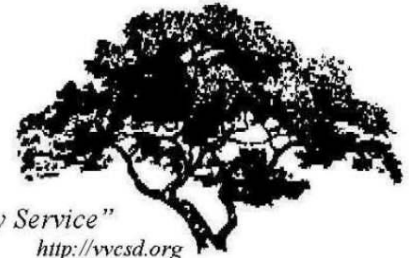


VANDENBERG VILLAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Vandenberg Village CSD Adopts \$4.8 Million Annual Budget, No Rate Increases

Vandenberg Village, CA, April 6, 2011. Following a public hearing at their April 5 monthly meeting, the Board of Directors of Vandenberg Village unanimously adopted a \$4.8 million budget for Fiscal Year 2011-12.

The budget consists of two parts: a \$3.8 million operating expense budget and a \$1 million capital budget.

In 2010, the District signed a 35-year agreement with the city of Lompoc to treat Vandenberg Village's wastewater. The costs of treating roughly 500,000 gallons per day and the CSD's share of debt for the Lompoc Regional Wastewater Reclamation Plant (LRWRP) Upgrade Project represent about 80 percent of the district's total wastewater budget.

To pay for the upgrade, the district adopted a series of steep wastewater rate increases over the last six years to the current \$66 per month. Those increases coupled with modest increases on water service have allowed the district to accumulate \$6.4 million in reserves according to District General Manager Joe Barget.

The directors considered but decided not to increase rates. "Our ratepayers deserved a break this year and we could afford to give it to them—even though some of our costs have gone up", said Bob Wyckoff, president of the CSD board.

VVCSD is an independent special district that provides water and wastewater services to a community of 6,500 people in northern Santa Barbara County. It is governed by a five-member, elected board of directors.

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