



## St. Bernard Parish Voters Consider Additional Millage of 7.5 (for 30 years) For Flood Protection, Operation and Maintenance on Ballots May 2nd

The Lake Borgne Basin Levee District (LBBLD) is the flood protection arm of our community. Our current funding source is the \$3.5 million millage collected from you to operate and maintain the system of levees, floodwalls, floodgates, closure structures, pump stations and drainage canals, including the new \$1.4 billion in improvements constructed after Katrina. The LBBLD is not part of, and is no way affiliated with, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or St. Bernard Parish government, and receives no revenue from either St. Bernard Parish, or the U.S. Government, to operate and maintain the levee and drainage systems in St. Bernard Parish. The LBBLD needs this additional \$2.5 million additional millage because the cost to operate and maintain the new flood protection is \$6 million a year – meaning without the new millage, LBBLD runs a \$3 million a year deficit.

### Proposed Millage Rate Impact on Homeowners

Home Value	Home Value (less Homestead Exemption of \$75,000)	Monthly Additional Cost at Proposed Millage Rate
	\$75,000	7.5 mils
\$100,000	\$25,000	\$1.56
\$125,000	\$50,000	\$3.13
\$150,000	\$75,000	\$4.69

The average median value of a home in St. Bernard Parish is \$129,000

(New Orleans Metropolitan Association of Realtors - August 2014)

### What happens if the millage fails

Without additional funding, LBBLD must take immediate actions to reduce costs, which may result in:

- Increased chance of flooding
- Diminished readiness for the 2015 hurricane season
- Reduction in pump station manning because LBBLD will be unable to continue 24/7 manning
- Significantly diminished canal and drainage maintenance
- Reduced maintenance and repair for critical structures
- Further reductions in staff to 50% of pre-Katrina personnel
- Significant increases in flood insurance costs because of non-compliance with federal standards

### How flood insurance premiums may be impacted by failing to comply with federal standards

Currently, LBBLD operates 4 of its pumping stations 24/7. If LBBLD does not receive an increased millage, it will only be able to operate 2 of its pump stations, leading to a risk of flooding from rainfall events. LBBLD will also be unable to dewater its 2 large sector gates, which could lead to the system being non-compliant with federal standards.

Current Flood Insurance Premium Rate		Flood Insurance Premium Rate If Levees Do Not Comply With Federal Standards	
Height relative to BFE *	Annual Insurance Premium **	Height relative to BFE *	Annual Insurance Premium **
+2'	\$544	-1'	\$5,698
+1'	\$919	-2'	\$6,693
0'	\$2,305	-3'	\$8,579
		-4'	\$9,531
		-5'	\$12,911
		-6'	\$16,408

**For example:** If a home is at a base flood elevation (BFE) of +2 the annual flood insurance premium is \$544. If the BFE drops to -2 because the levee does not comply with federal standards, the annual flood insurance premium could be as high as \$6,693.

\* Base Flood Elevation (BFE) is used for rating flood insurance premiums  
\*\* FEMA Flood Insurance Rating Guidelines (Effective April 2015)  
Insurance premiums are based on a home valued at \$129,000