



**Item:** Set Public Hearing for Resolution 10104 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 10104 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 10104 for August 4, 2015 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 August 4, 2015.

**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 10104 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 \$1,428,082. After review of the budget and the estimated assessment for Fiscal Year 15/16, several of the assessment amounts reflect the same assessment as last year, some Special Lighting Districts were increased to compensate for the deficit in its cash balance from the prior fiscal year and thirteen (13) lighting district assessments were reduced as their cash balances from the prior fiscal year were more than adequate to cover the operational costs for those districts.

| <u>BUDGETED</u>         | <u>FISCAL YEAR</u>   |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <u>TOTAL ASSESSMENT</u> |                      |
| \$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) |
| \$1,428,082             | 15/16 (26 Districts) |

The 15/16 assessment per district is indicated on the SLD Cost Assessment Projection Sheet attached as Exhibit “A” and made a part of Resolution 10104.

**Alternatives:** The City Commission could choose to not set the public hearing and thereby deny the adoption of Resolution 10104; however, the reduction in services to the community could be hazardous to the safety and welfare of the general public.

**Attachments/Exhibits:** Resolution 10104  
Legal Notice  
Exhibit “A” SLD Cost Assessment Projection Sheet  
SLD’s Boundary Map

## RESOLUTION NO. 10104

### **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, 2015 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2016**

**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 21, 2015, the City Commission adopted Resolution 10114, 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. 18, 1261 and 1270 were increased to compensate for the deficit in their cash balances from the prior fiscal year. The assessment amounts for thirteen (13) Special Improvement Lighting Districts 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 FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHTY-TWO DOLLARS (\$1,428,082); and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with § 7-1-4127, MCA, notice was published setting forth that Resolution No. 10104 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 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 maintenance for said lighting systems in the above-captioned SLD's totaling \$1,428,082 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, 2015 and May 31, 2016.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael J. Winters, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Kunz, City Clerk

(Seal of the City)

APPROVED FOR LEGAL CONTENT:

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Sara R. Sexe, City Attorney

**SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT LIGHTING DISTRICTS MAINTENANCE BUDGET & ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET  
RESOLUTION #10104 - EXHIBIT "A"**

FY 2016

| DISTRICT | DISTRICT TYPE | FUND | REQUESTED EXPENSES            |                              |                      |                      |                       |                                   |                                 |                                   | FOR ENDING CASH | 2016 ASSESSMENT | 2015 ASSESSMENT |           |
|----------|---------------|------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
|          |               |      | XXXX.00.104<br>43420          | XXXX.00.104<br>45120         | XXXX.00.104<br>48692 | XXXX.00.104<br>48652 | XXXX.31.536<br>42390  | XXXX.31.536<br>43690              | XXXX.31.536<br>48636            | REQUESTED TOTAL EXPENSES          |                 |                 |                 |           |
|          |               |      | 2016 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 |                 |                 |                 |           |
| 18       | STREET        | 8402 | 46                            | 2,778                        | -                    |                      | 272                   | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 3,050           | 1,525           | 3,329           | 3,026     |
| 650      | PERIOD        | 8403 | 37,303                        | 5,964                        | -                    |                      | 652                   | 1,435                             | 1,435                           | 1,435                             | 10,921          | 5,460           | 13,719          | 13,719    |
| 651      | STREET        | 8404 | 1,490                         | 2,796                        | -                    |                      | 288                   | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 3,084           | 1,542           | 3,253           | 3,253     |
| 912      | STREET        | 8405 | 8,835                         | 14,220                       | -                    |                      | 1,394                 | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 15,614          | 7,807           | 17,138          | 17,138    |
| 973      | STREET        | 8406 | 24,075                        | 136                          | -                    |                      | 13                    | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 149             | 75              | 200             | 483       |
| 1067A    | ALLEY         | 8407 | 3,427                         | 5,136                        | -                    |                      | 504                   | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 5,640           | 2,820           | 6,095           | 6,095     |
| 1105     | STREET        | 8408 | 2,823                         | 4,044                        | -                    |                      | 397                   | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 4,441           | 2,221           | 4,513           | 4,513     |
| 1230     | STREET        | 8409 | 421                           | 183                          | -                    |                      | 18                    | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 201             | 101             | 237             | 237       |
| 1255     | STREET        | 8410 | 836                           | 367                          | -                    |                      | 36                    | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 403             | 201             | 483             | 483       |
| 1261     | PERIOD        | 8411 | 2,525                         | 5,208                        | 207                  |                      | 509                   | 1,253                             | 1,253                           | 1,253                             | 9,684           | 4,842           | 9,684           | 5,950     |
| 1269     | PERIOD        | 8412 | 29,949                        | 16,888                       | 691                  |                      | 1,690                 | 4,064                             | 4,064                           | 4,064                             | 31,462          | 15,731          | 31,462          | 65,168    |
| 1270     | PERIOD        | 8413 | 11,587                        | 7,353                        | 253                  |                      | 679                   | 1,770                             | 1,770                           | 1,770                             | 13,593          | 6,797           | 13,593          | 11,917    |
| 1289     | STREET        | 8414 | 10,816                        | 14,147                       | -                    |                      | 1,387                 | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 15,534          | 7,767           | 15,549          | 18,549    |
| 1290     | STREET        | 8415 | 1,264                         | 1,061                        | -                    |                      | 104                   | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 1,165           | 583             | 1,491           | 1,491     |
| 1294     | SLDA          | 8416 | 51,709                        | 145,616                      | -                    | 1,425                | 13,644                | -                                 | 401                             | -                                 | 161,087         | 80,543          | 161,087         | 175,864   |
| 1298     | SLDI          | 8417 | 75,726                        | 20,511                       | -                    | 1,222                | 2,014                 | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 23,747          | 11,873          | 24,209          | 24,209    |
| 1295     | SLDC          | 8418 | 51,834                        | 60,599                       | -                    | 1,425                | 4,215                 | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 66,239          | 33,119          | 66,239          | 79,099    |
| 1296     | SLDR          | 8419 | 1,481,882                     | 901,632                      | -                    | 4,785                | 71,565                | -                                 | 25,225                          | -                                 | 1,003,207       | 501,603         | 1,003,207       | 1,042,271 |
| 1297     | SLDT          | 8420 | 26,920                        | 35,868                       | -                    | 1,323                | 2,326                 | -                                 | -                               | -                                 | 39,518          | 19,759          | 41,127          | 41,127    |
| 1302     | ML3           | 8430 | 20,339                        | 545                          | -                    |                      | 59                    | 131                               | 131                             | 131                               | 997             | 498             | 1,000           | 7,510     |
| 1304     | EC1           | 8432 | 8,225                         | 2,345                        | -                    |                      | 154                   | 564                               | 564                             | 564                               | 4,192           | 2,096           | 4,192           | 9,129     |
| 1306     | ML4           | 8434 | 6,043                         | 200                          | -                    |                      | 19                    | 48                                | 48                              | 48                                | 362             | 181             | 500             | 1,836     |
| 1308     | ECII & III    | 8436 | 9,275                         | 1,221                        | -                    |                      | 81                    | 294                               | 294                             | 294                               | 2,184           | 1,092           | 2,184           | 4,409     |
| 1310     | ML5           | 8438 | 6,533                         | 886                          | -                    |                      | 67                    | 213                               | 213                             | 213                               | 1,591           | 796             | 1,591           | 3,383     |
| 1303     | Bootlegger    | 8440 | 11,383                        | 480                          | -                    |                      | 43                    | 115                               | 115                             | 115                               | 869             | 434             | 1,000           | 3,878     |
| 1305     | Water Tower   | 8442 | 10,254                        | 466                          | -                    |                      | 46                    | 112                               | 112                             | 112                               | 849             | 424             | 1,000           | 2,691     |
| ALL DIST | Fund 217      | 8401 | 8,211                         |                              |                      |                      |                       |                                   |                                 |                                   | -               |                 |                 | -         |
|          |               |      | 1,903,733                     | 1,250,652                    | 1,151                | 10,180               | 102,174               | 10,000                            | 35,626                          | 10,000                            | 1,419,782       | 709,891         | 1,428,082       | 1,547,428 |

## PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Resolution 10104 – 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, 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 Resolution 10104 or submit in writing any comments to the City Clerk prior to or during the Commission Meeting.

/s/ Lisa Kunz  
City Clerk

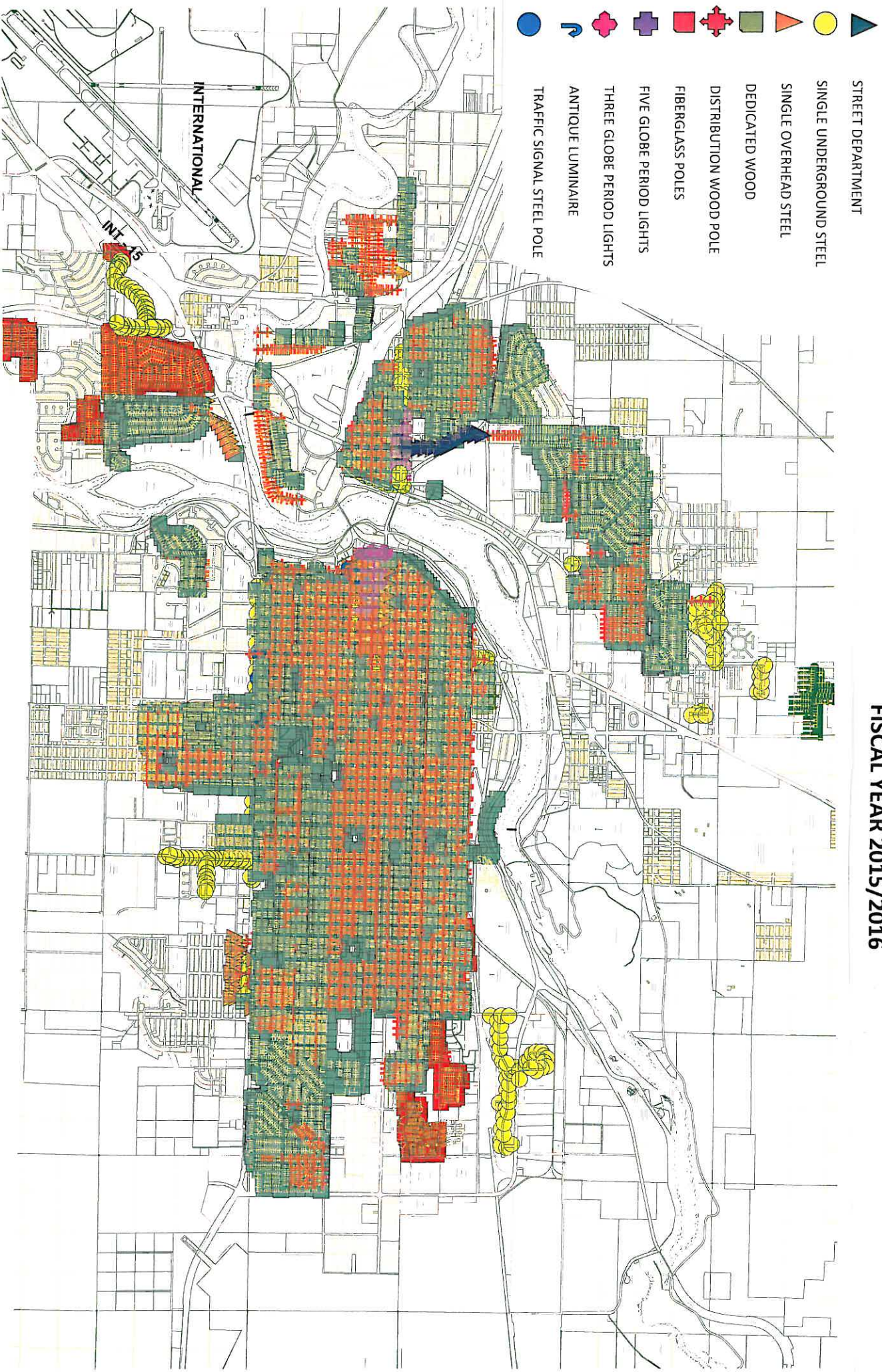
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DO NOT PUBLISH BELOW THIS LINE:  
Publication Dates: July 17 & 24, 2015

VARIOUS TYPES OF STREET LIGHT POLES

SPECIAL IMPROVEMENT LIGHTING DISTRICTS WITHIN THE CITY OF GREAT FALLS

FISCAL YEAR 2015/2016



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