TO:             HONORABLE CITY COUNCIL
FROM:           CITY MANAGER
DEPARTMENT:     PUBLIC WORKS
DATE:           APRIL 4, 2005
SUBJECT:       MAILING OF BALLOTS FOR STORM DRAINAGE FEE INCREASE

This is an informational report and no Council action is required.

BACKGROUND
On December 6, 2004, Council approved a resolution proposing an increase in the monthly Storm Drainage Fee from $4.25 to $10.00 per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) and a resolution establishing the procedures and timeline for a protest hearing and ballot proceeding for the Storm Drainage Fee increase (CMR:508:04).

On March 7, 2005, Council held a public hearing to accept written and oral testimony on the matter of the proposed Storm Drainage Fee increase. Upon a determination that written protests were not received from a majority of property owners, Council adopted a resolution calling a special mail ballot proceeding for Tuesday, April 26, 2005 to allow owners of parcels subject to the Storm Drainage Fee increase to vote on whether the fee should be increased.

DISCUSSION
On April 4, 2005, staff mailed ballots and supplemental information (see Attachment A) to all owners of parcels subject to the Storm Drainage Fee, in accordance with the timeline adopted by Council for the mail ballot proceeding. Completed ballots must be received by the City Clerk no later than 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2005, at which time the City Clerk will count and tabulate the ballots in the Council Chambers. Council will certify the results of the mail ballot proceeding on May 9, 2005. If the ballot proceeding results indicate that a majority of the voters voting upon the fee increase voted in favor of the increase, Council may adopt the fee increase by resolution amending Utility Rate Schedule D-1.

ATTACHMENT
Attachment A: Storm Drainage Fee increase ballot and supplemental information

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