

HOW TO COMPLETE & RETURN YOUR BALLOT

Ballots must be received before the close of the public hearing on Tuesday, March 25. By law, ballots received after the close of the public hearing cannot be accepted or counted.

TO COMPLETE YOUR BALLOT:

- 1 Cast your **VOTE** by marking an "X" in the box next to "Yes" or "No"
- 2 Print and **SIGN**
- 3 **DATE** your ballot
- 4 Place your entire ballot in the **POSTAGE-PAID RETURN ENVELOPE**

IMPORTANT!

Do not tear off any portion of the ballot or it may not be accepted.



TO RETURN YOUR BALLOT:

- A) BY MAIL** — Ballots must be in the postage-paid security envelope, mailed and received no later than 5 p.m., Tuesday, March 25. Postmarks cannot be accepted..
- B) BY HAND** — Place in the security envelope and
- **Deliver to RD 1608's secure ballot box at Neumiller & Beardslee**, 3121 W. March Lane, #100, Stockton, no later than 5 p.m., Tuesday, March 25; or.
 - **Deliver to the public hearing** at 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, March 25, at Mable Barron Elementary School, 6835 Cumberland Place, Stockton.

IMPORTANT!

You must return the official ballot in the security envelope (photocopies and regular envelopes can't be accepted). Please don't tear any portion of the ballot or it may not be accepted. If you need a replacement ballot and/or security envelope, please contact us at 209-475-7861, or info@rd1608.com.

"YES" OR "NO," WHAT HAPPENS?



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



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

ABOUT 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.](http://www.rd1608.com)

Reclamation District 1608

PROPOSED PROPERTY ASSESSMENT FOR LEVEE MAINTENANCE & CAPITAL SERVICES *to Replace Assessment that Expires in June 2025*

Official Notice & Ballot Information Guide

Questions?

www.rd1608.com | info@rd1608.com | 209-475-7861

VISIT RD 1608'S WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Assessment calculator

Preliminary Draft Engineer's Report

Frequently asked questions

District Budgets & Audits



COMMUNITY MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING

Community Meeting

6:30 p.m., Wed., February 19

Mable Barron Elementary

Multi-Purpose Room

6835 Cumberland Place, Stockton

Public Hearing

6:30 p.m., Tue., March 25

Mable Barron Elementary

Multi-Purpose Room

6835 Cumberland Place, Stockton

EXISTING PROPERTY ASSESSMENT ENDS JUNE 2025

Reclamation District 1608 [RD 1608] is the public agency responsible for maintenance of 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 the Delta along Fourteen Mile and Five Mile Sloughs.

Proper levee maintenance is critical to providing a strong level of flood protection, especially during storms and high-water events. RD 1608's operations are funded in near equal amounts by an annual property assessment approved by property owners in 2010, and a percentage of property taxes. The existing property assessment will end on June 30, 2025. This will leave RD 1608 with little more than 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 unless the annual property assessment that ends on June 30, 2025, is replaced. Therefore, RD 1608 is proposing a new annual property assessment to replace the one that's ending. The proposed assessment also updates how assessments are calculated to comply with CA Proposition 218 law. This is the law that outlines requirements for property-related charges.

RD 1608's existing assessment generates approximately \$298,000 per year for levee maintenance and repairs. This amount has not increased since being approved by property owners in 2010, not even for inflation. The proposed replacement assessment is expected to generate \$330,000 in Fiscal Year 2025-26, which represents a modest increase to account for increases in labor costs and materials/supplies over the past 15 years. The proposed property assessment does allow annual adjustments for inflation, but only with RD 1608 Board approval (the lesser of CPI, or a maximum of 4%).

ASSESSMENT REVENUES PAY FOR LEVEE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

RD 1608 uses 100 percent of property assessment revenues on levee maintenance and repairs that prevent flooding. 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

RD 1608 also certifies levees for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) accreditation. FEMA accreditation prevents the community from being "mapped" into a FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area and being subjected to mandatory flood insurance.

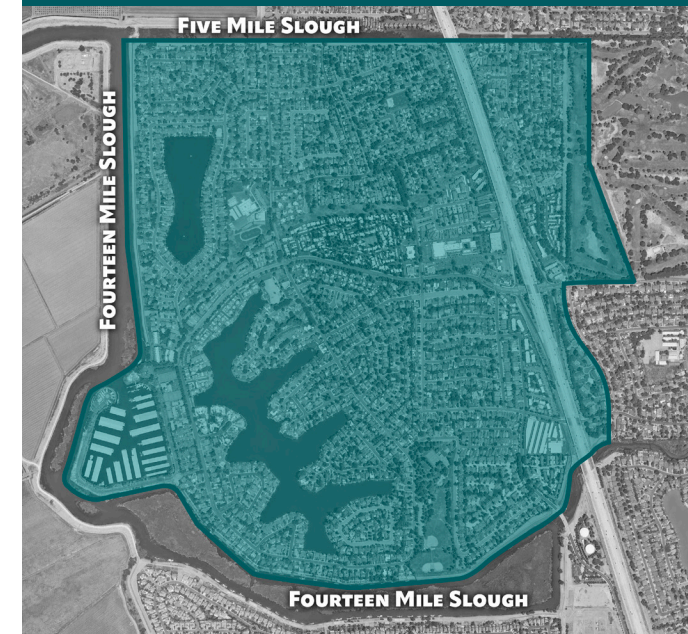


HOW PROPOSED ASSESSMENTS ARE CALCULATED

Under CA Proposition 218 law, only properties that receive benefit from the Agency's levee maintenance activities 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 different 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

RD 1608 BOUNDARY MAP



VISIT [RD1608.COM/ABOUT-US-2/](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