



Costa Mesa Sanitary District

....an Independent Special District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 28, 2013

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SANITARY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES TWO YEAR BUDGET THAT LOWERS SOLID AND LIQUID WASTE RATES

(Costa Mesa, CA) – For the second consecutive year, the Costa Mesa Sanitary District Board of Directors approved lowering the residential solid waste rates. At its regular meeting on June 27th, the Board of Directors approved a ten percent reduction from the 2011 adopted solid waste rate of \$19.95 to \$18.00 a month. The Board chose to reduce the District’s undesignated solid waste reserves, over \$4 million, as the District has no need for capital expenses, such as refuse trucks and trash containers. The Board supported staff’s recommendation of using the undesignated solid waste reserves to temporarily reduce the solid waste rate and provide a financial savings to the District’s ratepayers. In addition, the Board approved lowering the liquid waste rate to most District customers after it was recommended in a consultant-prepared sewer rate study. In 2013-14, multi-family customers will see a reduction in their annual assessment by \$3.68 and will see a new rate of \$50.09 or \$4.17 a month. Commercial and industrial customers will see a reduction in their annual assessments that will range from \$0.73 to \$16.28 per 1,000 square feet. Depending on the size of the facility, industrial customers could save between \$1,000 and \$4,000 annually from the new rate. However, residential sewer customers will see their annual rate increase by \$16.34 or \$1.36 a month. The new liquid waste rates were approved by the Board to ensure equity among all the users.

On June 27th the Board of Directors also approved a two year budget. This is the first time the Board has approved a two year budget that includes a spending plan of \$10,741,860 in FY 2013-14 and \$10,913,940 in FY 2014-15. The new budget includes funds for implementing a manhole cover maintenance program, new laptops for field staff and digital imaging of District records. The District also plans on spending \$850,000 to rehabilitate its force main sewer pipes, \$328,500 for installing emergency generators at critical facilities and \$340,500 for rehabilitating brick manholes.

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