

Board of Directors

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**Knightsen Town Community Services District
P.O. Box 763
Knightsen, CA 94548**



Sent via e-mail to:
Lori Abreu
loriabreu10@gmail.com

October 3, 2022

Dear Ms. Abreu:

On behalf of the Knightsen Town Community Services District (KTCSD), I am responding to the new public records requests in your e-mail to KTCSD dated, September 25, 2022.

In your email you ask for the survey the District conducted in 2021. For your information, the survey results can be found on the District's website: <https://knightsentowncsd.specialdistrict.org>

Nevertheless, here is a direct link to the survey results:

https://knightsentowncsd.specialdistrict.org/files/e7fafa89b/KTCSD+Survey+Results_2021_FINAL.pdf This document provides the information you requested regarding how many people participated in the survey and how the survey was conducted.

In your email you state, *"Personally, I know I never was involved in a survey."* As noted on page 2, "Methodology," of the survey results, the survey was sent to registered voters within the KTCSD boundaries as well as property owners within the KTCSD boundaries who are not registered voters in Knightsen. Each letter included an individualized ID number. This was done to help ensure that people did not respond to the survey more than once.

Our records indicate that you were sent the survey and you were assigned an individualized ID number. A survey response was received from your individualized ID number. Thus, it appears you did in fact receive, and respond to the survey.

In your email you state, *"Also, the feasibility study includes a full time employee at \$100,000 per year plus an admin. We have always had volunteers run our CSD, why would we pay to have feasibility study done without using actual historical data on costs associations?"*

A primary reason why the District paid for a feasibility study was to understand how much it would cost to actually operate a fully functioning District that is providing flood control or water quality improvements or services. To date, the District has not constructed any improvements or provided any services and has largely been able to operate with volunteers because no improvements or services have been provided. As noted in the Feasibility Study Memorandum, "A District being run entirely by volunteers donating most of their own resources is not

sustainable, even more so if the District were to undertake to provide any flood control or water quality improvements or services.”

The consultant then projected that, “the District in order for it to have the minimum resources necessary to be able to begin to provide any of the improvements or services for which it was formed,” expenses would include \$100,000 annually for a qualified manager and \$30,000 for a part-time office assistant.

In your email regarding attorney-client privilege you state, “*What information can you share to the citizens of the community regarding recordings, billing, and correspondence?*” With regard to attorney/client privileged communications being exempt from disclosure, this is standard practice in both the public and private sectors, including Contra Costa County. Attorney/client privilege has a clearly established foundation in the law and is something that is recognized by cities, counties, and special districts such as KTCSD.

In your email you ask why KTCSD is spending money on an attorney. KTCSD hired Jarvis, Fay and Gibson, LLP, to provide specialized legal expertise regarding placing a ballot measure on the ballot. You ask what documents can be provided. What the District can provide you is the bills we received from the attorney. You have already been provided those billings.

Lastly, you state, “*CSD board should be transparent to it’s constituents.*” The KTCSD Board of Directors has been abundantly transparent to constituents. If you look at the District’s website, there is a wealth of information available. Minutes of District meetings are extremely detailed, far more detailed than the minutes prior boards provided.

We encourage you to access the District’s website to gain a better understanding about the District.

Sincerely,



Trish Bello-Kunkel
Chairperson, Knightsen Town Community Services District



Knightsen CSD <knightsencsd@gmail.com>

Re: Knightsen CSD Records Request

1 message

Knightsen CSD <knightsencsd@gmail.com>
To: Lori Abreu <loriabreu10@gmail.com>

Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 3:00 PM

Good Afternoon Ms. Abreu,
Attached please find the letter in response to your inquiry.

Sincerely,
Trish Bello-Kunkel, Chairperson
Knightsen Town Community Services District (KTCSD)

On Sun, Sep 25, 2022 at 1:25 PM Lori Abreu <loriabreu10@gmail.com> wrote:
Can you please provide the survey the consultant refers to with the following language:

A survey conducted by the District in 2021 asked the local community, "How much are you willing to spend in the form of a parcel tax on an annual basis to fund the District?" 57.43% of the respondents said \$0 per year, and another 35.64% said only up to \$200 per year, for a total of about 93% who said they would not pay more than \$ 200 per year.

Personally, I know I never was involved in a survey so I was wondering how many residents participated in the survey and how it was conducted.

Also, the feasibility study includes a full time employee at \$100,000 per year plus an admin. We have always had volunteers run our CSD, why would we pay to have a feasibility study done without using actual historical data on costs associations?

I know you mentioned there is lawyer/client privilege regarding the correspondence, however the client is a public group, funded by the people and I believe we have the right to know why the CSD was spending money with an attorney. What information can you share to the citizens of the community regarding recordings, billing, correspondence, etc? CSD Board should be transparent to it's constituents.



Lori Abreu
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