

R-151-2003

**RESOLUTION TO GIVE NOTICE AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE REGARDING
PROPOSED SEWER CONNECTION AND SERVICE FEE INCREASES AND
RIGHTS-OF-WAY ASSESSMENT FEE**

WHEREAS, the CITY of LAS VEGAS (CITY), provides, maintains and operates a sanitary and storm sewer collection system and treatment facilities; and,

WHEREAS, it has been more than ten years since the CITY last increased sewer rates; and

WHEREAS, during this ten-year period the CITY has made more than One Hundred and Seventy Million dollars in capital improvements to the main Water Pollution Control Facility plant to increase capacity, comply with new regulatory standards, and improve operational efficiency; and

WHEREAS, such expenditure has severely impacted reserve balances, with it being projected that such reserve balances of the municipal sewer system will be completely depleted by the end of fiscal year 2005; and

WHEREAS, additional capital improvement projects are scheduled to commence during fiscal year 2005 for a twenty million-gallons-per-day sewer solids handling expansion; and

WHEREAS, the CITY, as a member of the Clean Water Coalition, has recently assumed a forty percent cost sharing responsibility with other local governments in the County to address alternative ways to minimize the phosphorous discharge from the CITY's wastewater treatment facilities into Lake Mead; and

WHEREAS, the CITY'S sanitary and storm sewer collection system and treatment facilities are situated in CITY rights-of-way; and

WHEREAS, sewer rates are based on "equivalent residential units" (ERU), which means the average amount of wastewater discharged by a single-family dwelling, which has been determined to be ninety thousand gallons per year.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the requirements of Section 2.300 of the Las Vegas Charter, IT IS HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGED, DETERMINED AND RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, as follows:

1. That in view of the foregoing financial demands and requirements on the CITY's

sanitary and storm sewer collection system and treatment facilities, CITY staff has recommended the following sewer rate increases per ERU:

User	Annual charge per ERU through Nov. 30, 2003	Annual charge per ERU commencing December 1, 2003	Annual charge per ERU commencing December 1, 2004
Domestic Strength	138.80	<u>174.88</u>	<u>204.04</u>
High strength users:			
Bottlers	196.20	<u>247.21</u>	<u>288.41</u>
Dairies	181.92	<u>229.21</u>	<u>267.41</u>
Restaurants with garbage grinders	261.60	<u>329.61</u>	<u>384.55</u>
Laundries	183.48	<u>231.17</u>	<u>269.71</u>

2. That the ERU rate charges proposed by CITY staff to commence December 1, 2003, and December 1, 2004, include a five percent assessment for the use, improvement and maintenance of the CITY owned rights-of-way and easements being used by the CITY'S sanitary and storm sewer collection system and treatment facilities.

3. That CITY staff proposes to increase sewer connection fees to \$1,440.00 as of December 1, 2003, and to \$1,680.00 as of December 1, 2004.

4. That CITY staff proposes that the ERU rate charges commencing December 1, 2004, as set forth in Paragraph 1, and the sewer connection fees set forth in Paragraph 3, be adjusted annually thereafter based upon the percentage of change in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Consumers published by the United States Department of Labor.

5. That a public hearing be, and it hereby is, set for Wednesday, the 19th of November 2003, in the City Council Chambers, City Hall Complex, 400 Stewart Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., for the purposes of hearing any objections or protests made by any person to the increasing of sewer rates and sewer connection fees within the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, as set forth above in Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4.

6. That all interested persons shall have, and they are hereby given, the right to appear and be heard on the question of the advisability of increasing the sewer rates and sewer connection

1 fees as set forth above in Paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 at the time and place, date and hour specified for
2 the public hearing in Paragraph 5 of this Resolution and Notice, or at any subsequent time to which
3 said public hearing may be adjourned.

4 7. That the information contained in this Resolution and Notice is reasonably calculated
5 to inform each interested person of his or her opportunity to appear and be heard on the question of
6 increasing the sewer rates, sewer connection fees, and other fees in the CITY, and that the City Clerk
7 therefore, be and she hereby is, authorized, empowered and directed to cause the information
8 contained in this Resolution and Notice to be published in a Notice of Intent to Hold Public Hearing,
9 to be published in three issues of the Las Vegas Review Journal prior to the November 19, 2003,
10 public hearing date, with the first publication to be no later than the 19th of October, 2003.

11 8. That any action concerning publication taken by the City Clerk pursuant to Paragraph
12 7 before the adoption date of this resolution is hereby ratified and approved.

13 PASSED, ADOPTED and APPROVED this 29th day of October, 2003.

14
15 CITY OF LAS VEGAS

16 By 
17 OSCAR B. GOODMAN, Mayor

18 ATTEST:

19 
20 BARBARA JO RONEMUS, City Clerk

21
22 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

23  10-16-03
24 Date