



**Item:** Set Public Hearing for Resolution 9747 to Levy and Assess Special Improvement General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3570

**From:** Judy Burg, Account Technician

**Initiated By:** Annual Assessment Process

**Presented By:** Coleen Balzarini, Fiscal Services Director

**Action Requested:** City Commission Set Public Hearing Date for Resolution 9747 to Levy and Assess Special Improvement General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3750

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**Suggested Motion:**

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission set a Public Hearing date on Resolution 9747 for August 5, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. to levy and assess Special Improvement General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3570.”

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, inquiries from the public, and calls the vote.

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**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends the City Commission order publication of the Special Improvement General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3570 notice and set a public hearing date for August 5, 2008.

**Background:** The Park and Recreation Department, Natural Resources – Boulevard Division is responsible for the care and maintenance of over 15,000 street trees located within the General Boulevard District. Services provided within the District are pruning, removal, planting, leaf pickup and streetscape design. The budget development process begins in January of each year when the Natural Resources – Boulevard Division receives its midyear financial reports. The midyear reports are used to determine the current financial position of the department and as the basis for projecting future earnings and expenditures. Information is gathered regarding the actual and anticipated expenses, future projects, goals and objectives of the department. After calculating all factors pertinent to the operation of the Natural Resources – Boulevard Division, an assessment amount for the next fiscal year is calculated, proposed and presented to the City Commissioners for approval.

In order to legally provide for the necessary assessment support, State laws require City Commission hearings and passage of authorizing resolutions. Sections 7-12-4102, 7-12-4176 and 7-12-4179 MCA authorize the City Commission to create and assess the costs of work, improvements, and maintenance to the owners of property within the boundaries of such district.

As part of the annual budget development and adoption procedures, the Special Improvement General Boulevard Maintenance District Assessment Resolution must be submitted for City Commission action. A public notice and hearing is required prior to final passage of the assessment resolution.

**Concurrences:** Parks and Recreation Staff is responsible for the operation expenses of the Boulevard District Fund. Fiscal Services Staff are responsible for assessing and collecting the Revenues necessary to carry out the operations. The City Commissioners have received information regarding the condition of the District and the Boulevard District Fund operations during the annual Budget Process.

**Fiscal Impact:** Adoption of Resolution 9747 will allow the City to finance the costs of work, improvements, and maintenance conducted each year in the special improvement boulevard maintenance district.

The anticipated assessment amount used to assess General Boulevard Maintenance for the next fiscal year is the amount projected through the Budget Development Process. For Fiscal Year 08/09 the General Boulevard Area assessment will remain at \$289,725, the same amount assessed in Fiscal Year 07/08. This will result in an approximate assessment of \$61.23 for an average lot of 7,500 square feet (7,500 sq ft x 0.008163 factor = \$61.23.)

**Alternatives:** The City Commission could choose to not set the public hearing and thereby deny the adoption of Resolution 9746 to Levy and Assess General Boulevard Maintenance; however, the reduction in services to trim, prune, spray, and maintain the trees within the district would be harmful and devastating to the overall shelter and beauty provided by the street trees to the community.

**Attachments/Exhibits:** Resolution 9747  
Notice of Public Hearing

Cc: Jon Thompson, City Forrester