



**Item:** Set Public Hearing for Resolution 10085 to Levy and Assess Properties within Special Improvement Lighting Districts

**From:** Judy Burg, Taxes and Assessments

**Initiated By:** Annual Assessment Process

**Presented By:** Melissa Kinzler, Fiscal Services Director

**Action Requested:** City Commission set Public Hearing date for Resolution 10085 to levy and assess properties within Special Improvement Lighting Districts

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**Suggested Motion:**

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission set a Public Hearing date on Resolution 10085 for September 16, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. to levy and assess properties within Special Improvement Lighting Districts.”

2. Mayor calls for a second, discussion, public comment, and calls the vote.

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**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends the City Commission set a public hearing date for September 16, 2014.

**Background:** There are currently 26 Special Improvement Lighting Districts (SLD's) with approximately 9,420 roadway lights. The majority (97%) of the roadway lights are owned by Northwestern Energy. The City pays a maintenance fee to Northwestern Energy for these lights in addition to a fee which covers the electrical transmission and distribution. The electrical supply for the street lights is currently being furnished by PPL Treasure State. The remaining 3% of roadway lighting is City-owned. The Special Improvement Lighting District funds are administered by the Fiscal Services Department. The purpose of the fund is to maintain the light poles and furnish electrical current for the lighting districts throughout the year. After determining financial factors pertinent to the operation of the special improvement lighting districts, an assessment amount for the next fiscal year is calculated, budgeted and presented to the City Commissioners for approval.

As part of the annual budget development and adoption procedures, the Special Improvement Lighting Districts Assessment Resolution must be submitted for City Commission action. A public notice and hearing is required prior to final passage of the assessment resolution.

**Concurrences:** Fiscal Services staff is responsible for the operational expenses, along with assessing and collecting the revenues; Public Works is responsible for the maintenance of all City-owned lighting districts.

**Fiscal Impact:** Adoption of Resolution 10085 will allow the City to fund the operational and maintenance costs required in the Special Improvement Lighting Districts for the fiscal year.

**ASSESSMENT ANTICIPATED**

The anticipated assessment amount for the Special Improvement Lighting District funds for the next fiscal year is \$1,547,428. After review of the budget and the estimated assessment for Fiscal Year 14/15, the majority of the assessment amounts were not adjusted and reflect the same assessment as last year. Special Lighting District 1269 was increased to compensate for the deficit in its cash balance from the prior fiscal year and four lighting district assessments were reduced as their cash balance from the prior fiscal year was more than adequate to cover the operational costs for those districts.

<u>BUDGETED</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR</u>
<u>TOTAL ASSESSMENT</u>	
\$1,595,981	10/11 (26 Districts)
\$1,766,640	11/12 (26 Districts)
\$1,955,853	12/13 (26 Districts)
\$1,976,427	13/14 (26 Districts)
\$1,547,428	14/15 (26 Districts)

The 14/15 assessment per district is indicated on the SLD Cost Assessment Projection Sheet attached as Exhibit “A” and made a part of Resolution 10085.

**Alternatives:** The City Commission could choose to not set the public hearing and thereby deny the adoption of Resolution 10085; however, the reduction in services to the community could be hazardous to the safety and welfare of the general public.

**Attachments/Exhibits:** Resolution 10085  
Legal Notice  
Exhibit “A” SLD Cost Assessment Projection Sheet  
SLD’s Boundary Map

**RESOLUTION NO. 10085**

**A RESOLUTION LEVYING AND ASSESSING THE COST OF MAINTAINING SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT LIGHTING DISTRICTS (SLD'S) NUMBERED 18, 650, 651, 912, 973, 1067A, 1105, 1230, 1255, 1261, 1269, 1270, 1289, 1290, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1297, 1298, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306, 1308 AND 1310 IN THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA, FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2014 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2015**

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission declares that the above-captioned Special Improvement Lighting Districts were created, lighting systems installed and that the City intends to continue maintenance of such lighting systems in said SLD's; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission declares that each lot or parcel of land contained in each of said SLD's will continue to be benefited by such lighting in the same manner as determined in the creation of each Special Improvement Lighting District; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 15, 2014, the City Commission adopted Resolution 10080, Annual Budget Resolution. The budgeted amounts for maintenance of the City's lighting systems were reviewed and adjusted. The assessment amount for Special Improvement Lighting District No. 1269 was increased to compensate for the deficit in its cash balance from the prior fiscal year. The assessment amounts for Special Improvement Lighting District Nos. 650, 1296, 1298 and 1304 were reduced due to cash balances being more than adequate to cover the operational costs associated with those districts. The newly adjusted assessment amount totals ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED FORTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS (\$1,547,428); and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with § 7-1-4127, MCA, notice was published setting forth that Resolution No. 10085 Levying and Assessing the Cost of Maintaining Special Improvement Lighting Districts (SLD's) Nos. 18, 650, 651, 912, 973, 1067A, 1105, 1230, 1255, 1261, 1269, 1270, 1289, 1290, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1297, 1298, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306, 1308 and 1310 in the City of Great Falls, Montana, would be brought before the Great Falls City Commission for public hearing on September 16, 2014.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA**, that:

Section 1 – Maintenance Costs Assessed

The cost of maintenance for said lighting systems in the above-captioned SLD's totaling \$1,547,428 be levied and assessed upon the properties in said SLD's.

Section 2 – Assessment Method

Each lot and parcel within each SLD is hereby assessed a proportion of the maintenance costs attributed to the SLD in the proportion to which its assessable area (individual square feet) bears to the area of the whole special improvement lighting district (total square feet), exclusive of streets, avenues, alleys and public places. An assessment projection summary of each district, describing total cost, is attached hereto and, by this reference, incorporated herein as if fully set forth. The description of each lot or parcel of land within each SLD and the respective assessments are set forth in the records of the Fiscal Services Department of the City of Great Falls, Montana and by this reference is also incorporated herein as if fully set forth.

Section 3 – Assessment Due Date

Assessments are payable in two payments and will become delinquent at 5:00 o'clock p.m. on November 30, 2014 and May 31, 2015.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Great Falls, Montana, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014.

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Michael J. Winters, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lisa Kunz, City Clerk

(Seal of the City)

APPROVED FOR LEGAL CONTENT:

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Sara R. Sexe, City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Resolution 10085 – A Resolution Levying and Assessing the Cost of Maintaining Special Improvement Lighting Districts (SLD's) Numbered 18, 650, 651, 912, 973, 1067A, 1105, 1230, 1255, 1261, 1269, 1270, 1289, 1290, 1294, 1295, 1296, 1297, 1298, 1302, 1303, 1304, 1305, 1306, 1308 and 1310 in the City of Great Falls, Montana for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2014 and Ending June 30, 2015 – will be brought before the Great Falls City Commission for public hearing in the Commission Chambers, Civic Center Building, 2 Park Drive South, Great Falls, Montana on Tuesday, September 16, 2014, at 7:00 o'clock p.m. Any interested person may appear and speak for or against Resolution 10085 or submit in writing any comments to the City Clerk prior to or during the Commission Meeting.

/s/ Lisa Kunz  
City Clerk

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DO NOT PUBLISH BELOW THIS LINE:  
Publication Dates: August 15 & 22, 2014

**SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT LIGHTING DISTRICTS MAINTENANCE BUDGET & ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET**  
**EXHIBIT "J"**











<u>FY 2015</u>														
DISTRICT	DISTRICT TYPE	FUND	REQUESTED EXPENSES								REQUESTED REVENUES			
			XXXX.00.104	XXXX.00.104	XXXX.00.104	XXXX.00.104	XXXX.31.536	XXXX.31.536	XXXX.31.536	REQUESTED TOTAL EXPENSES	FOR ENDING CASH	2014 ASSESSMENT	2015 ASSESSMENT	
			43420	45120	48692	48652	42390	43690	48636					
2015 PROJECTED BEGINNING CASH	0% REQUESTED UTILITY EXPENSE	OTHER MISC EXPENSES	MAPPING SERVICE	FISCAL SERVICE CHARGE	PUBLIC WORKS SUPPLIES & MATERIALS	PUBLIC WORKS OUTSIDE CONTRACTOR	PUBLIC WORKS INTERNAL MAINTENANCE	REQUESTED TOTAL EXPENSES	FOR ENDING CASH	2014 ASSESSMENT	2015 ASSESSMENT			
18	STREET	8402	1,065	2,778	-	340	-	-	-	3,118	1,559	3,026	3,026	
650	PERIOD	8403	35,451	5,964	-	813	1,455	1,455	1,455	11,142	5,571	24,719	13,719	
651	STREET	8404	807	2,796	-	359	-	-	-	3,155	1,578	3,253	3,253	
912	STREET	8405	6,289	14,220	-	1,739	-	-	-	15,959	7,979	17,138	17,138	
973	STREET	8406	24,361	136	-	662	16	-	-	814	407	483	483	
1067A	ALLEY	8407	1,923	5,136	-	628	-	-	-	5,764	2,882	6,095	6,095	
1105	STREET	8408	2,553	4,044	-	495	-	-	-	4,539	2,270	4,513	4,513	
1230	STREET	8409	362	183	-	22	-	-	-	205	103	237	237	
1255	STREET	8410	739	367	-	45	-	-	-	412	206	483	483	
1261	PERIOD	8411	3,349	5,208	207	636	1,271	1,271	1,271	9,863	4,931	5,950	5,950	
1269	PERIOD	8412	(8,007)	16,888	691	2,108	4,120	4,120	4,120	32,048	16,024	58,168	65,168	
1270	PERIOD	8413	6,597	7,353	253	846	1,794	1,794	1,794	13,835	6,917	11,917	11,917	
1289	STREET	8414	6,853	14,147	-	1,730	-	-	-	15,877	7,939	18,549	18,549	
1290	STREET	8415	1,121	1,061	-	130	-	-	-	1,191	596	1,491	1,491	
1294	SLDA	8416	27,692	145,616	-	2,323	17,020	-	363	165,322	82,661	175,864	175,864	
1298	SLDI	8417	51,876	20,511	-	574	2,512	-	-	23,597	11,799	44,209	24,209	
1295	SLDC	8418	32,667	60,599	-	609	5,258	-	-	66,466	33,233	79,099	79,099	
1296	SLDR	8419	1,017,223	901,632	-	89,269	-	9,547	-	1,000,448	500,224	1,442,271	1,042,271	
1297	SLDT	8420	20,458	35,868	-	694	2,902	-	-	39,464	19,732	41,127	41,127	
1302	ML3	8430	13,996	200	-	73	49	49	49	419	209	7,510	7,510	
1304	EC1	8432	5,252	2,345	-	193	572	572	572	4,254	2,127	14,129	9,129	
1306	ML4	8434	4,348	200	-	23	49	49	49	369	184	1,836	1,836	
1308	ECII & III	8436	6,277	1,086	-	101	265	265	265	1,983	991	4,409	4,409	
1310	ML5	8438	4,402	839	-	83	205	205	205	1,537	768	3,383	3,383	
1303	Bootlegger	8440	6,557	438	-	54	107	107	107	812	406	3,878	3,878	
1305	Water Tower	8442	8,031	466	-	57	114	114	114	865	432	2,691	2,691	
ALL DIST	Fund 217	8401	5,313	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			1,287,556	1,250,084	1,151	4,862	127,452	10,000	19,910	10,000	1,423,459	711,729	1,976,427	1,547,428

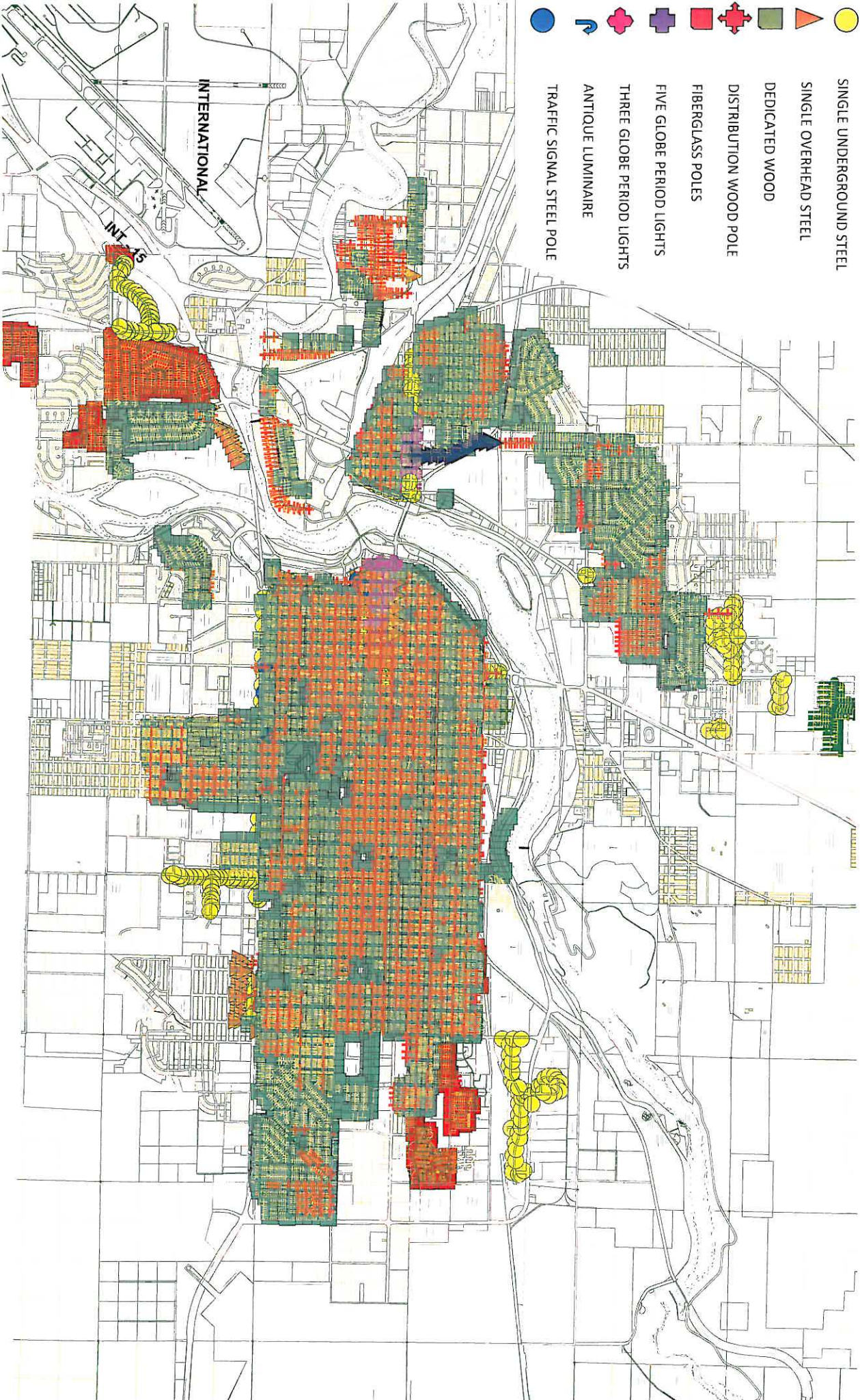


**VARIOUS TYPES OF STREET LIGHT POLES**

**SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT LIGHTING DISTRICTS WITHIN THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS**

**FISCAL YEAR 2014/2015**

-  STREET DEPARTMENT
-  SINGLE UNDERGROUND STEEL
-  SINGLE OVERHEAD STEEL
-  DEDICATED WOOD
-  DISTRIBUTION WOOD POLE
-  FIBERGLASS POLES
-  FIVE GLOBE PERIOD LIGHTS
-  THREE GLOBE PERIOD LIGHTS
-  ANTIQUE LUMINAIRE
-  TRAFFIC SIGNAL STEEL POLE



**A MORE DETAILED AND LARGER VERSION OF THIS MAP IS AVAILABLE IN THE OFFICE OF FISCAL SERVICES**