

Happy Father's Day June 19

Support Local Business in the Natomas Community



Summer is the Right Time to Talk About Flood Protection

As California faces yet another serious drought this summer, it may seem a bit ridiculous to be talking about flood protection.

But it isn't.

In fact, it's the perfect time because the Natomas region's infrastructure is in horrible shape and in dire need of modernization, especially for the antiquated network of pumps that pushes excess water back into the rivers.

Our local flood control agency, Reclamation District 1000, is embarking on a project this year designed to raise awareness about flood dangers and the need to begin preparing for future storms.

"It's not a matter of if, but a matter of when the Natomas region will experience flooding on a massive scale," said Kevin King, General Manager of RD1000. "Along with New Orleans, Natomas is the most vulnerable place in the nation when it comes to the threat of a major flood disaster."

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans fortified its levee system.

But that area's infrastructure – especially its network of pumps – were not upgraded. Hurricane Ida exposed this vulnerability as the storm caused \$65-million in property damage and 115 lost lives.

"This was a huge wake-up call for Natomas," said King. "Our levees are in the process of being fortified but we have some infrastructure that is 100 years old and parts of our system that are in severely bad condition."



Kevin L. King, General Manager

RD1000 has spent the past 3 years conducting an audit of its infrastructure and has determined it is time to reinvest in the flood protection system.

"Our district hasn't raised its service charges in more than 30 years and it really shows in the poor condition of our equipment," said King. "Some of our equipment is actually being

held together with duct tape. We're definitely on borrowed time. We believe the time is now for infrastructure reinvestment."

Because of this, RD1000 is likely to approach the community with a plan to generate the necessary revenue to replace, rebuild and restore the flood protection system.

King and the Board of Trustees of the District believe the community will understand the need to reinvest in its flood protection, especially because of how much is at stake. For the remainder of the year, RD1000 will be conducting a series of community meetings in Natomas to raise flood awareness, explain the need for additional revenue and receive input from area residents and businesses. You can keep in the loop by visiting



4Natomas.org



Your Flood Protection Team in the Natomas Basin.



RD1000.org