

MEASURE SUBMITTED TO VOTE OF VOTERS

DISTRICT

**FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT, ZONE SEVEN
SPECIAL TAX
MEASURE F**

F Shall the ordinance of the Board of Supervisors, Flood Control District, Zone Seven, imposing the following special taxes for fiscal years 2000/2001-2003/2004, with proceeds placed in a Zone 7-pump stations and levees fund be confirmed?

Class I: All improved properties zoned residential, multi-family or agricultural \$20/month per living unit.

Class II: All unimproved properties zoned residential and all properties zoned commercial \$144/month per acre.

**FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT, ZONE SEVEN
SPECIAL TAX
IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS BY COUNTY COUNSEL
MEASURE F**

If this Measure is approved by two-thirds of the voters, the special tax imposed by the Board of Supervisors of the Marin County Flood Control & Water Conservation District for Zone 7, will be confirmed in the following amounts:

Class I properties, which are improved properties zoned residential, multi-family or agricultural, in the amount of \$20 per month per living unit;

Class II properties, which are unimproved properties zoned residential and all properties zoned commercial in the amount of \$144/month/acre.

If this measure is approved, the taxes will be collected for a period of four years, beginning with fiscal year 2000/2001 and ending with fiscal year 2003/2004.

Dated: August 14, 2000

PATRICK K. FAULKNER
County Counsel

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE F

These over-ride funds have been the difference between the **Dangerous and disastrous floods of the winters of 1982 and 1983 and the safe and dry homes of Santa Venetia during the past fourteen years** (including the torrential rains and flooding of 1986, 1994 and 1998) when our levees and pumps kept our homes and families safe and dry.

Most of Santa Venetia is below higher tide levels. Our levees are critical to keeping bay waters out of our homes. Because our levees surround us, storm waters must be pumped over our protective levees into Las Gallinas Creek.

Yes on Measure F is for continuance of the over-ride funding which is essential to the maintenance, repair and improvement of our vital pump and levee protective system. The levees which surround and protect Santa Venetia and the pumps which deliver storm waters from the streets of Santa Venetia out to the creek are critical parts of the Santa Venetia Flood Control Master Plan.

The wooden berm which serves as the top of the levee from Meadow Drive around our community to the end of Vendola Drive (approximately 2/3's of the entire length of our Levee) was built in 1983, 17 years ago, and is approaching the end of its life span. The proceeds from this 4-year tax will help to begin accumulating the funds that will be needed to assure timely replacement of this critical protective segment of the levee.

These special tax funds have been used effectively to build, improve and maintain our vital protective system. Your tax dollars could not be more wisely spent.

VOTE YES ON MEASURE F

s/ Jeffrey D. Krupnick, Chairman
Zone 7 Advisory Board

s/ David B. Shelton
Board Member, Zone 7

s/ John B. Rubke
Board Member, Zone 7

s/ Sandra La Pointe
Board Member, Zone 7

s/ Mary Feller

**REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF
MEASURE F**

The maintenance and repair of our pump systems are covered by the 1% tax from our regular property taxes.

The wooden berm, (a barrier two feet thick filled with a special cement-like mixture), does not have a known life span. The condition of the berm can be seen in most homes that back on the canal. Inspections I have made show little sign of deterioration. Given the condition after 17 years it should last another 17. To suggest that the Berm "**is approaching the end of its life span**" is stretching a lie to its limits.

The top of the Berm is at the height of a 10-Ft. storm tide. The base is at the level of a 7-Ft. tide.

In the past year, the normal high tides reached the base of the Berm only 14 times. We have had at least one Storm Tide that did reach 8 Feet. **In the past 16 years, we have not experienced a Storm Tide higher than 9 Feet.**

To frighten you into believing you are at risk of flooding so that you will pass this over-ride measure, is an insult to your intelligence.

Our flood zone now has \$1,000,000 in reserve.

This fund should be used, with creativity and enthusiasm by our county officials and the support of our flood advisory board, to augment contributory, Federal, county or state funds for large projects. It should not be squandered on one large capital improvement.

DON'T LET FEAR BUY YOUR VOTE

s/ Roger Ahlenius, Past Chairman
Flood 7 Advisory Board

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ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE F

- 1) The department of public works is still charging our zone for the transportation of the water runoff from hillside properties. Recent repairs and improvements in "east" Vendola drive culvert, (built before Flood Zone 7 was formed) were charged to Zone 7. You and I also pay for repairs and maintenance for the La Pasada and Meadow HILLSIDE drains. All these properties served are outside Flood Zone 7.
- 2) We already contribute over \$100,000 annually to Flood Zone 7 as a portion of our 1% property tax, which should cover normal maintenance. *We should not be required to pay again for repair of street drains, to which we already contribute, and are normally handled by the general fund in all other unincorporated areas.*
- 3) The Department of Public Works must be required to provide an easy to read statement of zone expenditures so we can clearly see where our money is being spent.
- 4) We were charged \$300,000 for a connection between Pump station's #1 and #5 that does not work correctly. Our Flood Zone should be reimbursed for this expenditure.
- 5) Until 1995, all major projects in the zone received contributory Federal, State and County Roads funding. After being told by County officials that State and Federal funds were no longer available for Zone 7 assistance, an inquiry to Barbara Boxer's office was made. The response was that grants were available and we only had to have our county officials apply.

The solution is to continue to vote No on this special additional tax until the County corrects these problems and the Supervisors actively pursue contributory federal and/or state funding.

Please consider the above, before voting on this issue!

s/ Roger Ahlenius

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE F

The opponent of this measure says that drainage facilities, which protect Flood Zone 7, shouldn't be maintained by our Zone. **These culverts serve and protect the people of Santa Venetia's Flood Zone 7, not people on the hills.**

Flood Zone 7 made an ongoing agreement with the County to maintain those culverts built by the County (with joint funds) to provide drainage for hillside runoff. These culverts all serve to transport flood waters from hillside runoff away from the homes in OUR Flood Zone. When these culverts have become blocked in past years, Santa Venetia homes have flooded.

Zone 7's budget for 1999-2000 amounted to nearly twice the amount of revenue generated by our 1-% property tax. **This special tax is vital to our protective pumps and levees. Flood Zone 7 does not pay for repair of the street drains** – that is the responsibility of the County Roads Department.

Public Works has provided justification for all Zone costs as requested.

The Intertie between pump stations 1 and 5 was built to provide emergency relief between these stations should one of them fail. It does provide emergency protection.

Outside funds are being actively pursued for ongoing flood control projects.

This special tax is used only for the benefit of Flood Zone residents. These taxes will be spent for the Levees and Pump Stations that PROTECT OUR FAMILIES AND PROPERTY VALUES.

DON'T BE MISLED! CONTINUE TO SUPPORT YOUR VITAL PROTECTION!

Vote Yes on Measure F.

s/ Jeffrey D. Krupnick
Chairman, Zone 7 Advisory Board

s/ Sandra J. La Pointe
Advisory Board Member

s/ John Bruce Rubke
Advisory Board Member

s/ Evan Marks
Advisory Board Member

END OF MEASURE F

