


TO: James L. App, City Manager
FROM: Ken Johnson, ES Chief 
SUBJECT: Vector Control Benefit Assessment Balloting
DATE: September 2, 2008

NEEDS: For the City Council to consider authorizing participation in a ballot measure for Paso Robles citizens to determine if they wish to participate in a benefit assessment for vector control and allow the County to provide vector control services within the City limits.

- FACTS:**
1. A vector of disease is an insect or rodent that is capable of transmitting diseases to man.
 2. The County is proposing vector control services consisting of public education, surveillance, abatement, and response to disease outbreaks for all vectors and vector-borne diseases.
 3. Primary focus of the County vector control program will be on mosquitoes, ticks, fleas, and rodents.
 4. A County initiated ballot measure to establish a vector control assessment district is anticipated in May of 2009.
 5. The proposed program cost is \$925,000. This equates to \$9.80 per year for a typical single-family residence. (See attachment for additional property type examples).
 6. The City Council must provide its approval in order for Paso Robles residents to participate in the balloting process to establish a vector benefit district.

ANALYSIS &

CONCLUSION: Insects and rodents are capable of transmitting disease to both man and animals. Examples include West Nile virus carried by mosquitoes, Bubonic Plague and Hantavirus carried by rodents or their fleas, and Lyme Disease carried by ticks.

County-wide resident vector-type complaints rose from 230 in 2005, to more than 660 in 2007. In 2007, Paso Robles' complaints to the County Health Department represented 26% of all vector complaints received, although it must be understood these to have been from people with Paso Robles mailing addresses (i.e., may include people living outside of, but in close proximity to, the corporate limits).

Vector surveillance and abatement efforts provide the most benefit to children and the elderly, as they are at the greatest risk because of underdeveloped or compromised immune systems. Healthy people, horses, and domestic flocks can also be impacted.

In June 2007, the San Luis Obispo Grand Jury completed an investigation of vector control. The recommendation of the Grand Jury was for the County to inform residents of the benefits of additional mosquito abatement and pest control. It was also recommended this be followed-up with a voter survey to determine the likelihood of a special assessment passing. The survey found the overall weighted ballot support for funding the proposed annual rate of \$9.80 to be 53.8%. The County now desires to move forward with a ballot measure and include Paso Robles.

POLICY

REFERENCE: California Government Code Sections 25842.5(a), and 25842.5(b)

FISCAL

IMPACT: None.

OPTIONS:

- a. Adopt Resolution No. 08-xx providing San Luis Obispo County the authority required for Paso Robles Citizens to be balloted for inclusion in a vector control assessment district and provide the related services; or
- b. Amend, modify or reject above option.

RESOLUTION NO. 08-xxx

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES
AUTHORIZING SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY TO BALLOT CITIZENS FOR INCLUSION
IN VECTOR CONTROL ASESMENT DISTRICT AND PROVIDE VECTOR CONTROL
SERVICES WITH ITS PASSAGE

WHEREAS, the City recognizes that vector borne diseases impact the public safety of its citizens;
and

WHEREAS, the County desires to provide vector control services consisting of public education,
surveillance, abatement, and response to disease outbreaks for all vectors and vector-borne diseases;
and

WHEREAS, the provision of County vector control services requires City approval; and

WHEREAS, the desire of citizens to financially participate in vector control services will be
determined by ballot.

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of El Paso de
Robles authorizes San Luis Obispo County to ballot citizens for inclusion in a vector control
assessment district and provide vector control services upon ballot measure approval.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Paso Robles this 2nd day of
September 2008 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Frank R. Mecham, Mayor

ATTEST:

Deborah Robinson, Deputy City Clerk

Vector Control Benefit Assessment
Examples

Property Type	Annual Assessment
Single family residence < 1 acre	\$9.80
Single family residence 5 acres	\$22.15
Apartment complex 100 units	\$162.60
Office property 1/2 acre	\$27.84
Retail store property 1/2 acre	\$9.80
Open range land 1,000 acres	\$16.46
Shopping center 20 acres	\$392.00
Agriculture property 100 acres	\$8.23
Vacant lot	\$2.94