COUNTY DEPARTMENT AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Utilities Management	Presenter(s):	Tony Parrott
Meeting Date:	Wednesday, May 6, 2009	Type of Request:	Consent

Wording for the Agenda:

Approval of staff's recommendation that the annual cost of street lights in designated districts in unincorporated Fayette County be increased to cover the actual cost incurred by the County for maintenance of the lights.

Background/History/Details:

Fayette County has an ordinance that allows the creation of "Street Light Districts" by property owners who agree by 2/3 majority to be billed on their County property tax bill for their annual share of the cost of lights in their "district". Street Light Districts are typically subdivisions or well-defined neighborhoods.

Street lights are installed and maintained by the power company that serves the area (either Ga. power or Coweta Fayette EMC). The cost to maintain street lights is billed to and paid by the County to the power company and the County subsequently recovers that cost from participating property owners via a "street light district tax".

The rates currently charged to approved street light participants do not cover the operating costs. The total cost outlay in FY08 was $267,159 or an average of $48 based on 5,593 participants. Staff recommends that the annual tax to participants be increased from an average of $39/parcel/year to $49/parcel/ year. This fee is based on operating expenses plus an administrative fee for the services provided by the Tax Assessor and Finance Department staff.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Board approval of the attached resolution.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

The Street Light Program is an enterprise fund. No additional sources of funding are required.

Has this issue come before the Commissioners in the past?	Yes	If so, when?	Thursday, April 24, 2008
Do you need audio-visual for the presentation?		Back-up Material Submitted?	Yes

STAFF USE ONLY

Approved by Finance	Yes	Reviewed by Legal	Yes
Approved by Purchasing	Yes	Approved by County Clerk	Yes
Administrator's Approval	Yes		

Staff Notes:

RESOLUTION
2009-08

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA ADJUSTING STREET LIGHT DISTRICT RATES

WHEREAS, Fayette County, Georgia, has a street light program whereby residents of subdivisions can voluntarily request to be part of a street light district, and;

WHEREAS, the Code of Ordinances for Fayette County, Georgia, requires that the rates for a street light district shall be sufficient to cover the expenses and costs associated with the lights for that district, and;

WHEREAS, the current rates for the street light districts are inadequate to cover the expenses and costs for the districts, and;

WHEREAS, the Director of Utility Management has reviewed the County's street light district rates and recommended, and the Board of Commissioners has concurred, that the current street light district rates must be adjusted to cover the expenses and costs associated with the lights for approved street light districts; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners finds it to be in the best interest of the citizens of Fayette County, Georgia, that said street light district rates be established as provided for herein;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County, Georgia, that in accordance with section 16-46 of the Fayette County Code of Ordinances, the street light district rates shall be established at forty-nine dollars ($49.00) per participating lot or parcel per year, effective immediately upon adoption of this Resolution.

IT IS SO RESOLVED this 14h day of April, 2009, by the

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA

_____
JACK R. SMITH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

_____
CLERK/DEPUTY CLERK