

<h1>POLICY MANUAL</h1>	Date Adopted: March 25, 1957
Classification: PROGRAM	Date Last Amended: July 13, 1907; June 13, 1983
Subject: Priorities	Approved By:

1. Because the solution to existing flood control and drainage problems, and the prevention of new problems which would be caused by future development require an integrated design addressing multiple considerations, it is the policy of the District to continually develop, maintain and implement a storm drainage flood control and master plan.
2. Because flooding of the lands of the District by foothill runoff represents the largest single threat to the lands, property and economy of the District, it is the policy of this District that the following general priorities shall guide District program implementation:
 - A. First Priority: Develop foreign water flood control systems inclusive of dams, reservoirs, levees and detention basins
 - B. Second Priority: Develop local drainage systems, inclusive of basins, pipelines and outfalls.
3. Because both flood control and local drainage facility systems are dependent on the availability of land for storm and flood water storage, it is the policy of the District that the following general priorities shall guide District sub-program implementation:
 - A. First Priority: Purchase planned flood control reservoir and local storm drainage basin lands in advance of project need, securing the required land area at the lowest practical cost.
 - B. Second Priority: Construct dams, levees, basins, pipelines, outfalls and related facilities as funding and local priorities permit.
4. It is the policy of the District to pursue construction of local drainage systems in accordance with the following priorities:
 - A. First Priority: Undertake the construction of complete local drainage systems through improvement district or other project funding proceedings.

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- B. Second Priority: Construct site specific portions of the planned local drainage system in conjunction with other local improvement projects or drainage fee payments within such areas, selecting such projects on the basis of severity of project need and the availability of funding.
5. The selection of planned local drainage areas for improvement district formation proceedings shall be in accordance with the rankings of planned local drainage areas on the Priority Schedule, said priority rankings predicated upon the following considerations:
- A. Need: The physical elements of the storm drainage problem shall constitute 30% of the total ranking.
 - (1) Property damage: Private and public property damage other than that pertaining to roadways.
 - (2) Street Flooding: Flooding of all types of thoroughfares.
 - (3) Sanitary Sewer Problems: The number of locations at which storm runoff is discharged into the sanitary sewer system, the volume of discharge, and problems related to the surcharge imposed upon sanitary sewers.
 - (4) Major Street Hazards: The number and magnitude of storm drainage problems on major thorough fares.
 - (5) Emergency Pumping: The number of locations at which emergency pumping is required, the frequency of pumping and the magnitude of specific problems.
 - B. Finance: The monetary considerations of improvement district formation shall constitute 20% of the total ranking.

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- (1) **General Fund Requirements:** The difference between the total assessment revenues to be collected and the estimated cost of storm drainage facilities and related project costs.
 - (2) **Additional Monetary Requirements:** Costs which must be incurred by other governmental entities with regard to street grading and construction to ensure drainage to District facilities.
- C. Probability of Formation: Acceptance of a proposed project among landowners shall constitute 50% of the total ranking. The ratio of lands for which drainage fees have been paid to the gross area of a proposed storm drainage improvement district is judged to be a reflection of support for a project. In addition, signatures of landowners supporting formation of an improvement district are considered a reflection of support. Assessment proceedings will be initiated when 30% of a proposed project area reflects support.
6. General Funds of the District shall be allocated in accordance with the following priorities:
- A. Operation and maintenance of completed flood control and storm drainage facilities.
 - B. Development and maintenance of the flood control and storm drainage master plan.
 - C. The construction of new flood control and storm drainage facilities.
 - D. The replacement of modification of existing flood control and storm drainage facilities.
 - E. The development of flood control and storm drainage facilities for non-flood control or storm drainage uses, such as recreation, water conservation, and water quality and pollution control.