

## **Frequently Asked Questions Recreation Improvement and Maintenance District (RIMD)**

### **What is the Recreation Improvement Maintenance District (RIMD)?**

The Recreation Improvement Maintenance District is an assessment district proposed for formation pursuant to the Landscaping and Lighting Act of 1972 in order to finance a portion of the cost of the installation, maintenance and servicing of recreational improvements through the levy of an assessment.

The assessment levied in connection with the District must comply with Proposition 218. Proposition 218 provides that “only special benefits are assessable, and an agency must separate the general benefits from the special benefits conferred on real property located in the assessment district or to the public at large.”

IUSD recreational facilities specially benefit real property in the school district. School fields and playgrounds are open to community use during evenings and week-ends when not otherwise used by the school. Currently, the school district pays the full costs of servicing and maintaining these facilities even though a significant portion of the use is not school related.

### **What is the potential impact on IUSD’s budget?**

IUSD expends in excess of \$2.5 million dollars annually for maintenance and utilities related to recreational facilities that are available for community use. These are monies that could instead be used for educational purposes, if RIMD assessment revenue were available to cover these costs. Further, the RIMD revenue would assure that the district has the resources to maintain those properties at the unusual high Irvine community standard.

### **How can RIMD monies be spent?**

RIMD monies can be spent in the following areas:

#### **Maintenance, including but not limited to**

- Personnel
- Grounds
- Equipment repair / replacement costs

#### **Services, including but not limited to**

- Electricity costs for field lighting and security lighting
- Water costs for field irrigation

#### **Capital Improvements, including but not limited to**

- Play equipment
- Play courts
- Playing fields

**Are IUSD monies used for Capital Improvements?**

Due to many years of budget reductions, IUSD has not been spending dollars on capital improvements. The RIMD would help IUSD improve recreational facilities that are available to the public.

**What is the Annual Levy for Homeowners?**

The annual assessment to property owners varies for different types of properties, such as single family dwelling, commercial property, multi-family dwellings and undeveloped properties. For Fiscal Year 2003-04 this amounts to:

- Single family dwelling: \$48.71 /year /unit
- Multi-family unit: \$32.68 /year /unit
- Mobile homes: \$22.94 /year /unit

For homeowners, this equates to less than \$1 per week. These amounts will be adjusted for inflation in future years.

**Who is Eligible to Vote?**

Property owners are eligible to cast a ballot regarding the assessment vote. These ballots will be mailed to property owners. One need not be a registered voter to vote.

**What is the Distribution of Eligible Voters?**

In order to approve the assessment, ballots submitted (and not withdrawn) in opposition to the assessment must not exceed ballots submitted (and not withdrawn) in support of the assessment. In counting the ballots, each ballot will be weighed according to the proportionate financial obligation of the parcel for which it has been cast. The following is a distribution of eligible ballot weight by category.

<i>Vote Distribution</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
IUSD	2.34
Irvine Company	12.74
Irvine Apartment Community	10.72
City of Irvine	.07
UCI	8.78
County of Orange	.68
Community Members	64.66