsibility.
14. Low-impact development – 25% discount. Lessens burden on the entire system.
15. Parcels that drain into the estuary or Bay don't flow into pipes.
16. Once water is on the island, it has to get off. This is what this is about.
17. Majority protest process – State law – this is Step 1.
18. What is the City's tsunami preparedness?