

Miramar Ranch North (MRN) Maintenance Assessment District (MAD) November 2014 Ad Hoc Subcommittee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Location: SRCA Community Center

Time: 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Attendees: Tom Meissner (MRNPC), Lorayne Burley (Chair, MRNPC), Ernie Burciaga (MRNPC), Tom Ward (MRNPC), Bob Gilman (MRNPC), Mike Rasmusson (MRN Grounds Maintenance Manager (GMM)), Casey Smith (District GMM), John Stevens (guest GMM), Helen Plutner (SRCA Sustainable Scripps Ranch).

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Casey Smith reviewed, line-by-line, the draft budget for FY 2016:

<http://www.scrippsranh.org/images/stories/Documents/MRNPC/MRN-MAD-Budget-FY-2016-DRAFT.pdf>

He also provided the budget item explanation document:

http://www.scrippsranh.org/images/stories/Documents/MRNPC/MAD_Mgmt_Fund_Budget_Explanation_2014-11-18_FY15-web.pdf

Casey Smith responded to questions that Tom Meissner asked via email before the meeting:

- What is the breakdown of the utilities costs for the FY 2014, FY 2015, and FY 2016 periods.
- Info on “Special Districts Administration” and “Vehicle Usage” costs.
- Details on Blues Skies contract, supplies and tree trimming.

The response was as follows:

Below is a breakdown of the utilities per your request.

	FY2014*	FY2015	FY2016
Electric	\$3,890.81	\$4,279.89	\$4,707.88
Water	\$298,135.15	\$330,000.00	\$363,000.00
Sewer	\$7,082.64	\$7,613.84	\$8,184.88
Totals:	\$309,108.60	\$341,893.73	\$375,892.76

*FY2014 based on Actual, FY2015 and FY2016 based on estimates

Special Districts Admin covers all expenses for management of the district with the exception of salary and fringe costs associated with the GMM assigned to the district and the district vehicle costs. These costs include our management analysts for budget preparation and accounting, Deputy Director, Assistant Deputy Director, District Manager, Assessment Engineer, legal costs, purchasing and contracting costs, overhead for office expenses, etc.

Vehicle Usage and Assignment is a non-discretionary accounting number that includes usage of vehicle, repair and fuel costs, and is provided to us by the Equipment Division. We take the Fiscal Year 2015 estimate provided to us by the Equipment Division and increase it by 5% for our FY2016 budget estimate. We suspect that the number will come in slightly lower for FY2015 due to the drop in gas prices. I’ve attached a revised copy of the budget. The prior copy reflected a 10% increase in vehicle usage and assignment which was incorrect (Thank you for catching that!). We will bring copies of the revised version to the meeting tonight.

Mike shared that active projects include: adding mulch to park areas, changing out some irrigation heads to MP rotators, and adding drought tolerant material. Water is still a big expense. Reducing water use is major consideration in all improvement plans. Mike is monitoring the irrigation system and working to improve water usage. There will be some noticeable brown areas in the MAD. Mike is continuing to follow the plans and goals discussed at the August 2, 2014 Drive-Around meeting. The meeting notes can be posted at: <http://www.scrippsrancho.org/images/stories/Documents/MRNPC/MRNPC-MRN-MAD-Review-DriveAround-August-2014-PDF.pdf>

Blue Skies contract expires on October 31, 2015.

Drought 3 restrictions would require watering every 3 days.

Tree trimming was not increased in the presented first draft budget. Two year trimming project recommended vs. just maintenance. In the past, with GMM Geoff Alpert, every other year, the MRN MAD would spend more for tree trimming. Current funding tree trimming is limited.

MRNPC members in attendance recommend spending an additional \$20-30K more on tree trimming.

No assessment increase is needed this year due to a General Benefit Offset.

The additional \$174K from General Fund Transfer - General Benefit Offset is due to Cory Briggs Golden Hill lawsuit settlement. The Cory Briggs lawsuit was prompted by Golden Hill and South Park residents. Lawsuit requested a community pass through benefit from the City. All San Diego MADs were included in the suit. MRN MAD w/ Scripps Poway Parkway received \$175K for the pass through benefit.

MRNPC members in attendance recommend approval of the Draft FY 2016 budget as presented with the following changes:

- For FY2015 estimate tree trimming increase from \$40K to \$70K
- For FY2016 proposed tree trimming increase from \$50K to \$70K

The Final Draft FY 2016 Budget, w/ changes, is posted at:

<http://www.scrippsrancho.org/images/stories/Documents/MRNPC/MAD-Draft-Budget-FY-2016-11-19-14.pdf>

For FY17 the minimum reserve will be under 10% so an assessment increase is expected.

Helen Plutner, with Sustainable SR, is interested in working together, with Mike and our MAD, to improve all landscape areas of SR. Also, the Sustainable SR group is evaluating locations for potential community gardens. Encourages any interested MRN members and SR residents to join the SRCA Sustainable Committee.

Community Garden info:

http://www.scrippsrancho.org/images/stories/Documents/MRNPC/SD_Muni_Code_-_Community_Gardens-web.pdf

http://www.scrippsrancho.org/images/stories/Documents/MRNPC/DI_7.27_Community_Gardens-web.pdf