

My name is Stephen Hiromoto , 4th generation farmer and resident of the Clarksburg Community. My family had witnessed the building of these levees and were instrumental in the reclamation of many Holland Land acres. Great grandfather's diligence and hard work paved the way for the following generations to reap a livelihood from these soils. Each generation took pride in providing food for our country's tables and as prosperity ensued, we generously gave back to our community. Only during the years following the outbreak of World War 2 and the forced evacuation of Japanese American Citizens was our family away from Clarksburg.

As you work your jobs or careers, you chose to put your money into a bank. You assume that you will retain the right to do what you want with that money when you want it. My family chose to reinvest into Clarksburg Farmland. We assumed that taking caring of this land now would allow it to take care of us later.

My folks are aging and the time is now when that land needs to be liquid. Simply put it up for sale and cash out? Well...when this fiasco about flooding our homes and farmland began, all hopes of simply selling came to a "dead halt!" Realtors were suddenly saying " who wants to buy land that's going to be underwater?" For whatever reasons you give for this to take place...its just not the right thing to do. You're just telling me that my family just wasted one hundred years for nothing!

Arnold...before you swipe that card in your wallet issued by L.A. Metro Water, think about the families like mine and what you'll be doing to them!