



County of San Benito
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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SAN BENITO COUNTY SERVICE AREAS – UPCOMING PROCESS

San Benito County is in the process of evaluating its County Service Areas (CSA)*. The County provides many basic government services in unincorporated areas through the CSA's, including street lights, road maintenance, storm drain maintenance, landscaping, and water/water treatment. Each CSA is established with the understanding that it is self-funding. Therefore, a fee or charge is placed on the County property tax bill for these services.

The County reviews the services provided each CSA and the revenue needed to support the services annually. Though the costs of the services that the County is providing increase slightly each year, the fees paid by residents have been "frozen" (capped) due to the limitations of Proposition 218. The services provided CSA's are considered property-related services, subject to a property-related fee. In general, Proposition 218 limits increases in taxes, assessments, fees, and "charges" unless the increase is approved by those who pay the charges.

The County is currently analyzing the services provided to each CSA and the financial needs to support these services. Many of the CSA's do not have sufficient revenues coming in and have been drawing down Reserve Funds, creating an urgency to complete the Proposition 218 process. The upcoming process will provide property owners with a Fee Report, detailing the services provided and revenues necessary to support the services.

Additional information is forthcoming to each property owner in the form of informational mailers and community meetings during the next few months. Community Meetings will be conducted in February and March 2009, allowing CSA area property owners to learn about the upcoming Proposition 218 process, the services provided, and necessary fees to support the services provided. A mailed notice and ballot (as required) will be sent to all affected property owners in March 2009.

CSA residents are encouraged to contact Loretta Smith, Public Works Department, at 831-636-4170, or email her at lsmith@pw.co.san-benito.ca.us for more information.

*** County Service Areas (Number and Name)**

- 4 Santa Rosa Acres
- 5 Hillcrest/El Toro
- 8 Bonnie View
- 9 Ridgemark
- 11 Barnes Lane
- 16 Santa Ana/Holiday Estates
- 19 Springwood
- 21 Long Acres
- 22 Cielo Vista
- 23 Rancho San Joaquin
- 24 Santa Ana Acres
- 25 Vineyard Estates
- 28 Heatherwood/Fox Hill
- 29 Magladry
- 30 McCloskey Acres
- 31 Stonegate
- 33 Torrano Estates
- 34 Ausaymas Estates
- 35 Union Heights
- 38 Ashford Highlands
- 42 Lemmon Acres
- 45 Rancho Larios
- 46 Quail Hollow
- 47 Oak Creek
- 48 Dry Creek
- 49 Hollister Ranch Estates
- 50 Dunneville
- 51 Comstock Estates
- 53 Riverview Estates
- 54 Pacheco Creek Estates