



City of Naples

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

TELEPHONE (239) 213-1800 • FACSIMILE (239) 213-1805
735 EIGHTH STREET SOUTH • NAPLES, FLORIDA 34102-6796

March 15, 2019

Reference: Aqualane Shores Utility Line Extension Project

Dear Property Owner:

The Aqualane Shores Association contacted the City Manager to assist in developing a special assessment to extend gas and fiber optic lines to your neighborhood. The association indicated that such an improvement would provide a desired alternative power source to the residents and enhance internet connectivity. Board members indicated that without this assessment and involvement of the all residents, the project would not be feasible.

The enclosed ballot is being sent to all property owners within the Aqualane Shores Line Extension Project area (which includes Little Harbour) to determine if there is sufficient support to proceed with a special assessment for extending gas lines and fiber optic lines to your neighborhood.

Please read this letter, review the attachments, and return the enclosed ballot with your vote before **April 15, 2019.**

The results of the enclosed poll will determine if the project moves forward through the process outlined. The estimated total project cost is \$1.36 million.

A special assessment is a funding process where City of Naples staff will plan, coordinate, and implement the project. Property owners will reimburse the City for their share of the project on a per parcel basis.

If the project is approved, property owners may choose to pay for their share of the cost (assessment) in full, in advance, or the assessment may be placed on the property tax bill and divided over four years. Those who opt to pay the assessment on the tax bill must also pay financial and administrative expenses associated with the assessment.

The assessment is being presented as a combined project. The cost of the assessment consists of two parts: Gas lines and Fiber Optic lines

Ethics above all else... Service to others before self... Quality in all that we do.

GAS

Within your neighborhood, there are 17 properties already connected to gas. If you are already connected to gas (or if the gas line is on your property) you will not be assessed for gas; your assessment for gas will be \$0. All other properties will share the cost of the gas line extension, estimated as follows:

- Single family homes \$2,060
- Parcels with multiple homes \$2,060 per dwelling unit
- Condominium unit \$679
- Commercial property assessment will be based on the size of the property. Please contact finance@naplesgov.com for details.

FIBER OPTIC

Parcels in the assessment area will share the cost of the fiber optic line, estimated as follows:

- Single family homes \$633
- Parcels with multiple homes \$633 per dwelling unit
- Condominium unit \$209
- Commercial property assessment will be based on the size of the property. Please contact finance@naplesgov.com for details

TOTAL

If this assessment is established, property owners will have the option to pay the assessment in advance or pay on the property tax bill over four years. The four-year option includes interest and service fees. The following shows the estimated one-time or four-year annual payment for the main property types.

Property type	One-time Payment	or	Annual Payment
Single family	\$2,693		\$742
Condominium unit	\$888		\$245
Single family already connected to gas (CenturyLink only)	\$633		\$175
Condominium unit that already has gas	\$209		\$58

These prices were estimated in February 2019, but prices could change prior to the assessment being imposed. Before this special assessment is imposed, property owners in the affected areas will be sent a letter by first class mail providing the maximum assessment amount and announcing a City Council meeting where property owners can voice their opinion.

This process will only provide line extensions. After the line is available, property owners who wish to connect will need to coordinate with the utility providers, TECO gas and CenturyLink. There may be additional charges involved to connect your home. However, there is no obligation for any homeowner to connect to either line.

Prior to the establishment of a voluntary assessment such as this, City Council requires assurance that more than 50% of the property owners support this project and the special assessment process. Your vote on this ballot will provide this assurance.

A favorable vote with support of more than 50% of the property owners will initiate a special assessment process. The assessment process includes two separate City Council resolutions heard approximately one month apart, public notice and an individual letter informing you of the final assessment hearing, where you can speak directly to Council about the project.

The best source for information about this project will be the Aqualane Shores Association. Information will be available at www.aqualaneshores.org, or by emailing questions to utilities@aqualaneshores.org. Inquiries about the special assessment process can be emailed to me at finance@naplesgov.com.

The Aqualane Shores and Little Harbour Homeowners' associations will be conducting an informational meeting on Tuesday March 19 at 10AM at the Port Royal Club, 2900 Gordon Drive, Naples. Representatives from TECO, Century Link, and the City of Naples will be present to answer questions.

Enclosed is a ballot and a return envelope. Please return the ballot in the enclosed envelope by **April 15, 2019**.

Respectfully,



Ann Marie S. Ricardi
Finance Director, City of Naples
finance@naplesgov.com