

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Clarksburg Fire Protection District</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Established 1946</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">P.O. Box 513 Clarksburg, CA 95612 (916) 744-1700 (Business) (916) 744-1701 (Fax) <a href="http://www.clarksburgfire.specialdistrict.org">www.clarksburgfire.specialdistrict.org</a></p>
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Date: January 26, 2026

To: Clerk of the Board, Yolo County Board of Supervisors  
([clerkoftheboard@yolocounty.gov](mailto:clerkoftheboard@yolocounty.gov))

From: Clarksburg Fire Protection District, Board of Directors (Fire Commissioners),  
Mark Pruner, Board Chair

MAR

Re: January 27, 2026, Board Meeting; Matching Fund Eligibility; Fire Sustainability  
(Agenda Item 22)

**Introduction.** Clarksburg Fire Protection District (“**District**”) respectfully requests that the County clarify how the Fire District Sustainability Funding Plan is being applied so that the District is eligible for matching funds on the full amount of its new Proposition 218 assessment (approximately \$98,936). County staff is stating that the matching funds should instead be \$10,743 (the difference between the District’s old (now repealed) assessment of \$88,192.92 and the new assessment).

**Background.** In response to the Fire District Sustainability Funding Plan approved by the Board on September 26, 2023, on June 10, 2025, District voters passed a new Proposition 218 Assessment in the total sum of \$98,935.94. The repeal and replace ballot measure passed by 84.41%, on a turnout of nearly 50%. The District’s understanding is that Clarksburg was the only Fire District to repeal its existing assessment.

**I. County’s Agreement to Match All New 218 Assessment.** The primary reason the District decided to move forward with a new Proposition 218 Assessment was the County’s agreement to

match all such new funds, up to a cap (in the case of Clarksburg) of \$146,479. The new Assessment, in total, is “new” since the old assessment has now been repealed.

The agreement that all the funds raised by a new Proposition 218 Assessment would be intended for matching by the County was clearly established with the County through the County’s fire sustainability representative, Elisa Sabatini, Yolo County Manager of Natural Resources. (Please see Exhibit A, email from Elisa Sabatini confirming that “The funding is intended to match all funds raised by a new proposition 218 assessment.”)

On September 26, 2023, the Board clearly stated County policy to be that “only Fire Protection Districts with a new Proposition 218 assessment approved by district voters will be eligible for ongoing sustainability funding.” (Emphasis in original.) (See, Staff Report, Attachment B, first page, fourth paragraph.) The County policy interpreted the Board’s intention that “Fire Sustainability Funding is intended to match new, additional revenues generated as part of a Proposition 218 process conducted after July 1, 2023.” The District’s new Proposition 218 Assessment of \$98,935.94 is both “new” and “additional” to the old assessment.

After passage of the Board’s policy, on November 16, 2023, the draft Engineer’s Report prepared and signed by SCI Consulting Group (the engineer hired by the County), showed the full \$146,479 County match as included in the proposed new budget. (See, Exhibit B.) *If* the policy was to calculate the County match as the difference between the old assessment (to be repealed) and the new assessment, the County match shown on the draft Engineer’s Report would have been **\$71,956.08** (the difference between the new proposed assessment of \$160,149 and the current assessment of \$88,192.92) ( $\$160,149 - \$88,192.92 = \$71,956.08$ .) (Exhibit B, page 3, shows the proposed new Proposition 218 Assessment and the “Contribution from the County”, both highlighted in yellow.)

Nowhere does the Board policy state that matching funds are limited to an increase above the previous assessment baseline.

**A plain-language reading is that all revenues generated by the new, voter-approved assessment adopted after July 1, 2023, are considered “new, additional revenues” and thus eligible for matching, up to each district’s maximum allocation.**

**II. District’s Reliance on County’s Full Match.** Based on the above, the District included \$98,936 in its 2025-26 annual budget.

Additionally, the District spent approximately \$30,000 (after partial County contribution) of its own money on DCC Engineering to prepare and assist it on the passage of its new Proposition 218 Assessment. (The District had started with SCI as its engineer, but after asking SCI to use locally based data – which SCI said it could not do- the District went with a new engineer.)

**III. Fairness.** The District receives by far the lowest percentage of property tax collected in the County for fire and emergency services. The 2022 LAFCo MSR (portions in [Exhibit C](#)) shows the District as receiving 1.9% of local property taxes, whereas ALL other FDs receive more. West Plainfield, for example, receives 13.8%, a multiple of 7.25 times what the District receives. (See, [Exhibit C](#), last page.)

We know from hours of discussion with staff, other FDs, and at Board meetings, that the clear policy of Yolo County is to place all FDs on solid financial footing. A primary part of this policy is to require FDs to pass and maintain their own Proposition 218 Assessments. This is exactly what the District did.

To match only the difference between an old, now repealed, assessment and the new assessment would have the effect of giving advantage to those FDs which had no assessment to begin with: those districts which did not have any assessment at the beginning of this process.

If the Board adopts the District's view, no other FD will be impacted.

**IV. Conclusion.** Clarksburg Fire asks the Board to clarify its policy to provide matching funds for the entire sum of its new Proposition 218, up to the cap established by the County.

cc: Oscar Villegas, Supervisor, District 1  
Lucas Frerichs, Supervisor, District 2  
Mary Vixie Sandy, Supervisor, District 3  
Sheila Allen, Supervisor, District 4  
Angel Barajas, Supervisor, District 5

# **EXHIBIT A**

## Mark Pruner

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**From:** Elisa Sabatini <elisa.sabatini@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 1, 2025 8:13 AM  
**To:** Mark Pruner  
**Subject:** Higher sustainability recollection

Hi Mark,

My apologies in taking so long to send this email. Thank you for reaching out about my recollection of the development of the fire sustainability funding guidelines. My recollection is similar to yours. The funding is intended to match all funds raised by a new proposition 218 assessment.

Take care,

**Elisa Sabatini**  
916.402.3985 (cell)

## **EXHIBIT B**



# DRAFT ENGINEER'S REPORT

## Clarksburg Fire Protection District

Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services  
Assessment

Fiscal Year 2024-25

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 50078  
et seq., Health and Safety Code Section 13914 and  
Article XIID of the California Constitution

Engineer of Work:



**SCI Consulting Group**  
Public Finance Consulting Services

4745 Mangels Boulevard  
Fairfield, California 94534  
707.430.4300  
[www.sci-cg.com](http://www.sci-cg.com)

## Clarksburg Fire Protection District

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### Board of Commissioner's

- Mark Pruner, Chairman
- Bob Webber, Vice Chairman
- Joseph Gomes, Member
- Nancy Kirchhoff, Member
- Steve Pylman, Member

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### Fire Chief

- Craig Hamblin, Fire Chief

## Cost and Budget

The following budget lists the proposed expenditures funded by the Assessment District in Fiscal Year 2024-25.

**Table 3 – Cost and Budget**

<b>Clarksburg Fire Protection District</b>	
<b>Estimate of Costs</b>	
<b>Fiscal Year 2024-25</b>	
Budget Item	Amount
Service, Apparatus and Equipment Needs	
Firefighter Staffing and Training	\$24,556
Long term Staffing increase	\$83,500
Equipment and Apparatus Maintenance and Replacement	\$137,000
Long term Equipment replacement	\$32,385
Station Improvements and Renovations	\$0
Long Term facility improvements	\$52,063
Capital Repairs	\$15,000
Equipment Operation and Maintenance	\$15,000
Professional Services	\$16,645
Supplies and Materials	\$79,375
Utilities	\$16,000
Administration	\$6,000
Contingency	\$14,326
<b>Total Service Needs (a)</b>	<b>\$491,850</b>
Less: Est. Dedicated Revenue from Property Taxes & Other Sources (b)	-\$185,849
Less: Contribution from the County	-\$146,479
<b>Est Total Revenue from Other Sources (General benefit contribution) (b+c) = (d)</b>	<b>-\$332,328</b>
<b>Net Cost of Servicing to Assessment District (a-d) = (e)</b>	<b>\$159,522</b>
Allowance for County Collection (\$1.00 per parcel) = (f)	\$627
<b>Total Fire Suppression and Protection Services Budget (e-f) =(g)</b>	<b>\$160,149</b>
<b>Total Proposed Assessment Budget (g)</b>	<b>\$160,149</b>
Effective Single Family Equivalent Benefit Units in Assessment District (h)	1,463.73
<b>Proposed Assessment per Effective Single Family Equivalent Unit (SFE) (g/h+i)</b>	<b>\$109.41</b>

The "Service Needs" cost estimates are presented in the budget table above for the 2024-25 fiscal year only but are based upon financial forecasting over a 10-year cycle and beyond. This forecasting concludes that these costs will likely persist consistently into the future. Consistent with the General Benefit requirement described later in this Report, at least 22% of the total cost of the Clarksburg FPD Fire Services must be funded from sources other than this proposed assessment to cover any general benefits from the Services. Therefore, the cost of services of \$491,850 funded by the proposed assessment can be funded exclusively through the assessment levy as a special benefit since the current County contributions from its dedicated ad valorem property taxes, other sources and the existing benefit assessment revenue exceed approximately 67.57%.  $((\$185,849 + \$146,479) / \$491,850)$  of the total cost of Clarksburg FPD Fire Services, far in excess of the above required 22% non-assessment general benefit funding requirements. The 67.57% funding is from property taxes and other sources. The Total SFEs are the sum of the

Each parcel or lot of land is described in the Assessment Roll by reference to its parcel number as shown on the Assessor's Maps of Yolo County for the fiscal year 2024-25. For a more particular description of said property, reference is hereby made to the deeds and maps on file and of record in the office of the County Recorder of Yolo County.

I hereby place opposite the Assessor Parcel Number for each parcel or lot within the Assessment Roll, the amount of the assessment for the fiscal year 2024-25 for each parcel or lot of land within the said Assessment District.

Dated: November 16, 2023

Engineer of Work



By

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John W. Bliss", written over a horizontal line.

John W. Bliss, License  
No. C052091

DRAFT

**EXHIBIT C**

# Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) Update for the

## Fire Protection Agencies

Fire Protection Districts (FPDs) + County Service Area (CSA) 9  
LAFCo No. 21-05

Capay Valley FPD  
Clarksburg FPD  
Dunnigan FPD  
East Davis FPD  
Elkhorn FPD  
Esparto FPD  
Knights Landing FPD  
Madison FPD  
No Man's Land FPD  
Springlake FPD  
West Plainfield FPD  
Willow Oak FPD  
Winters FPD  
Yolo FPD  
Zamora FPD  
Garcia Bend CSA 9

Yolo Local Agency Formation Commission

Adopted July 28, 2022



**SUBJECT AGENCIES:**

**Capay Valley FPD**

PO Box 6  
Brooks, CA 95606  
Contact: Jesse Capitanio, Fire Chief  
<https://cvfpd.specialdistrict.org/>

**Dunnigan FPD**

PO Box 213  
Dunnigan, CA 95937  
Contact: David Garrison, Acting Fire Chief  
<https://dunniganfire.com/>

**Elkhorn FPD**

19396 County Road 124  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
Contact: Richard Yeung, Fire Chief

**Knights Landing FPD**

PO Box 578  
Knights Landing CA 95645  
Contact: Martin Jones, Fire Chief  
<https://knightslandingfire.specialdistrict.org/>

**No Man's Land FPD**

530 Fifth Street  
Davis, CA 95616  
Contact: Joseph Tenney, Fire Chief

**West Plainfield FPD**

24901 County Road 95  
Davis, CA 95616  
Contact: Cherie Rita, Fire Chief  
<https://www.wpfd.net/>

**Winters FPD**

700 Main Street  
Winters, CA 95694  
Contact: Brad Lopez, Fire Chief  
<http://www.wintersfire.org/>

**Zamora FPD**

PO Box 143  
Zamora, CA 95698  
Contact: Chase Covington, Fire Chief  
<https://zamorafire.specialdistrict.org/>

**Clarksburg FPD**

PO Box 513  
Clarksburg, CA 95612  
Contact: Craig Hamblin, Fire Chief  
<https://clarksburgfire.specialdistrict.org/>

**East Davis FPD**

c/o Davis Fire Station 33  
425 Mace Blvd.  
Davis, CA 95618  
Contact: Joseph Tenney, Fire Chief  
<https://eastdavisfpd.wordpress.com/>

**Esparto FPD**

PO Box 366  
Esparto, CA 95627  
Contact: Curtis Lawrence, Fire Chief  
<https://www.espartofire.org/>

**Madison FPD**

PO Box 12  
Madison, CA 95653  
Contact: Paul Green, Fire Chief  
<https://www.madison-fire.com/>

**Springlake FPD**

1000 Lincoln Ave  
Woodland, CA 95695  
Contact: Eric Zane, Fire Chief  
<https://www.springlakefpd.org/>

**Willow Oak FPD**

18111 County Road 94B  
Woodland, CA 95695  
Contact: Marcus Klinkhammer, Fire Chief  
<http://www.willowoakfire.com/>

**Yolo FPD**

PO Box 466  
Yolo, CA 95697  
Contact: Dan Tafoya, Fire Chief  
<https://www.yolofpd.org/>

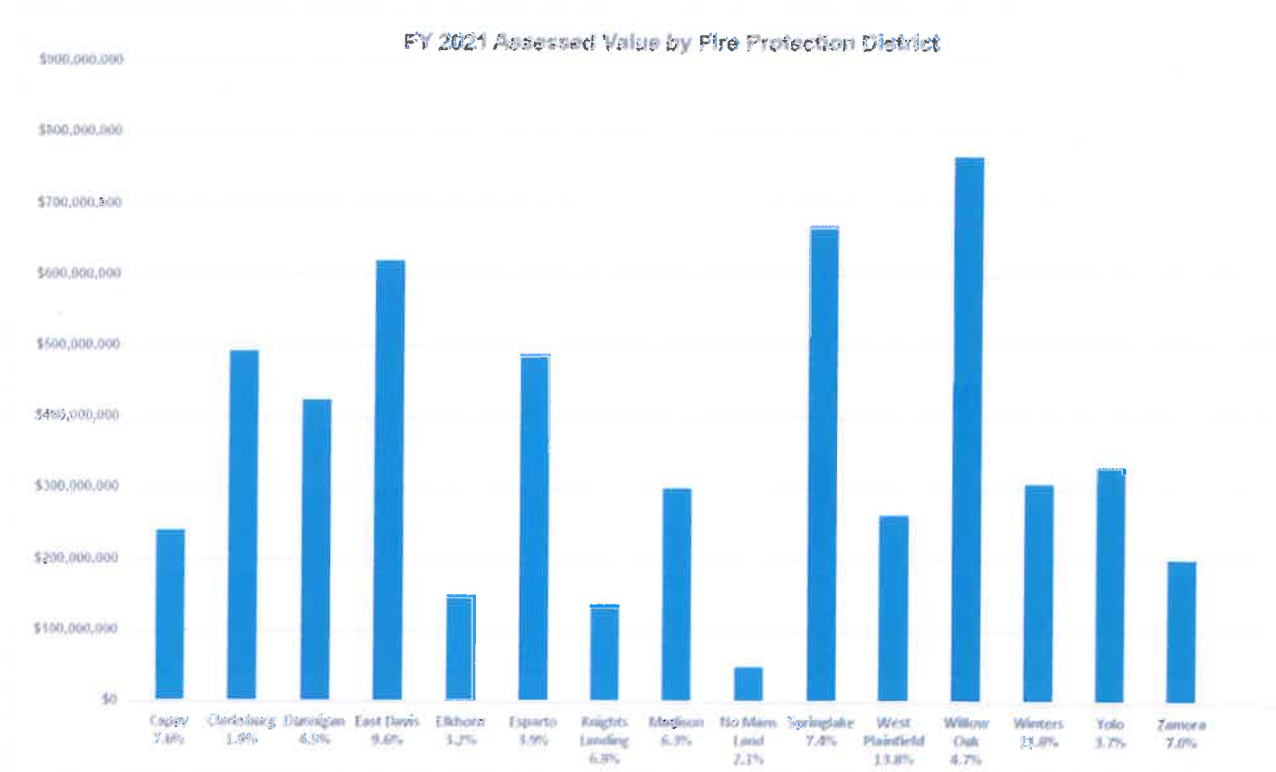
**Garcia Bend CSA 9**

625 Court Street #204  
Woodland, CA 95695  
Contact: Steve Binns, Fire Chief

### Local Fire Protection District Funding

FPDs are all funded from property tax revenue and some have augmented revenue by passing a special benefit assessment on parcels in their service territory. Some FPDs also have Development Impact Fees (DIF) adopted for new development, but such revenue is not consistent and has restrictions on how it can be used.

The total assessed value used to determine property tax collections varies across the FPDs and revenue collected has been reduced for many agricultural parcels by the Williamson Act program. Proposition 13 in 1978 and AB 8 that implemented it locked in the percentage of the property tax revenue received by the FPDs. The actual tax rate areas vary within each district, but the percentage in the graph below shows the average assessed property value of each FPD. Proposition 13 created structural inequities in the financing of local government. Local Proposition 218 assessments are a viable method to compensate for inadequate tax revenue, if supported by the voters, and is discussed in individual district sections of this MSR.



Note: % for each FPD indicates the average share of the 1% property taxes received by the district.

The bar graph below shows the core revenue (i.e., reliable revenue not including DIF, grants, CAL FIRE, etc.) for each FPD.