

MAIN *the* HVLCSD line

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

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Happy Holidays
from all of us at
your CSD!



THE MISSION OF THE HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT IS TO PROVIDE, MAINTAIN AND PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY'S WATER.

VISION STATEMENT

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT IS WIDELY RECOGNIZED AS A LEADING RURAL WATER PURVEYOR AND INNOVATIVE WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

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WELCOME!

There's been a tremendous amount of activity going on at your Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District and we think you should know about it on a consistent basis. Every month, we will give you a concise report of the important news and events and how they affect your water and wastewater systems. If you have questions about items in this newsletter, please email them to Penny Cuadras, Administrative Services Manager, at pcuadras@hvllcsd.org. We will respond to your inquiries as soon as we possibly can. In the meantime, we urge you to familiarize yourself with our website, hvllcsd.org. It contains a lot of information including, probably, most of the answers to your questions.

DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS

FINANCIALS

Budgets are essentially guideposts to fiscal well-being. As such, our 'Accounting Doc' has called for a half-life check up! We are approaching the half-way point in our fiscal year, and budget. We plan to conduct a mid-year budget review to get a clear picture of where we stand with expenses and capital projects.

The District's OPEB liability is under analysis. We are considering a change in our policy for retiree health benefits that will ease this fiscal burden. OPEB (Other Postemployment Benefits) are benefits other than pensions that state and local governments provide to their retired employees.

Continuing with the well-being guideposts, we're also looking at Earthquake Insurance as an option. With millions of dollars above ground and many more underground, staff will be providing infrastructure details to our carrier, SDRMA, who will in turn develop a quote.

DROUGHT

Every month, the Board gets a staff-prepared comprehensive report on the health of the District. An addition to the Board's Field Report will be a chart that provides perspectives on the health of our aquifer, the Coyote Valley Basin. The "recharge rate percentage" will be added as an illustration of how well the aquifer recovers after a well drawdown test.

Staff continues to attend the bi-weekly Drought Taskforce Meetings. As the voice of the South Lake County groundwater resource, this is a great opportunity to collaborate with our peer water agencies during both the rainy and dry seasons.

The State Water Resources Control Board Department of Water Resources (SWRCB DWR) is offering Drought Relief Funding through two different programs that the District is currently investigating. Eligible projects must show improvements to water quality, water supply reliability and/or provide an emergency solution to water shortage conditions.

STAFFING

The Employee Policy Manual (EPM) has undergone several revisions since the previously adopted version of 2015. Employees, the Personnel Committee, and the full Board of Directors have had a chance to review and provide feedback. The Final EPM should be ready for adoption in the next few months.

We are pleased to report that we are fully staffed! We look forward to the continuation of meeting our statutory obligations while simultaneously branching out into both administrative and field project activities that make CSD an innovative and exemplary water purveyor.

PROJECTS & FUNDING

The District has six projects under development, three of which are fully active.

ACTIVE PROJECTS

I & I

- Infiltration and Inflow puts undue stress on the wastewater treatment process. This project involves sealing the leaks and cracks that allow water into a wastewater system so that Sewer System Overflows (SSOs) caused by I & I don't pose a threat to public safety. Original manhole lids are not airtight allowing stormwater (Inflow) to enter the wastewater collection system. Field staff has installed 47 airtight manhole lids. Water entering the wastewater system through the sewer lines is called Infiltration. Sewer lines compromised by root intrusion allow stormwater into the wastewater collection system. We're working to alleviate this condition with 350 feet of sewer line recently replaced near Fiddlers Road.

AMI

- Advanced Metering Infrastructure delivers water usage data/information to the homeowner through an app. This project will enable the homeowner to take control of their water use, any potential leaks and puts the power of conservation in their hands. When fully functional, it eliminates manual meter reading freeing up field staff to focus on more proactive maintenance. In July, 600 meters were purchased, but supply chain issues and computer chip shortages have delayed delivery of the radio relays which convey water usage to homeowners. However, staff will install the radio-less meters one neighborhood at a time because they're more accurate and adding the relays, once they arrive, is fairly quick.

SCADA

- This Supervisor Control And Data Acquisition system is a common method for a municipal utility to manage most aspects of

water & wastewater services. The District is in need of a SCADA refresh and has commissioned the engineering firm GHD to develop a SCADA Master Plan, expected to be completed by early Spring '22.

UNDER DEVELOPMENT

UNIT 9 TANK

- This is a tank replacement project located on Eagle Rock Road. Coastland Civil Engineering has developed a preliminary design that meets both the water demand as well as the fire-flow needs of the community. The District is seeking both state and federal funding to assist in the construction of this project.

WATER MAINS

- The lines that deliver potable water to the community are in various states of decline due to a number of factors including age and soil conditions. The technology that existed when the water mainlines were installed, in many cases more than 50 years ago, has matured and the preferred materials have changed. When responding to contemporary mainline breaks, the condition of these old lines has become clear and underscores the urgency of a District-wide solution. The District is seeking both state and federal funding to assist in the replacement of mainlines.

FLASHES

- This acronym stands for Firemain Linked Auxiliary Supply Hydraulic Energy Storage. This is a renewable energy project that is designed to produce three key benefits to CSD and its residents. The FLASHES project will help in the protection of the community against wildfire and Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS). It will also produce a revenue stream from the sale of electricity to assist in the construction of much-needed projects, some of which are outlined above. The District, together with ESCO partner Trane Technologies, is seeking both state and federal funding to assist in the construction of this project.

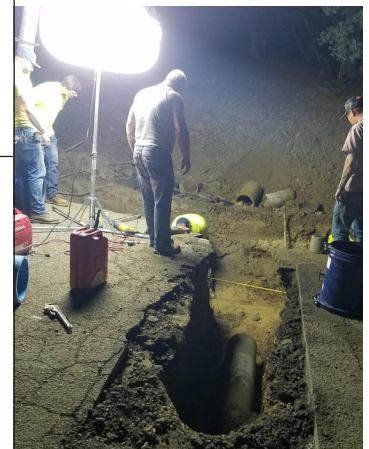
spotlight

WORKING EMERGENCIES

Our field staff and some of the admin staff have been spending quite a bit of their time filling the role of emergency workers.

- The mainline break on Moon Ridge Road required many hours of hard manual labor and critical thinking on containment.
- The PSPS events also take away from day-to-day operations. When PG&E shuts off power, staff must go into overdrive securing generators, electrical contractors, and fuel supply from suppliers who may not have what we need.

These events are setbacks to both maintenance and operations tasks and project work, which can be frustrating and disheartening at times. Thankfully, the District has a very capable crew, who has proven the ability to recover quickly. The very next week, operations were back on track, and the Infiltration and Inflow (I & I) project revived with more manhole lids being replaced.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATER WATCH

Water Theft is a Crime!

Don't allow it to happen to your water.

Report it and help us save water together.

Daytime 707-987-9201 or Evenings 707-533-3498