



City of Homer

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Memorandum 21-190

TO: City Council
THROUGH: Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
FROM: Janette Keiser, PE, Director of Public Works
DATE: October 13, 2021
SUBJECT: Bunnell Avenue/Charles Way Water & Sewer Special Assessment Districts

Issue: The purpose of this Memorandum is to update the Council on the progress of the proposed Bunnell Avenue/Charles Way Water & Sewer Special Assessment Districts.

Background:

On May 10, 2021, the City Council adopted Resolution 21-030 initiating the process for creating special assessment districts (SAD) to bring City water and sewer to the Bunnell Avenue/Charles Way neighborhood.

A packet of information, containing proposed alignments for the water/sewer main extensions and a preliminary assessment roll were sent to property owners in the neighborhood. On May 27, 2021, a Neighborhood Meeting was held. Subsequently the time for filing objections passed. Enough people approved of the project to move it to the next step in the SAD process, which was to hold a public hearing. At the public hearing, people made the following comments:

- The project should be designed/constructed to avoid disruption to the wetlands as much as possible.
- The project should be designed/constructed to minimize the costs as much as possible.

We decided to take a second look at the strategy for serving the area with water/sewer with the goals of (a) minimizing wetland disruption and (b) getting a more reliable cost estimate. In order to achieve these goals, we took the liberty of making a modest investment to produce a design survey to more accurately determine how gravity would flow in the neighborhood as well as a more precise conceptual design. If the SAD process goes forward, these costs will be absorbed into the costs of the SAD. If the SAD process does not go forward, these costs will be absorbed into the existing Public Works Operating Budget.

This work is not yet finished. I request that further action on the proposed Special Assessment Districts be postponed until I have more information to report.