

Reclamation District 1608

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Reclamation District 1608

JANUARY
2025

Information on proposed Property Assessment Ballots will be mailed Feb. 6, 2025

ATTEND A COMMUNITY MEETING!

6:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 5
Mable Barron Elementary Multi-Purpose Room
6835 Cumberland Place, Stockton

6:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 19
Mable Barron Elementary Multi-Purpose Room
6835 Cumberland Place, Stockton

RD1608.COM

Reclamation District 1608

What is RD 1608?

RD 1608, A PUBLIC AGENCY FORMED IN 1914, is responsible for operating and maintaining levees that reduce flood risk for approximately 3,000 properties and 9,000 residents in Lincoln Village West. RD 1608 is governed by a three-member elected Board of Trustees composed of property owners within the district's boundaries.

Learn more at www.rd1608.com.

Questions?

Visit RD 1608's website for more information:

- Assessment Calculator [209-475-7861](tel:209-475-7861)
- Preliminary Draft Engineer's Report info@rd1608.com
- District Budgets & Audits www.rd1608.com

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Proposed Property Assessment for Levee Maintenance & Capital Services to Replace Assessment that Expires June 2025

EXISTING PROPERTY ASSESSMENT FOR LEVEE MAINTENANCE ENDS JUNE 2025

RECLAMATION DISTRICT 1608 [RD 1608] is the public agency that maintains 3.5 miles of levees along the waterways that nearly surround Lincoln Village West. These levees are Lincoln Village West's only defense against flooding from Fourteen Mile and Five Mile Sloughs. About 45% of RD 1608's annual budget is funded by a property assessment approved by property owners in 2010. That assessment, which generates around \$300,000 per year, expires on June 30, 2025. This will leave RD 1608 with only about one-half of its required annual operating revenues.

Proposed Property Assessment to Replace Existing Assessment

RD 1608 cannot continue providing a high-level of flood protection with only half of its required annual revenues. Therefore, RD 1608 is proposing a new annual property assessment to replace the one that's expiring. The proposed assessment will generate approximately \$330,000 per year. This amounts to a \$30,000 per year increase to the annual budget to account for inflation over the past 15 years. It also changes how assessments are calculated to comply with state law (see "How Proposed Assessments are Calculated"). About one-half of the existing property assessments will decrease because of these changes.



Over the past 15 years, RD 1608's property assessments have not increased from year to year, not even for inflation. Meanwhile, RD 1608's cost for doing business—including permitting, labor, supplies, and materials—increased during that time.

More Inside!

How Proposed Assessments are Calculated

Under CA Proposition 218 law, only properties that receive benefit from the Agency's Levee Maintenance and Capital Services (projects) can be assessed. The benefit to each property is the avoidance of flood damage to land and structures due to proper levee maintenance. Each property's assessment is unique based upon the following factors:

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Land use type: (e.g., Single-Family Residential, Commercial, Industrial) | Parcel size (acreage) |
| Structure square footage | Average depth of flooding |

Under the proposed assessment, property assessments may be increased each year based upon the Consumer Price Index (CPI) or a maximum of 4% -- whichever is less. Inflation adjustments are not automatic. Instead, it requires approval each year by the RD 1608 Board of Trustees during its annual budget process. The assessment will continue every year so long as RD 1608 continues to provide Levee Maintenance and Capital Services (projects).

The proposed assessment also updates how assessments are calculated to comply with CA Proposition 218 law. About 45% of the existing property assessments will decrease and about 55% will increase because of these changes.

Visit <https://rd1608.com/about-us-2/proposed-property-assessment> and use the Assessment Calculator to see the factors being used for your property, and to compare your existing and proposed replacement assessments.


Assessment Revenues Pay for Levee Maintenance & Capital Services


RD 1608 uses 100 percent of property assessment revenues for Levee Maintenance and Capital Services (projects), like levee repairs. It employs one full-time superintendent and four part-time maintenance workers to ensure the levees meet state and federal flood protection regulations. Activities include:

- Routine inspection of levees and drainage facilities
- Removal of debris that obstructs flood flows, or otherwise damages levees
- Maintenance of channel depth to provide access to marine mounted equipment (material and crane barges)
- Vegetation removal and control
- Rodent removal and control
- 24/7 levee patrol during high water warning and flood stages
- Resurfacing of levee maintenance and patrol roads
- Erosion repair and protection
- Repair of levee embankments
- Storing and maintaining emergency flood fight materials
- Inspection and repair of gates
- Placement and distribution of sandbags and riprap during high water events
- State and federal environmental permit application and compliance
- Identification of encroachments and coordination with property owners to remove any that threaten levee stability/integrity

Visit Our Website

<https://rd1608.com/about-us-2/proposed-property-assessment/> to:

 Use the Assessment Calculator to review the factors for your property's proposed assessment, and to compare your existing assessment to your proposed assessment

 Review the Preliminary Draft Engineer's Report, which details the assessment methodology



"Yes" or "No," What Happens?

| ✓ YES |
|--|
| Existing assessment ends in June 2025 |
| New replacement assessment begins in July 2025, and RD 1608's levee maintenance program will be adequately funded |
| RD 1608 will invest 100% of assessment revenues into levee maintenance activities and capital services |
| RD 1608 levees will remain accredited by FEMA, and property owners can voluntarily purchase lowest-cost flood insurance |
| RD 1608 can assure state and federal agencies that it can maintain USACE levee improvements to state and federal regulations |

| ✗ NO |
|---|
| Existing assessment expires in June 2025, cutting RD 1608's budget by 45% |
| Levee maintenance and capital services will be significantly reduced |
| Levees will degrade more quickly, increasing the likelihood of a flood |
| Ultimately, levees won't meet state and federal regulations for flood protection |
| The community will be at risk of being "mapped" into a FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area. In that case, any property with a mortgage would be required to carry high-cost flood insurance |
| RD 1608 could not provide assurances to state and federal agencies that it could maintain USACE levee improvements, putting the levee improvements in jeopardy of not being constructed |



Watch your mailbox after February 6 for the assessment ballot!