

### EDH Community Service District Disgraceful Status Report

- Fails to Conduct meetings
  - Special Meeting Feb 12 refused to call to order
  - Regular Meeting Feb 13 refused to call to order
  - Law Enforcement Called to manage crowd
- Director Chuck King resigns/un-resigns
- Agenda motion to remove Steve Ferry as president
- General Manager Mark Hofstra resigns
  - Assistant GM takes over little experience
- Ex-GM Kevin Loewen under criminal investigation
- Board approves inaccurate financial statements
- Hires additional costly lawyers
- No progress of multiple parks programs
- Overpays millions of \$\$\$ for old golf course land







### EDH Community Services District Board of Directors Ignores Will of the People

- Measure S supermajority YES Vote over 91%
- Election Certified by EDC Board of Supervisors
- Current Law: LLAD #39 repealed and refunds due
- CRCG presented CSD Board invoice for refunds
- CSD declined to honor Measure S
  - Directs WillDan to prepare new assessments
  - Engages Outside Lawyers to Challenge

Following Slides: legal presentation scheduled for review on Feb 13 ... with our comments in red



DISCLOSURE: Any resemblance to Godzillas living or dead is purely coincidental



### CSD Outside Counsel made a public presentation to the Board. Our comments are highlighted in red 2024's Measures Q, R & S by Michael G. Colantuono, Esq. El Dorado Hills Community Services District February 13, 2024

How many taxpayer dollars were spent on these theories?

<sub>2/7/20</sub>Is this firm willing to back its theories by working on the basis that fees are tied to achieving legal judgements?

Or are these theories a means to enrich the firm on back of the taxpayer?

COLANTUONC HIGHSMITH WHATLEY, PC



# Measures Q, R and S are Illegal

- Not illegal without judgment
- The assessments are required by County land use approvals and CEQA Incorrect...show codes and provisions
- The law does not provide for initiatives by financing districts, only by governments (i.e., the CSD, not an assessment district, which is not a government) Nonsense
- All District property owners are affected (by the need to fund minimal maintenance of these parks with District-wide resources) but did not get a vote

False, read State Constitution Articles XIII C & D





# The Board May Implement Them Anyway

- If the Board opts to implement the measures, it can:
  - Find alternative funding
  - Reduce services to the level needed to avoid liability
    - Dangerous conditions (like trip and fall hazards)
    - Nuisances (like fire hazards)
  - Invite voluntary efforts to maintain some services
  - Close the parks temporarily
  - Sell the parks, with District-wide voter approval

Use general funds as recommended by Grand Jury

Apply fees generated by users and leagues using the parks

Treat these LLADs identically to Serrano and LLAD 17

COLANTUONO HIGHSMITH WHATLEY, PC



## **Options** for the affected communities

- Accept reduced services as the price of eliminating the assessments, recognizing most property taxes fund schools and County services
- Seek volunteer or private-sector service providers such as non-profits or HOAs
- Propose new assessments

Reduce waste, double-dipping overhead Properly apply park impact fees and other resources Require accountability and competent staffing Cease relying of LLAD to fatten saving accounts Stop overspending on large purchases without appraisa Provide verifiable accounting of records and assets

HIGHSMIT



Refunds

- Should be limited to the statute of limitations to avoid gift of public funds claims Abid by the law, don't twist facts
  - And because older funds have been spent on services
- Might require written claims (perhaps on a Districtprovided form) Obstructionism ... not previous used
  - Those who want refunds can get them
  - Those who want to delay or reduce service cuts can pass
- Written claims likely needed for assessees no longer own property in the districts (move-aways) Just follow the law



## 91+% VOTED YES FOR MEASURE S

#### AN INITIATIVE MEASURE TO REPEAL AND REFUND THE CARSON CREEK PARK LANDSCAPING AND LIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT #39 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT

### **DON'T BELIEVE THE CSD MYTHS**

FALSE: Services will be cut without our LLAD assessments such as watering and maintenance Operational costs must be covered from general funds as is done with other CSD parks

FALSE: LLAD funds are essential and the loss of money will make CSD insolvent. The Grand Jury found CSD has excess funding and LLAD assessments are not justified

FALSE: Heritage residents are selfish and don't want to pay their fair share We only seek to be treated on the same basis as other gated communities like Serrano that pays no LLAD assessments

FALSE: Heritage residents will not be entitled to refunds. Four years of assessments (including those not yet collected) are subject to all refunds under this initiative



## CALL FOR ACTION FIGHT BACK

- Continue to research and educate
- Engage social media and press
- Citizen pressure
  - Voice concerns at meetings
  - Call and write letters
- Seek government intervention
- Court Action
  - Continue CRHV v CSD litigation
  - Seek enforcement of Measures Q R & S
  - Engage excellent legal defense



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### **COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**



## We Are All EARS