



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Flood Control  
**Department No.:** 054  
**For Agenda Of:** June 16, 2015  
**Placement:** Departmental  
**Estimated Tme:** 10 minutes  
**Continued Item:** Yes  
**If Yes, date from:** May 12, 2015  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Directors, Flood Control and Water Conservation District

**FROM:** Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, 568-3010  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436

**SUBJECT:** Flood Control Benefit Assessment Program for Fiscal Year 2015-16, All  
Supervisorial Districts

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

- A. Consider the introduction (first reading) of an Ordinance amending Ordinance 3150, the Flood Control Benefit Assessment Ordinance, Relating to Benefit Assessments for Flood Control Services imposing Flood Control Benefit Assessments for Fiscal Year 2015-16; and
- B. Receive a Report regarding Flood Control Benefit Assessment for Fiscal Year 2015-16 and direct recordation.
- C. Set the second hearing on the administrative agenda to consider the following recommendations:  
(FOR JULY 7, 2015)
  - I. Make a determination upon each assessment described in the report ordered filed by the Board at the June 16, 2015 meeting;
  - II. Adopt the Resolution confirming Flood Control Benefit Assessment for Fiscal Year 2015-16 and authorize the Clerk of the Board to record a certified copy;
  - III. Consider adoption (second reading) of an Ordinance amending Ordinance 3150, the Flood Control Benefit Assessment Ordinance, Relating to Benefit Assessments for Flood Control Services imposing Flood Control Benefit Assessments for Fiscal Year 2015-16 (ordinance introduced on June 16, 2015); and

- IV. Find that the assessment revenue will be used for meeting operating expenses, including employee wage rates and fringe benefits, purchasing or leasing supplies, equipment, or materials, meeting financial reserve needs and requirements and obtaining funds for capital projects necessary to maintain service within existing service areas, and that the recalculation and imposition of the annual Flood Control Benefit Assessment are therefore exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15273(a)(1, 2, 3, and 4), and direct staff to file the attached CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Clerk of the Board.

**Summary Text:**

The Board has set June 16, 2015 as the date for the first hearing to introduce an ordinance entitled, "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 3150, the Flood Control Benefit Assessment Ordinance, Relating to Benefit Assessments for Flood Control Services"; and has set July 7, 2015 as the date for the second hearing and adoption. It is proposed that the rates in each zone be increased by 0.5% for Fiscal Year 2015-16 (table shown below) as determined by the State Department of Finance. This increase represents the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all urban consumers for Los Angeles includes counties of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura.

A copy of the report will be kept on file with the Clerk of the Board until the conclusion of the hearings.

Adoption of this ordinance amendment is recommended to continue the current level of flood control services.

**Background:**

The Flood Control Benefit Assessment Program was developed after Proposition 13 passed in 1978 which seriously reduced the District's tax revenue to about 40% of its previous level. In response to the District's imminent financial situation and the need for supplemental funding, the Board of Directors moved and adopted the Flood Control Benefit Program on March 24, 1980 and began the program in 1980-1981 prior to voter consideration. The Board believed that delaying the decision would have made it impossible to continue maintenance of essential facilities operated by the District and to avoid an increased risk in flooding. On the November 4, 1980 Statewide General Election, the Board placed a ballot measure in each of the Flood Zones to continue the Program.

On November 4, 1980, Santa Barbara County residents approved, by vote, the levying of benefit assessments in each of the Flood Zone to help pay the cost of providing flood control services. This list of services/programs was identified as program priorities:

- Emergency Response
- Operation and Maintenance
- Storm Emergency Rehabilitation
- Dam Safety
- Debris Control
- Major Repair

- Correction of Flooding and Erosion Problems (new construction)
- Flood Plain Management
- Santa Ynez River Flood Warning System

The priorities established above were based on protection of life, protection of property, safety, economy, public service, and conservation.

The assessment brought the District funding to about 80% of the pre-Proposition 13 revenues. The ordinance that established the assessment program allows for annual increases in assessment rates up to the increase in the CPI for the preceding twelve months.

The CPI increases are intended to equalize service levels year-to-year by stabilizing buying power. The new benefit assessment rates prevent the devaluation of Flood Control District revenues from inflation. The CPI increase approved by the voters preserves the ability to deliver services to the public.

Then again in 1996 a measure was brought back to the voters to increase Benefit Assessment rates above the CPI and the measure passed only in the South Coast Flood Zone.

#### **Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

The revenue generated from the Benefit Assessment Program was included in the proposed FY 2015-16 budget in each of the ten flood zones.

Budgeted: Yes

Narrative:

Benefit Assessment rates will generate approximately \$3,245,419 collectively within the Flood Control District's ten flood zones for 2015-16 and this revenue was included in the proposed budget.

#### **Special Instructions:**

After the June 16, 2015 Hearing direct the Clerk of the Board to:

1. Send the 2015-16 Benefit Assessment Report to the County Clerk-Recorders office to be recorded.

After the July 7, 2015 Hearing direct the Clerk of the Board to:

1. File the attached Notice of Exemption (post).
2. Send a certified copy of the attached resolution to the County Clerk- Recorder office to be recorded.
3. File a certified copy of the attached resolution with the Property Tax Division of the Auditor-Controller's Office.
4. Submit a copy of recorded Resolution to the Flood Control District and County Counsel.
5. Submit a copy of adopted Ordinance to the Flood Control District and County Counsel.
6. Submit a copy of the recorded 2015-16 Benefit Assessment Report to the Flood Control District.

7. Publish a copy of the amended ordinance or summary of with names of the members of the Board of Directors voting for or against the amendment in the Santa Barbara Newspress within 15 days of adoption of the ordinance.
8. Send a copy of the stamped NOE to the Flood Control District office, Attn: Christina Lopez.
9. Send a copy of the minute order of these actions to the Flood Control District office, Attn: Christina Lopez.

**Attachments:**

1. Resolution
2. Ordinance
3. Ordinance (striketthrough version)
4. Notice of Exemption
5. 2015-16 Benefit Assessment Report

**Authored by:**

Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436

**PROPOSED RATES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016  
FLOOD ZONE BENEFIT ASSESSMENT RATES & MINIMUM PARCEL ASSESSMENT PER CATEGORY**

	Group A		Group B		Group C		Group D		Group E	
	FY 2015-2016		FY 2015-2016		FY 2015-2016		FY 2015-2016		FY 2015-2016	
	\$/Ac	Min \$ Assmt	\$/Ac	Min \$ Assmt	\$/Ac <sup>1</sup> (over 0.3 Ac only)	Min \$ Assmt	\$/Ac	Min \$ Assmt	\$/Ac	Min \$ Assmt
Bradley #3	40.94	12.29	30.70	9.21	0.00	6.18	1.53	0.45	0.15	0.04
Guadalupe #3	21.68	6.50	16.26	4.89	0.00	3.26	0.82	0.25	0.08	0.02
Lompoc City #2	91.46	27.44	68.58	20.57	0.00	13.73	3.44	1.03	0.33	0.09
Lompoc Valley #2	35.72	10.70	26.77	8.03	0.00	5.34	1.33	0.40	0.14	0.03
Los Alamos #1	45.41	13.63	34.07	10.21	0.00	6.81	1.70	0.50	0.17	0.04
Orcutt #3	27.22	8.17	20.41	6.13	0.00	4.09	1.02	0.30	0.10	0.03
Santa Maria #3	87.07	26.13	65.31	19.64	0.00	13.05	3.27	0.99	0.30	0.09
SMR Levee	23.49	7.05	17.62	5.29	0.00	3.54	0.87	0.27	0.09	0.02
Santa Ynez #1	20.06	6.02	15.05	4.51	0.00	3.00	0.75	0.23	0.08	0.02
South Coast #2	152.85	45.86	114.63	34.39	0.00	22.93	5.73	1.72	0.57	0.17

GROUP A - Commercial Industrial.

GROUP B - Institutions and Apartments

GROUP C - Single-family residential and small multiple (2 to 4 units), cemeteries.

GROUP D - Irrigated agriculture, golf courses.

GROUP E - Dry farmed agricultural, vacant ground.

Note: A \$1.00 per parcel assessment is added per Resolution No. 82-209 pursuant to Government Code Sections 29304 and 51800.

<sup>1</sup>Minimum assessment included up to 0.3-acre lot. Any single family "Group C" LOT AREA over 0.3 acres will be additionally charged in accordance with the schedule for "Group D".