



MARK PESTRELLA, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE

May 06, 2025

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**WATER RESOURCES CORE SERVICE AREA
LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
ANNUAL BENEFIT ASSESSMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 CONTINUATION
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Public Works is seeking Board adoption of a resolution determining and levying the annual Los Angeles County Flood Control District benefit assessment for Fiscal Year 2025-26 at the same rates as were charged for Fiscal Years 1996-97 through 2024-25. The Fiscal Year 2025-26 annual assessment will provide approximately \$113.404 million for flood control purposes throughout the District.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:

1. Find that the adoption of a resolution determining and levying the Los Angeles County Flood Control District annual benefit assessment for Fiscal Year 2025-26 is for the purpose of meeting operating expenses and is, therefore, exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this letter and in the record of the project.
2. Adopt the resolution determining and levying the annual Los Angeles County Flood Control District benefit assessment for Fiscal Year 2025-26.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of these recommended actions is to find that the adoption of the enclosed resolution is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and to provide for the continuation of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District annual benefit assessment to finance a portion of the flood control services to be performed by the District during Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-26.

Continuation of the benefit assessment is necessary to supplement property tax revenue and other revenues used to operate and maintain the flood control system including, but not limited to, responding to storm threats and flooding emergencies, implementing seismic upgrades and rehabilitating inlet/outlet works at dams, and performing sediment removal from debris basins and reservoirs. Revenue from the benefit assessment is also used to finance the District's compliance with applicable regulatory requirements such as the Federal Clean Water Act, the California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, and the California Fish and Game Code.

The benefit assessment is based on the estimated stormwater runoff from each parcel and includes approximately 2.2 million parcels within the District boundaries. The runoff factors identified in Table 1, Runoff Factors, of the enclosed resolution are based on the estimated amount of impervious area associated with various types of land uses. The types of land uses described in Table 1 correspond to land use codes established by the Assessor and shown on the tax roll.

In a small number of prior instances, Public Works has found that the land use code assigned to a parcel on the tax roll does not accurately reflect the actual usage of that parcel (e.g., if a vacant parcel was recently improved). The resolution would authorize the Chief Engineer of the District in determining the runoff factor for a parcel to utilize a different land use type from the land use code shown on the tax roll in order to more accurately reflect actual site conditions of the parcel.

No increase is proposed for the assessment rates for FY 2025-26, which remain the same as the assessment rates for FY 2024-25.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

These recommendations support the County Strategic Plan: North Star 1, Make Investments that Transform Lives, Focus Area Goal B, Employment and Sustainable Wages; and North Star 2, Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities, Focus Area Goal D, Sustainability. The recommended actions would provide the necessary funds to continue maintaining the flood control system and infrastructure in a safe, efficient, and effective operating condition ensuring resilient infrastructure to provide the needed flood control services for all residents and communities.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The annual District benefit assessment for FY 2025-26 will provide approximately \$113.404 million in revenue into the District's Flood Fund B07. The annual District benefit assessment has been levied at the same rate since FY 1996-97 and no increase is proposed for FY 2025-26.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The District's benefit assessment was first levied by the Board in FY 1979-80 pursuant to former Government Code Sections 60400 et seq. (Stats.1979, c. 261, Sec. 1.5). Former Government Code Sections 60400 et seq., required that the continuation of the assessment be submitted to the voters for approval within 1 year. At the November 6, 1979, election, the electorate approved Proposition A, which authorized the District to continue to levy the assessment annually.

In 1982, former Government Code Sections 60400 et seq., were replaced by the Benefit Assessment Act of 1982. The Benefit Assessment Act of 1982 authorizes the District to continue the levy of the annual benefit assessment.

For every FY since 1979-80, the Board has approved the continuation of this benefit assessment. This year's annual benefit assessment is proposed to be collected on the tax bill of each parcel or by direct invoice to the property owner as determined by the Chief Engineer of the District.

The benefit assessment recognizes three general categories of relative benefit as follows:

- Parcels located in urban areas. These parcels are designated by Zone 1 and the assessment rate for the basic unit parcel in Zone 1 is \$28.85.
- Parcels located in mountainous, rural, or other non-urban areas. These parcels derive some benefit from the District's flood control services, but not to the same degree as parcels located in urban areas. These parcels are designated by Zone 2 and the assessment rate for the basic unit parcel in Zone 2 is \$5.95.
- Parcels that receive no significant benefit from the District's flood control services because their estimated runoffs leave the District area without being handled by any District facilities (i.e., parcels with no hydraulic connection to any District facility). These parcels are designated by Zones 3 and 4, and the assessment for the basic unit parcels in these zones is \$0.

Table 2, Benefit Assessment System Zone Table, of the enclosed resolution, specifically identifies all parcels within the Zone 1 and Zone 2 benefit categories, respectively, by reference to each parcel's County Assessor map book number.

The assessment is being levied on all real property situated within the District, except for government property. Parcels in the Zones 3 and 4 benefit categories have an assessment amount of \$0. In addition to the information contained in this letter, the official records of the Assessor's map books and other records of Los Angeles County are hereby referenced and incorporated into this letter as if they were fully set forth.

Ordinance No. 93-0038FC, adopted on May 4, 1993, amended Chapter 15 of the District Code to provide that the annual District benefit assessment shall be levied by resolution adopted by the Board. The enclosed resolution, approved as to form by County Counsel, has been prepared for your consideration and adoption.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 53753.5, the FY 2025-26 annual assessment is not subject to the procedures and approval process of Proposition 218 because (1) the annual benefit assessment was initially levied prior to Proposition 218 and (2) the assessment is not being increased.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Adoption of the enclosed resolution determining and levying the annual District benefit assessment for FY 2025-26 is exempt from the CEQA. The determination and levy of the annual District benefit assessment for FY 2025-26 is for the purpose of meeting operating expenses of the District and is, therefore, exempt from CEQA pursuant to Section 21080(b)(8) of the California Public Resources Code and Section 15273(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

If the annual District benefit assessment is not continued for FY 2025-26, the current level of District services will be reduced by over 30 percent. The impacted services would include all flood control programs, including the operation and maintenance of the existing flood control system, emergency response to flood damage, and meeting applicable regulatory requirements.

CONCLUSION

Please return an adopted copy of this letter and a signed resolution to Public Works, Stormwater Planning Division. Also, please forward one adopted copy of this letter and signed resolution to the Auditor-Controller.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Pestrella". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Pestrella" clearly distinguishable.

MARK PESTRELLA, PE

Director

MP:MJF:lgu

Enclosures

c: Auditor-Controller (Asset Management)
Chief Executive Office (Chia-Ann Yen)
County Counsel (Tiffany Shin)
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors

ENCLOSURE

**WATER RESOURCES CORE SERVICE AREA
LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT
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(3 VOTES)**

This Board letter has large enclosures.
Click on the link below to access:

[2025-05-06 FCD Annual Benefit Assessment \(Enclosure\)](#)