DATE: June 20, 2023

TO: Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Finance Department

SUBJECT: Set Public Hearing - Placement of Delinquent Sewer and Refuse Accounts for Collection on the Property Tax Roll

RECOMMENDATION:
It is recommended that the Mayor and Council Members take the following actions:

1. Adopt a resolution declaring the City’s intention to adopt the report of the Public Works Director concerning delinquent charges for sewer and refuse collection services for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 and set a public hearing for any protest on July 11, 2023, at 2:00 p.m.;
2. Adopt a resolution electing to place delinquent sewer service fees on the tax rolls; and
3. Adopt a resolution electing to place delinquent refuse collection charges on the tax rolls.

BACKGROUND:
The City of Inglewood provides sewer services and refuse collection services to various customers. Fees for such services are prescribed, revised, and collected in accordance with the notice, protest, and hearing procedures required under Proposition 218. California Health and Safety Code section 5473 authorizes the City to elect to have delinquent fees for such services to be collected on the tax roll if approved by a two-thirds vote of the City Council.

In addition, the City must file a written report containing a description of each parcel of real property receiving sewer services and/or refuse collection services and the amount of the charge of each parcel for the year. The City must give notice and hold a public hearing to consider all objections or protests to the written report. At that public hearing, if the City Council finds that the protest is made by the owners of a majority of separate parcels of property described in the report, then the report shall not be adopted and the charges shall be collected separately from the tax roll and shall not constitute a lien against any parcel or parcels of land.

Upon the conclusion of the public hearing, the legislative body may adopt, revise, change, reduce, or modify any fee, or overrule any or all objections and shall make its determination upon each fee, as described in said report, and determine which fee shall be final.

DISCUSSION:
As of May 31, 2023, there were 323 delinquent sewer and refuse accounts with charges in excess of $250 and overdue periods of more than 90 days. The total outstanding amount of these accounts represents $183,024.65 of uncollected revenue. Each year, the City reviews delinquent refuse and sewer accounts and submits them to the County of Los Angeles for placement on property tax rolls.
for collection. This has proven to be an effective method of collecting these charges. Additionally, full collection of these outstanding charges prevents utility customers who are in good standing from having to subsidize the service delivery costs of others.

The proposed lien list for 2023 contains residential single family, multi-unit apartment buildings and commercial properties. The Customer Service Division of the Finance Department has provided copies of tenants’ delinquent utility bill notices to the affected property owners. As in past years, the Finance Department will work directly with property owners to resolve issues concerning their delinquent accounts through the hearing date, and will work with customers to resolve their delinquent balances after the lien has been submitted to the County of Los Angeles.

The final day to submit the lien list to the County of Los Angeles is August 7, 2023. Scheduling the public hearing on July 11, 2023, will allow all affected customers a chance to comment on the list, with enough lead time to have the lien list approved and submitted by the deadline.

FINANCIAL/FUNDING ISSUES AND SOURCES:
If the County of Los Angeles collects all property tax assessments, the City would receive and distribute $183,024.65 between the Sanitation and Sewer Funds. The City has collected an average of 78% of the total charges over the last three years, which is far greater than what could be collected without placing these accounts on the County tax rolls.

DESCRIPTION OF ANY ATTACHMENTS:
Attachment No. 1. Resolution of Intention
Attachment No. 2. Resolution Electing to Place Delinquent Sewer Service on the Tax Rolls
Attachment No. 3. Resolution Election to Place Delinquent Refuse Service on the Tax Rolls

PREPARED BY:
Maria Heaney, Revenue Manager

COUNCIL PRESENTER:
Sharon Koike, Assistant Finance Director
APPROVAL VERIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT HEAD APPROVAL: ____________________________
Sharon Koike, Assistant Finance Director

ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: ____________________________
Jose Cortes, Acting Assistant City Manager

CITY MANAGER APPROVAL: ____________________________
Artie Fields, City Manager
RESOLUTION NO. ___

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO ADOPT A WRITTEN REPORT CONCERNING DELINQUENT CHARGES FOR SEWER SERVICES AND REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICES FOR COLLECTION VIA TAX ROLL AND SET A PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR OBJECTIONS AND PROTESTS ON JULY 11, 2023

WHEREAS, the City of Inglewood provides sewer services and refuse collection services to customers; and

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code section 5470 et seq. allow the City to collect delinquent sewer service and refuse collection service charges, including penalties, via the tax roll; and

WHEREAS, by separate resolutions the City Council elected to place delinquent sewer service and refuse collection services charges on the tax roll in accordance with Health and Safety Code section 5473 and 5473a; and

WHEREAS, sections 5473 and 5473a require the City to prepare and file a written report with the City Clerk each year containing a description of each parcel of real property receiving the sewer services and refuse collections services that are delinquent; and

WHEREAS, the City Council must give notice and hold a public hearing to hear and consider all objections and protests to the written report before taking action as to which charges contained in the report will be collected by tax roll; and

WHEREAS, City staff has prepared and filed a written report of delinquencies for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 with the City Clerk as required by law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to give notice of its intention to adopt the written report; and

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WHEREAS, the City Council desires to set a public hearing for July 11, 2023 to hear and consider objections or protests to the written report before taking action in accordance with Health and Safety Code sections 5473.2 and 5473.3;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby declares its intention to adopt the written report describing each parcel of real property receiving sewer services and refuse collections services that are delinquent for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.


SECTION 3. The procedures and powers authorized by Health and Safety Code section 5470 et seq. for the collection of delinquent charges on the tax roll shall be alternative to all other powers of the City, and alternative to other procedures, which the City may choose to adopt for the collection of such charges.

SECTION 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately only upon adoption by two-thirds vote of the City Council, and shall remain in effect until specifically repealed.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this ________ day of ________ 2023.

______________________________
James T. Butts, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

______________________________
Aisha L. Thompson, City Clerk.
ATTACHMENT NO. 2
RESOLUTION NO. ___

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, ELECTING TO PLACE
DELINQUENT SEWER SERVICE CHARGES ON THE TAX
ROLL IN ACCORDANCE WITH HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
SECTION 5470 ET SEQ.

WHEREAS, the City of Inglewood proves sewer services to customers; and
WHEREAS, delinquent sewer service charges have proven to be a difficult and
costly item for the City to collect; and
WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code section 5470 et seq. permit the City to elect
to have delinquent sewer service charges, including penalties, collected on the tax roll if
approved by a two-thirds vote of the City Council; and
WHEREAS, the City must prepare and file a written report describing each
parcel of real property that is delinquent in the payment of sewer service charges, give
notice and hold a public hearing to hear and consider all objections or protests before
taking action as to each charge described in the written report;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
INGLEWOOD DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby elects to place delinquent sewer service
charges, including penalties, on the tax roll pursuant to Health and Safety Code section
5470 et seq.

SECTION 2. City staff has prepared and filed a written report for Fiscal Year
2022-2023 describing each parcel of real property with delinquent sewer service charges
with the City Clerk.

SECTION 3. By separate resolution, the City Council has given notice of its
intention to adopt the written report, and set a public hearing to hear and consider
protests and objections to the written report before taking action as to the delinquent
charges contained in the report.
SECTION 4. The procedures and powers authorized by Health and Safety Code section 5470 et seq. for the collection of delinquent charges on the tax roll shall be alternative to all other powers of the City, and alternative to other procedures, which the City may choose to adopt for the collection of such charges.

SECTION 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately only upon adoption by two-thirds vote of the City Council.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this ______ day of ______ 2023.

James T. Butts, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

Aisha L. Thompson, City Clerk
ATTACHMENT NO. 3
RESOLUTION NO. ___

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD, CALIFORNIA, ELECTING TO PLACE DELINQUENT REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE CHARGES ON THE TAX ROLL IN ACCORDANCE WITH HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTION 5470 ET SEQ.

WHEREAS, the City of Inglewood proves refuse collection services to customers; and

WHEREAS, delinquent refuse collection service charges have proven to be a difficult and costly item for the City to collect; and

WHEREAS, Health and Safety Code section 5470 et seq. permit the City to elect to have delinquent refuse collection service charges, including penalties, collected on the tax roll if approved by a two-thirds vote of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City must prepare and file a written report describing each parcel of real property that is delinquent in the payment of refuse collection service charges, give notice and hold a public hearing to hear and consider all objections or protests before taking action as to each charge described in the written report;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INGLEWOOD DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby elects to place delinquent refuse collection service charges, including penalties, on the tax roll pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 5470 et seq.

SECTION 2. City staff has prepared and filed a written report for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 describing each parcel of real property with delinquent refuse collection service charges with the City Clerk.

SECTION 3. By separate resolution, the City Council has given notice of its intention to adopt the written report, and set a public hearing to hear and consider
protests and objections to the written report before taking final action as to the
delinquent charges contained in the report.

SECTION 4. The procedures and powers authorized by Health and Safety Code
section 5470 et seq. for the collection of delinquent charges on the tax roll shall be
alternative to all other powers of the City, and alternative to other procedures, which the
City may choose to adopt for the collection of such charges.

SECTION 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately only upon adoption
by two-thirds vote of the City Council.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this ______ day of ________
2023.

________________________________________
James T. Butts, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

________________________________________
Aisha L. Thompson, City Clerk