

## Knightsen Survey letter

The Knightsen Town Community Services District (KTCS D) is sending this letter to all registered voters (*and parcel owners?*) in Knightsen. We are asking for your participation in a survey to provide feedback about the future role(s) and responsibilities of the District. Please take a few moments to read this letter.

First a brief history of the District. KTCS D was established in 2005 when Knightsen voters passed Measure Z. The District was created for the purpose of, “constructing, operating, maintaining, and servicing flood control and water quality improvements.” Measure Z permitted the District to levy an annual parcel tax of up to \$200 per developed parcel and up to \$100 per undeveloped parcel. The ballot measure allowed for the maximum annual parcel taxes to be increased by the cost-of-living (CPI) index each year. As of the current year, the maximum allowable tax rate with CPI applied is approximately \$300 per year for developed parcels and \$150 per year for undeveloped parcels. At the maximum tax rate, KTCS D would generate revenues of approximately \$164,000 per year.

Initially the tax was set at \$50 per developed parcel and \$25 per undeveloped parcel and the tax remained at those levels through 2016. In 2017, the KTCS D Board voted to increase the tax to \$200 per developed parcel and \$100 per undeveloped parcel. In 2018, new board members were elected and in 2019, the new board reduced the tax to \$50 per year for developed parcels and \$25 per year for undeveloped parcels. Essentially, this level is sufficient to cover most of the basic costs of the District. In 2020, the KTCS D Board reduced the tax to \$0 for both developed and undeveloped parcels.

Since the District was established, the District has provided no services, owns no properties, possesses no infrastructure, and has no ongoing obligations. As of May 2021, the District has approximately \$248,000 on deposit.

When the new KTCS D board was elected in 2018, it began a review of the history of the District. It found that in 2005 many Knightsen residents voted to establish the District believing that the District could prevent encroachment by the cities of Oakley and Brentwood. Since California special districts like KTCS D have no land use authority it is not possible for KTCS D to stop annexations by neighboring cities.

Several projects proposed by a consultant were carefully reviewed by the Board and the community. In total, the consultant indicated that the projects would cost approximately \$4.1 million, however, the Board determined that actual costs could be significantly higher. The cost estimates did not include all costs including the cost of easements. Also, the cost estimates did not include ongoing maintenance costs once the drainage infrastructure was constructed. Even with the possibility of grant matching funding, the board determined that the cost to construct and maintain these projects would exceed the existing funding capability of the District.

The KTCS D Board as well as community members attending its meetings are considering the future of the District. The Board has received considerable feedback from meeting attendees, but it seeks to widen that feedback via a survey. **The survey is only 10 questions and should take no more than 10 minutes to complete. To ensure your voice counts, please submit your survey no later than**

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You may complete the survey in one of two ways:

- 1) Go to the KTCS D website: [KnightsenTownCSD@specialdistrict.org](mailto:KnightsenTownCSD@specialdistrict.org) and complete the survey on the website. Every registered voter in your household should complete their own survey.
- 2) Call 925-551-1410 and request that a paper survey be sent to you.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Knightsen Town Community Services District