

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
AGENDA BOARD LETTER**



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Room 407105 E. Anapamu Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number
Department: Flood Control/ Public Works
Budget Unit: 054-04-01
Agenda Date: 05/17/05
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
Document Name: BRDMAY17.BENEFIT.DOC

TO: Board of Directors
Santa Barbara County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

FROM: Phillip M. Demery
Public Works Director

STAFF CONTACT: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, Ext. 3436

SUBJECT: **FLOOD CONTROL BENEFIT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2005-06, All Supervisorial Districts**

RECOMMENDATIONS: C.A. Recommendation: _____

That the Board of Directors:

- A. File the attached CEQA Notice of Exemption for the Flood Control Benefit Assessment Program for FY 2005-06 (POST);
- B. Set the first hearing to (FOR JUNE 21, 2005 ESTIMATED TIME: 10 MINUTES);
 - 1) Introduce an ordinance entitled, "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 2005-06;
 - 2) Receive a Report regarding Flood Control Benefit Assessment for Fiscal Year 2005-06 and direct recordation;
 - 3) Receive and file an update from the March 1996 Voter Approved South Coast Benefit Assessment Increase Measure;
- C. Set the second hearing to: (FOR JULY 5, 2005 ESTIMATED TIME: 5 MINUTES)
 - 1) Make a determination upon each assessment described in the report ordered filed by the Board at the June 21, 2005 meeting;
 - 2) Adopt the Resolution confirming Flood Control Benefit Assessment for Fiscal Year 2005-06 and authorize the Clerk of the Board to record a certified copy; and
 - 3) Adopt the ordinance entitled, "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 2005-06 (ordinance introduced on June 21, 2005).

ALIGNMENT WITH BOARD STRATEGIC PLAN:

The recommendations are primarily aligned with Goal No. 2. Ensure the Public Health and Safety and Provide Essential Infrastructure.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Board has set June 21, 2005 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 5, 2005 as the date of the second hearing. Upon adoption of the Resolution presented, the Board will have confirmed the assessments as presented in the Report.

The voters in Santa Barbara County approved a Benefit Assessment program to fund Flood Control activities in the 10 Flood Zones in the County. This voter approved assessment includes an annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase which has been implemented every year since its original implementation in 1980. The CPI is calculated by the State Department of Finance.

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

CEQA does not apply to the increase of rates by the CPI pursuant to Title 14, California Administrative Code Section 15273 (a)(1)(2)(3)(4).

MANDATES AND SERVICE LEVELS:

Adoption of this Board of Directors Ordinance is recommended to continue the current level of Flood Control services.

FISCAL AND FACILITIES IMPACTS:

Santa Barbara County residents approved, by vote, the levying of benefit assessments to help pay the cost of providing flood control services. 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. It is proposed to increase the rates in each zone for Fiscal Year 2005-06 by 4.02% as determined by the State Department of Finance.

The new assessment rate increase should generate approximately \$2,410,000, which represents an estimated increase of \$95,000 from which the District currently receives collectively within the zones. 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 District revenues from inflation.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to:

1. Post the attached CEQA Notice of Exemption;
2. Publish the attached Notice of Public Hearing pursuant to Section 6066 of the Government Code (publish notice on May 31 and June 7, 2005) in the Santa Barbara News-Press and the Santa Maria Times; and
3. Send a copy of the minute order and a stamped copy of the NOE to the Flood Control District office, attn: Christina Lopez.

Subject: Flood Control Benefit Assessment Program FY 2005-06

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