

“ Reclamation District No. 1000’s mission is flood protection for the Natomas Basin, providing for the public’s health and safety by operating and maintaining the levees, and the District’s canals and pump stations in a safe, efficient and responsible manner. ”

Roadmap to the Future



Pumping Plant 8 is called the C-1 drain. Which is fed from the north and south out of the east drainage canal west of pumping plant 8. Pumping Plant 8 has 9 pumps

the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the California Department of Water Resources and RD 1000 are carrying out the Natomas Levee Improvement Project to upgrade the District’s 42.6 mile exterior levee system to provide 200-year flood protection. The District’s CIP focuses on each of the District’s eight exterior pumping plants. Kjeldsen, Sinnock & Neudeck, Inc. is the local Civil Engineering firm that developed the CIP update, with a risk-based approach to identify and prioritize projects. Each plant, and its components, were assessed based on four criteria: how critical they are, with weight given to the most populated areas; the likelihood that they may fail; the desired level of service for each component, and its expected life cycle.

Kevin King, the District’s General Manager, says that rebuilding the District’s pump stations is the major priority. All will be rebuilt in the work schedule laid out in the CIP, starting with Pumping Plant 8, built in 1983 at the eastern edge of the District, north of I-80 on Northgate Boulevard. “It’s one of our most relied-on plants, and it’s also gone the longest without major repairs.

Natomas’ levee system has performed well to hold back flood waters for more than 115 years, thanks to constant upkeep and vigilance. A comprehensive Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), updated and approved by the Reclamation District 1000 Board of Trustees in September, is a roadmap to ensuring that the system will provide flood protection for another 100 years for Natomas’ ever-growing population, as well as the businesses and projects that serve the community.

RD1000 operates a system that collects stormwater runoff

and agricultural drainage and discharges it out of the 70,000 acre basin, while also holding back floodwaters at the confluence of three major river systems. That system includes 42.6 miles of exterior levees, 30 miles of main drainage canals, 150 miles of sub drainage canals, eight exterior and two interior pumping plants. In addition to maintaining and operating all its systems, the District is always at the ready to respond to emergencies and perform flood fights.

The Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA),



Army Corps Engineers Reach H project. The Corps replaced District 1000’s discharge pipes from Northgate Boulevard to Steelhead Creek.

Pumping Plant 8 has 9 pumps varying from 200 HP to 700 HP for a total of 4,600 HP

Kevin L. King serves as the General Manager of Reclamation District No. 1000 (RD1000), a California Special District and one of the largest reclamation districts in California.

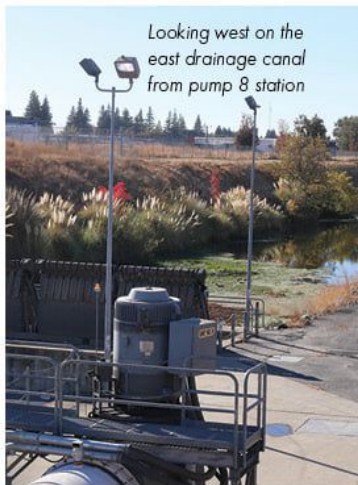
Karen Wilson is founding editor of N magazine in Natomas.

DISTRICT 1000

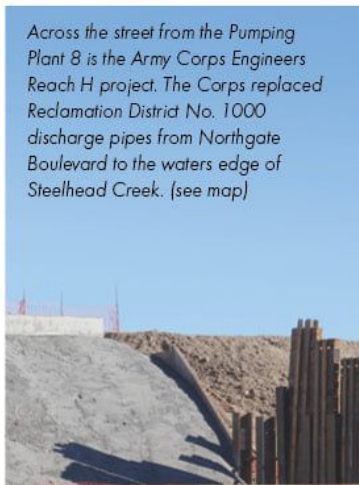
Your Flood Protection Team
in the Natomas Basin.



Looking west on the east drainage canal from pump 8 station



Across the street from the Pumping Plant 8 is the Army Corps Engineers Reach H project. The Corps replaced Reclamation District No. 1000 discharge pipes from Northgate Boulevard to the waters edge of Steelhead Creek. (see map)



We'd have significant trouble moving water out of the basin if Plant 8 were unavailable during a large storm event," according to King. The CIP also calls for purchasing backup power generators, so that pumps are reliable even in the worst storms, as well as modernizing the pump stations with remote monitoring/control and replacing the Districts' culverts and drains.

In December, the RD1000 Board will review a draft financing plan to fund the CIP's recommendations, which are estimated to cost \$96 million over the next 30 years, with \$35 million of that total in capital improvements in the next 10 years, predominantly for pumping plant projects. The CIP notes that 98 percent of the projected costs are for pumping plant capital projects and culvert and drain replacement.

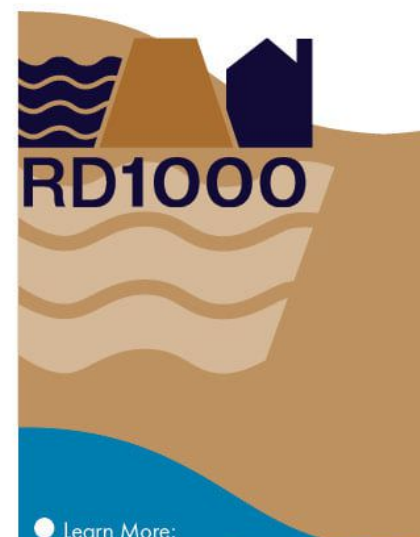
The financing plan will spell out the difference between current funding, and the additional

money needed to fund the CIP. "The Board of Trustees will carefully review the comprehensive financial plan and then provide direction on how we approach closing the funding gap," King says. He notes that grant funding, bond financing and low interest loans are some avenues for the Board to consider, and that with the CIP in place, specific projects are identified, allowing the District to quickly turn around grant applications in the short window usually available and capitalize on those opportunities when available. "That's probably the first priority, to aggressively pursue free (grant) money," King says, "but it's not guaranteed to be allocated from state or federal sources and it would not be prudent for us to plan on receiving grants as the sole source for funding the CIP. We want to make sure we have a backbone of financing and then supplement that as frequently as we can."

Natomas property owners pay an annual flood protection assessment to RD1000 to fund the day-to-day maintenance of the levees, canals, pump stations, small capital projects, and the first response during a flood emergency for those who reside within the boundaries of the District. Since 1996, the assessment has remained unchanged and averaged \$25 per year for a single-family residential lot. If the CIP financing plan shows that the fee needs to be increased, the District will be guided by requirements of Proposition 218, with a study, public outreach and a property owner election, potentially in 2021, if necessary.

"We want to let the community know what the needs are, what the gap is in revenue, and how we go about raising the funds in a responsible and efficient manner," King says. "The District hasn't had a major overhaul of its infrastructure in about 30 years, aside from the current Natomas Basin Levee Improvement Project, so a lot of this is deferred infrastructure investment. We would like to get over the large backlog of projects we need to do, then after the initial 10-year big spend, we return to a baseline of spending and anticipate about 2.5 to 3.0 million dollars a year to keep up. What this plan spells out is replacing equipment and getting caught up, and then

moving forward, funding a plan that replaces these items on a life cycle replacement basis, rather than a run to failure mode. It doesn't guarantee that things won't fail unexpectedly. However, our plan is to replace equipment well before any anticipated failure and significantly improve the system reliability. The District's goal is to meet and exceed our purpose of providing flood protection for all of Natomas, so that our community can continue to thrive. For a water geek, like me, this is exciting stuff!"



● Learn More:
Capital Improvement Plan on Website:
rd1000.org/reclamation-district-1000-projects

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