



JURUPA VALLEY: District sets budget hearing



Sandra Stokley/STAFF PHOTO

Work started last month on a Jurupa Community Services District sewer line project on Hamner Avenue, just north of Swan Lake Mobile Country Estates.

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The Jurupa Community Services District's draft 2012-13 fiscal year budget — estimates a \$4 million increase in total revenues, holds hiring at current levels and reflects cuts in water and sewer expenses.

“Internally we have worked to reduce operating expenses this year,” said Todd Corbin, general manager of the water and sewer agency.

“However, there's tremendous pressure on the district to be able to fund large capital projects,” he said Monday, June 4. “That's the driver of rate increases.”

Though a water rate increase is not budgeted for the 2012-13 spending plan, Corbin said an increase would most likely be discussed later this year.

“It's on the horizon,” he said.

The Jurupa district provides water and sewer service, graffiti abatement and street lights to the cities of Eastvale and Jurupa Valley. It also is developing and manages the park system for Eastvale. It has about 26,000 connections.

A plan to restructure how customers were charged for their water usage that included a series of steep rate hikes collapsed last fall in the face of overwhelming opposition.

The 2012-13 budget projects water sales will be relatively flat. The fiscal 2011-12 budget estimated \$32.8 million in water revenue. The proposed budget estimated \$33.5 million in water revenue, an increase of \$742,879.

Corbin blamed the lack of significant growth, conservation efforts and foreclosures for the sluggish sales.

The sewer fund shows \$12.9 million in revenue projected for 2012-13, an estimated \$900,000 increase over 2011-12. Sewer fund expenses are projected to be \$11.4 million for 2012-13, a \$635,000 decrease from fiscal 2011-12.

A June 25 public hearing on the proposed 2012-13 spending plan and final adoption has been set by the district's five-member board of directors. The new fiscal year starts July 1.

Two multimillion dollar capital projects set for the upcoming fiscal year are an expansion of the Western Riverside County Regional Wastewater Authority treatment plant and an expansion of the Chino desalter plant.

The \$20 million expansion of the wastewater treatment plant on River Road, which handles much of the wastewater from Eastvale, will nearly double the plant's treatment capacity from 3.25 million gallons of wastewater per day to 6 million gallons per day.

Eastvale parks are funded through assessments paid by property owners. The 2012-2013 budget projects \$7.3 million in operating revenue and \$6.9 million in operating expenses.

Draft budget

The Jurupa Community Services District will hold a public hearing and is set to adopt its draft 2012-13 spending plan:

WHEN: June 25, 7 p.m.

WHERE: 11201 Harrel St., Jurupa Valley

INFORMATION: 951-685-7434

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