

## Responses to Council Questions and Comments

8/5/2024

### **Item #15: Public Hearing to Receive Public Comment, Amend the Engineer's Report as Appropriate and Adopt a Resolution Ordering the Improvements, Confirming the Engineer's Report, and Levying Annual Assessments for Landscape Assessment Districts for Fiscal Year 24/25**

- **Question:** The staff report indicates that LAD assessment increases are capped at 2.0% because that is the maximum allowable under "the original LAD regulations." Are those original LAD regulations changeable, or are they locked in place?
  - **Response:** To amend the original LAD engineers report (what the improvements are and amount assessed) to increase the services, cost, or properties assessed would require another vote of the properties within the district because a maximum 2% annual CPI adjustment was included when the LADs were originally established. An important piece of the research that will occur in conjunction with the consultant is what parameters exist with respect to modifying assessments. For example, in a LAD that is already being assessed at the maximum allowed for that district, any increase in the assessment or the 2% COLA would require a new vote of the properties. On the other hand, in a LAD that is currently assessed below the maximum, the Council may have more options without needing a new vote. The analysis will look district-by-district at the financial scenarios for each LAD along with the desired maintenance levels and associated costs to present a fiscally sustainable program and how to achieve it.