

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



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

Agenda Number
Department: Flood Control/ Public Works
Budget Unit: 054-04-01
Agenda Date: 06/01/04
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Time: 10 minutes
Continued Item: No
Document Name: BRDJUN1.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 2004-05, All Supervisorial Districts**

RECOMMENDATIONS: C.A. Recommendation: _____

That the Board of Directors:

- A. Receive Report regarding Flood Control Benefit Assessment for Fiscal Year 2004-05 and direct recordation;
- B. Introduce an ordinance (first hearing) entitled, "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 3150, the Flood Control Benefit Assessment Ordinance, Relating to Benefit Assessments for Flood Control Services";
- C. Receive an update from the March 26, 1996 Voter Approved South Coast Benefit Assessment Increase Measure (Attachment A); and
- D. At second hearing set for June 15, 2004 (ESTIMATED TIME: 5 MINUTES)
 - 1) Make a determination upon each assessment described in the report ordered filed by the Board at the June 1, 2004, meeting;
 - 2) Adoption of the attached Resolution confirming Flood Control Benefit Assessment for Fiscal Year 2004-05 and authorize the Clerk of the Board to record a certified copy; and
 - 3) Adoption of the attached 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 2004-05 (ordinance introduced on June 1, 2004).

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 1, 2004 as the hearing to introduce an ordinance (first hearing) entitled, "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 3150, the Flood Control Benefit Assessment Ordinance, Relating to Benefit Assessments for Flood Control Services"; and has set June 15, 2004 as the second hearing. Upon adoption of the Resolution presented, the Board will have confirmed the assessments as presented in the Report.

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 Consumer Price Index (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 2004-05 by 1.8% as determined by the State Department of Finance.

The new assessment rate increase should generate approximately \$2,315,000, which represents an estimated increase of \$55,000 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.

The proposed revenue from the benefit assessment program for next fiscal year is included in the proposed 04-05 Budget for the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department under Other Charges for Services cost center.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

The Clerk of the Board is directed to do the following:

After June 1, 2004 Hearing

1. Record Report regarding Flood Control Benefit Assessment for Fiscal Year 2003-04.

After June 15, 2004 Hearing:

1. Send a certified copy of the attached resolution to the County Clerk- Recorder to be recorded.
2. File a certified copy of the attached resolution with the County Auditor-Controller.
3. Submit a copy of recorded Resolution to the Flood Control District and County Counsel.
4. Submit a copy of adopted Ordinance to the Flood Control District and County Counsel.
5. Send a copy of the minute order of these actions to the Flood Control District.
6. 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 News Press within 15 days of adoption of the ordinance.

CONCURRENCE: County Counsel, Auditor Controller

Attachments: Update on the South Coast Benefit Assessment Increase March 1996 Election (Attachment A)
2004-05 Benefit Assessment Report
Resolution
Ordinance

ATTACHMENT A
Update on the South Coast Benefit Assessment Increase
March 1996 Election

In March of 1996, the voters on the South Coast approved an assessment increase above the CPI to help fund not only on going maintenance but capital projects as well. The 1996 increase was clearly worded to show the voting public that the proposed assessment increase would be used for flood control purposes. Below is a summary of the major projects completed on the South Coast since the March 1996 Election.

Project	FY Completed	Total Cost
Westside Stormdrain (Santa Barbara) (Completion of Phase I)	97-98	\$965,848
Franciscan Culvert (Carpinteria) (Element of Carpinteria Salt Marsh)	99-00	\$2.2 million
Encina Drain / Las Vegas Creek (Goleta)	00-01	\$455,883
Montecito Creek Debris Basin (Montecito) (completed early FY 02-03)	02-03	\$3.5 million
Franciscan Sediment Basin (Element of Carpinteria Salt Marsh)	02-03	\$1.6 million
Miscellaneous Small Projects (Old San Jose Creek, Via Regina Improvements, Venado Dr Stormdrain)	Various	\$555,044
El Encanto Debris Control Project	Contract Awarded	~\$2 Million

Currently, staff is working on several other major projects on the South Coast. A summary of the active projects is listed below.

Mission Creek

The Mission Creek Flood Control Project design process has been halted due to Federal Funding limitations. Staff, working with the City of Santa Barbara, has been able to identify potential right-of-way acquisitions through proposed development, or opportunistic sales. The City is pursuing some of the bridge replacements at this time.

Las Vegas / San Pedro Creeks

Staff has been working for several years on coordination of a project to replace culverts on Las Vegas and San Pedro Creeks. The project involves coordination between the City of Goleta, City of Santa Barbara, UPRR, and Caltrans. The project would reduce serious flooding in the neighborhoods north of Calle Real near Vega Drive and Valdez Avenue.

Carpinteria Salt Marsh

The EIR / EIS is complete for the project, and staff anticipates construction this summer.