



# **Park and Recreation Department Maintenance Assessment Districts**

State Route 905 Freeway Landscaping  
Agreement with Caltrans

Public Safety & Neighborhood Services  
Committee

January 25, 2012

- Maintenance Assessment District (M.A.D.) – legal mechanism by which property owners can vote to assess themselves to pay for services above-and-beyond what the City normally provides.
- This above-and-beyond service level is called a “Special Benefit.”
- What the City normally provides is called the “General Benefit.”

- Otay International Center M.A.D.
  - Formed in 1994 and reballoted for Prop 218 compliance in 2000
  - Located near Otay Mesa International Border crossing; includes commercial and industrial areas
  - Maintenance services include landscaping, beautification, street trees, and trash removal
  - Services provided along public rights of way, including Siempre Viva Road and Paseo Internacional (State Route 905)

- State Route 905:
  - Construction underway through between 2001 and 2010, including demolition of landscaping along Paseo Internacional
  - Once freeway open to traffic, ancillary landscaping was installed
  - Due to request from adjacent property owners, Caltrans agreed to install an above standard landscape palette but would not maintain it
  - Intent for Otay International Center M.A.D. to maintain above-standard landscaping along 905 between port of entry and Airway Road





- The State Route 905 Freeway Landscape Agreement would authorize Otay International Center M.A.D. to maintain landscaping within the freeway rights of way
- Initial agreement drafted and approved by Council in 2008 to authorize Otay International Center M.A.D. to maintain freeway landscaping
- Caltrans did not countersign 2008 agreement due to changes in its agreement template

- New agreement drafted in 2011 would meet Caltrans' needs
- Specific new provisions in agreement include:
  - Minimum sight distance standards for plants to ensure safety for passing motorists
  - Guidance for proper use of chemicals to control pests
  - Control of irrigation to prevent flooding
  - Requirements for regular landscaping inspection

- Staff recommends approval of the agreement to authorize maintenance of the freeway landscaping
- Otay International Center M.A.D. advisory committee supports this agreement
- Funds will be held in the Otay International Center M.A.D. reserve to remove landscaping in 905 freeway rights of way should M.A.D. cease to exist in the future