



Item: Set Public Hearing for Resolution 10101 to Levy and Assess Special Improvement General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3570

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 10101 to Levy and Assess Special Improvement General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3750

Suggested Motion:

1. Commissioner moves:

“I move that the City Commission set a Public Hearing date on Resolution 10101 for August 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. to levy and assess Special Improvement General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3570.”

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

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends the City Commission set a public hearing date for August 4, 2015.

Background: The Park and Recreation Department, Natural Resources – Boulevard Division is responsible for the care and maintenance of over 15,000 street trees located within the General Boulevard District. Services provided within the District are pruning, removal, planting and streetscape design.

The budget development process begins in January of each year when the Natural Resources – Boulevard Division receives its midyear financial reports. The midyear reports and subsequent reports are used to determine the current financial position of the department. Information is gathered regarding the actual and anticipated expenses, future projects, goals and objectives of the department.

After calculating all factors pertinent to the operation of the Natural Resources – Boulevard Division, an assessment amount for the next fiscal year is calculated, proposed and presented to

the City Commissioners for approval. An increase of 10% has been proposed for Fiscal Year 2016.

In order to legally provide for the necessary assessment support, State laws require City Commission hearings and passage of authorizing resolutions, Section 7-12-4102, 7-12-4176 and 7-12-4179 M.C.A. authorizes the City Commission to create and assess the costs of work, improvements, and maintenance to the owners of property within the boundaries of such district.

As part of the annual budget development and adoption procedures, the Special Improvement General Boulevard Maintenance District 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: Park and Recreation staff are responsible for the operation expenses of the Boulevard District Fund. Fiscal Services staff are responsible for assessing and collecting the revenues necessary to carry out the operations. The City Commissioners have received information regarding the condition of the Boulevard District and the Natural Resources Fund operations during the annual budget process.

Fiscal Impact: Adoption of Resolution 10101 will allow the City to finance the costs of work, improvements and maintenance conducted each year in the Special Improvement Boulevard Maintenance District.

ASSESSMENT ANTICIPATED

The anticipated assessment amount for General Boulevard Maintenance for the next fiscal year is the amount reflected in the FY 2016 Budget. After review of the budget, the General Boulevard Area assessment will increase by 10% from last fiscal year. This equates to an assessment of \$0.0098835 per square foot, for a total of \$350,742 and will result in an assessment of \$74.13 for an average size lot of 7,500 square feet (7,500 sq ft x 0.0098835 factor = \$74.13.) This is a yearly increase of \$6.74 for a lot size of 7,500 square feet.

Alternatives: The City Commission could choose to not set the public hearing and thereby deny the adoption of Resolution 10101 to Levy and Assess General Boulevard Maintenance; however, the reduction in services to trim, prune, spray and maintain the trees within the district would be harmful and devastating to the overall shelter and beauty provided by the street trees to the community.

Attachments/Exhibits: Resolution 10101
Legal Notice
Map of General Boulevard District

RESOLUTION NO. 10101

A RESOLUTION LEVYING AND ASSESSING THE COST OF MAINTAINING BOULEVARDS IN THE GENERAL BOULEVARD DISTRICT NO. 3570 OF THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS, MONTANA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2015 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2016

WHEREAS, the City Commission did create a General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3570 by Resolution 3570 on January 2, 1946; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission did amend and exclude Lots 8-14, Block 34 of Boston and Great Falls Addition, from the boundaries of the General Boulevard District by Resolution 8132 on September 1, 1987, in accordance with § 7-12-4335, MCA; and

WHEREAS, the City intends to continue trimming, pruning, spraying, and otherwise maintaining the trees within said district, except when such maintenance conflicts with other provisions of the Official Code of the City of Great Falls; and

WHEREAS, on July 21, 2015, the City Commission adopted Resolution 10114, Annual Budget Resolution, in which the estimated assessment for such maintenance within the General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3570 was reflected as THREE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-TWO DOLLARS (\$350,742); and

WHEREAS, in accordance with § 7-1-4127, MCA, notice was published setting forth that Resolution No. 10101 Levying and Assessing the Cost of Maintaining Boulevards in the General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3570 would be brought before the Great Falls City Commission for public hearing on August 4, 2015.

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 maintaining boulevards in General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3570, totaling \$350,742, be levied and assessed upon the properties in said district for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016.

Section 2 – Maintenance Assessment Method

Each lot and parcel within the district be assessed in proportion to its square footage. The procedure for determining the square footage to be assessed is the total square footage as set forth in Exhibit “A” of Resolution 6202 adopted by the Great Falls City Commission on July 22, 1968, and presently on file in the office of the City Clerk.

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, 2015 and May 31, 2016.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of Great Falls, Montana, this 4th day of August, 2015.

Michael J. Winters, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lisa Kunz, City Clerk

(Seal of the City)

APPROVED FOR LEGAL CONTENT:

Sara R. Sexe, City Attorney

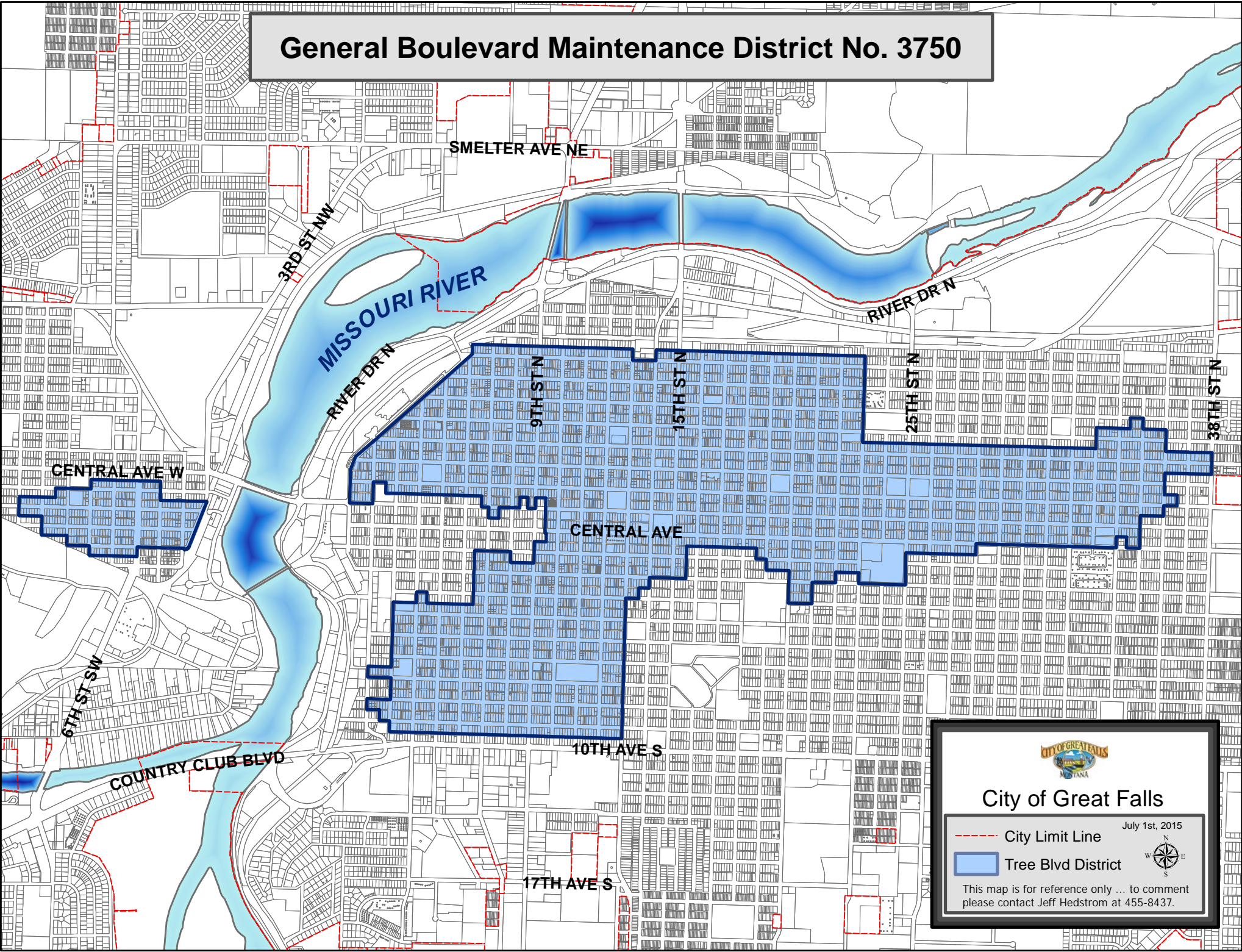
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Resolution 10101 – A Resolution Levying and Assessing the Cost of Maintaining Boulevards in the General Boulevard District No. 3570 of the City of Great Falls, Montana for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2016 – 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, August 4, 2015, at 7:00 o'clock p.m. Any interested person may appear and speak for or against said Resolution 10101 or submit in writing any comments to the City Clerk prior to or during the Commission Meeting.

/s/ Lisa Kunz
City Clerk

DO NOT PUBLISH BELOW THIS LINE:
Publication Dates: July 17 & 24, 2015.

General Boulevard Maintenance District No. 3750




City of Great Falls
July 1st, 2015

 City Limit Line

 Tree Blvd District



This map is for reference only ... to comment please contact Jeff Hedstrom at 455-8437.