

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: MICHAEL S. LEBRUN
GENERAL MANAGER

MSL

DATE: NOVEMBER 8, 2013

**AGENDA ITEM
F
NOVEMBER 13, 2013**

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

ITEM

Standing report to your Honorable Board -- *Period covered by this report is October 19, 2013 through November 8, 2013.*

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Administrative

- Filling staffing vacancies remains a top priority. Recruitment for Wastewater Supervisor, Utility Operator, Board Clerk, and Customer Service positions is ongoing. A new Utility Operator is scheduled to begin work on Monday December 2. Second interviews of Customer Service candidates are scheduled for November 8. Initial interviews of Board Clerk candidates are scheduled for the week of November 25. The Wastewater Supervisor position is now advertised as 'open until filled'. Staff is reviewing an application for the Supervisor position received on November 7.
- On November 1, 2013 the District received a request for information from the SLO Grand Jury (Attached). Staff is preparing a response to the request and will provide the information to the Jury in a timely fashion.
- The District's Strategic Plan consultant will be conducting individual interviews with each Director and management staff person during the month of December. The consultant, Rauch Communications, will conduct two full-day strategic plan workshops (public meetings) with your Board and management staff in January and February 2014.
- Staff issued an Intent-to-Serve letter, as approved by your Board on October 23, 2013, to Olde Towne Nipomo Association for the property where Jim O. Miller Park is proposed. On November 5, the SLO County Board of Supervisors approved the amended Memorandum with the District on park development thereby validating the District issue Intent-to-Serve letter.
- In the past two weeks, the two County rain gauges located at the Southland Wastewater Plant (Nipomo South) and the Tefft Street water storage site (Nipomo East) recorded a fraction of an inch of rain. The cumulative rainfall for the season remains under 0.3 inches at both gauges (recent record attached). County rain gauges are reset on July 1 each year. Last rain year, Nipomo South gauge (Sensor 730 – located at Southland WWTP) measured total rainfall for the year of 7 inches, 44% of the 16-inch annual average. Last year the Nipomo East gauge (Sensor 728 – located at Tefft Street Water tank storage site) measured 5.9 inches for the past year, 33% of the 18 inch annual average.; Lopez Lake stands at 60.0% capacity (29,694 Acre-feet). The District does not have access to Lopez water; however Lopez is a major source of recharge to the Northern Cities Management Area portions of the Santa Maria Groundwater basin.

- On October 15, 2013, County Planning staff provided the Board of Supervisors a report on planning and building priorities (Attached).
- At an October 28, 2013 Special Meeting, the Grover Beach City Council received a report on City water supply. The presentation slides are attached.
- CA Special Districts Association 2013 Major Highlights (Attached).
- SLO County Chapter CA Special Districts Association Bi-Monthly Meeting Agenda for November 15 (Attached).
- Willow Road Pomeroy Road intersection traffic signal project summary (Attached).

Safety Program

- No incidents to report

Public Outreach

The following public outreach related information is attached to the Manager's Report:

- A summary of outreach and education activities
- Recent outreach materials;
 - October 2013 "Inside the NCSD" column
 - October 11 conservation advertisement
 - November 1 conservation advertisement
- Recent press releases and press release log
- District related news articles

Monthly Connection Report

Nipomo Community Services District
 Water and Sewer Connections

END OF MONTH CONNECTION REPORT 2013

	DEC-12	JAN-13	FEB-13	MAR-13	APR-13	MAY-13	JUN-13	JUL-13	AUG-13	SEPT-13	OCT-13	Nov-13	Dec-13
Water Connections (Total)	4259	4268	4268	4268	4268	4287	4287	4289	4290	4290	4293	4310	
Sewer Connections (Total)	3055	3064	3064	3064	3064	3083	3083	3083	3084	3084	3086	3102	
Meters turned off (Non-payment)	20	18	34	32	14	20	13	13	28	30	23	20	
Meters off (Vacant)	52	55	57	56	58	57	55	53	48	45	45	44	
Sewer Connections off (Vacant)	20	22	24	22	23	24	20	28	18	14	14	11	
New Water Connections	12	9	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	0	3	17	
New Sewer Connection	12	9	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	2	16	
Galaxy & PSHH at Orchard and Division Sewer Connections billed to the County	462	462	462	462	462	462	462	462	462	462	463	463	

Meetings

Meetings Attended (telephonically or in person):

- *October 22, Rate Study Kickoff with Consultant*
- *October 22, BMP Annual Report Review and Water Demand Analysis Kickoff*
- *October 23, Regular Board Meeting*
- *October 23, River Crossing Celebration*
- *October 24, Meter Read Service Provider*

- *October 24, Strategic Plan Consultant*
- *October 24, Management Coordination*
- *October 25, NMMA Managers*
- *October 25, SLO CO CSD General Managers*
- *November 4, Board Officers*
- *November 5, Executive Director San Luis Coastal RCD*
- *November 5, Water Resources Committee Members*
- *November 6, SLO CO Water Resources Advisory (WRAC)*
- *November 7, NMMA Technical Group*
- *November 8, Customer Service Candidate Interviews*

Meetings Scheduled:

- *November 12, Finance and Audit Committee*
- *November 12, Rate Consultant*
- *November 13, Regular Board Meeting*
- *November 14, Quarterly All Staff and Safety*
- *November 14 & 21, Management Coordination*
- *November 15, SLO County Chapter CSDA*
- *November 18, Board Officers*
- *November 19, Water Resources Committee*
- *November 21, Special Counsel on Personnel Manual Update*
- *November 25 & 26, Board Clerk Interviews*

RECOMMENDATION

Staff seeks direction and input from your Honorable Board

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Grand Jury Information Request
- B. County Rain Gauge Reports
- C. County Planning Staff Report
- D. Grover Beach Water Supply Presentation
- E. CSDA 2013 Major Highlights
- F. SLO Chapter CSDA Agenda
- G. Traffic Signal Project
- H. NCSD Outreach Materials

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ATTACHMENT A



RECEIVED
NOV - 1 2013
NIPOMO COMMUNITY
SERVICES DISTRICT

GRAND JURY

October 31, 2013

Michael LeBrun General Manager
Nipomo CSD
PO Box 326
Nipomo CA 93444-0326

Subject: Information request from the San Luis Obispo County Grand Jury

Dear Mr. LeBrun:

The San Luis Obispo County Grand Jury requests you provide the following information:

1. What are your agency's current sources of water and what is the approximate annual use, in acre-feet, from those sources?
2. Has your water source or use changed in the past five years?
3. What if any sources of water do you have in reserve and how much, in acre-feet are available from that source?
4. Do you have, or do you have the option to purchase "insurance" from the State Water Project?
5. Estimate your annual water usage in acre-feet by category: residential, industrial, commercial and agriculture?
6. Do you have any trade or mutual aid agreements with any other water agencies? How much water in acre-feet is available through those agreements?
7. Do you have any non-metered users of water in your jurisdiction and what is the estimated usage in acre-feet from non-metered sources?
8. How is your water demand trending relative to supply? Do you foresee a surplus or deficit in the next five years?

October 31, 2013 – Page 2 Information Request Grand Jury

We appreciate your cooperation in providing this information by November 15th, 2013. If you can provide the information electronically, it may be emailed to GrandJury@co.slo.ca.us. The address for the US Postal Service is P.O. Box 4910, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403, Attention, Jim DeRose. If you have questions, please contact the Grand Jury's administrative assistant, Ms. Sylvia Martinez at (805) 781-5188.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim DeRose". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" and last name "DeRose" clearly distinguishable.

Jim DeRose, Foreperson
2013-2014 San Luis Obispo County Grand Jury

CS:sm

NOVEMBER 13, 2013

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT B

SLOCountyWater.org

San Luis Obispo County Water Resources
Division of Public Works

Home > **Water Resources** > Data > Precipitation > Active > Real Time > Nipomo South

Flood Control Major Projects Water Quality Lab Water Resources Real-Time Water Data

Site Information

Nipomo South (Sensor 730)

Located

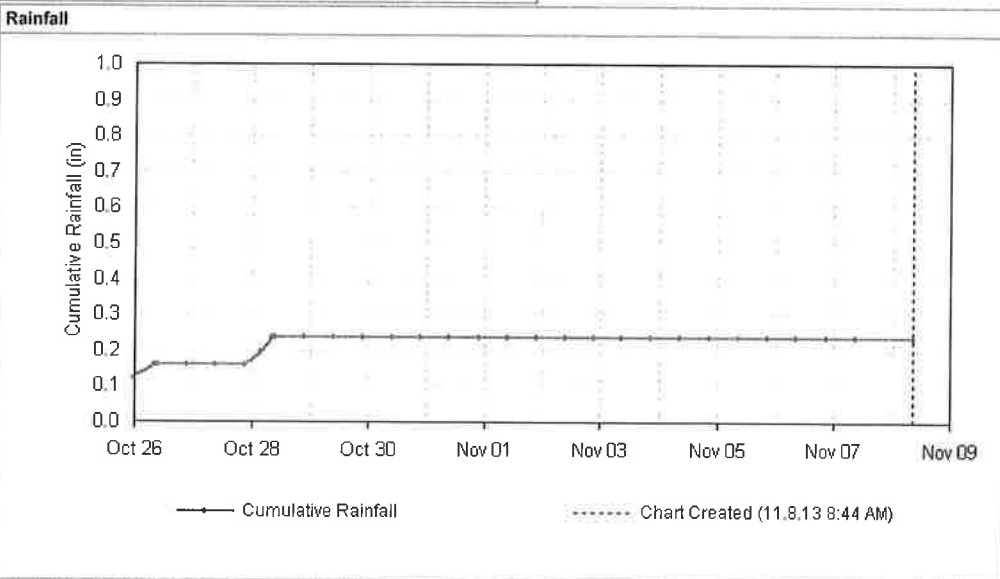
- Nipomo Community Service District (NCSD) equipment yard, Nipomo, CA.

Established

- July 1992

Annual Average Rainfall

- 16 inches



Real-Time Rainfall Data

[Empty area for real-time data]

DIAdvisor™ Web Reports

Nipomo South Precipitation (Sensor 730)

Period: 10/25/2013 8:40:05 AM to 11/8/2013 8:40:05 AM

Date/Time	In for Report	Accum Inch	Pd Accumulated Rain
11/08/13 08:31:56 AM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/07/13 08:31:54 AM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/06/13 08:31:53 PM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/06/13 08:31:51 AM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/05/13 08:31:50 PM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/05/13 08:31:50 AM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/04/13 08:31:48 PM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/04/13 08:31:48 AM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/03/13 08:31:47 PM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/03/13 08:31:45 AM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/02/13 09:31:44 PM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/02/13 09:31:43 AM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/01/13 09:31:42 PM	0.000	0.236	0.118
11/01/13 09:31:41 AM	0.000	0.236	0.118
10/31/13 09:31:40 PM	0.000	0.236	0.118
10/31/13 09:31:39 AM	0.000	0.236	0.118
10/30/13 09:31:38 PM	0.000	0.236	0.118
10/30/13 09:31:37 AM	0.000	0.236	0.118

Date/Time: Specifies the date and time the County Computer detected a transmission from the sensor.

In For Report: Specifies the incremental rainfall (in inches) reported between successive data transmissions.

Accum Inch: Specifies the accumulated rainfall (in inches) reported since July 1st.

Pd Accumulated Rain: Specifies the accumulated rainfall (in inches) reported in the last fourteen (14) days.

Interval Rain: Specifies the accumulated rainfall (in inches) reported in the last ten (10) minutes.

Hour Rain: Specifies the accumulated rainfall (in inches) reported in the last one (1) hour, three (3) hours, six (6) hours, etc.



SLOCountyWater.org

San Luis Obispo County Water Resources
Division of Public Works

Home > **Water Resources** > Data > Precipitation > Active > Real Time > Nipomo East

Flood Control Major Projects Water Quality Lab Water Resources Real-Time Water Data

Site Information

Nipomo East (Sensor 728)

Located

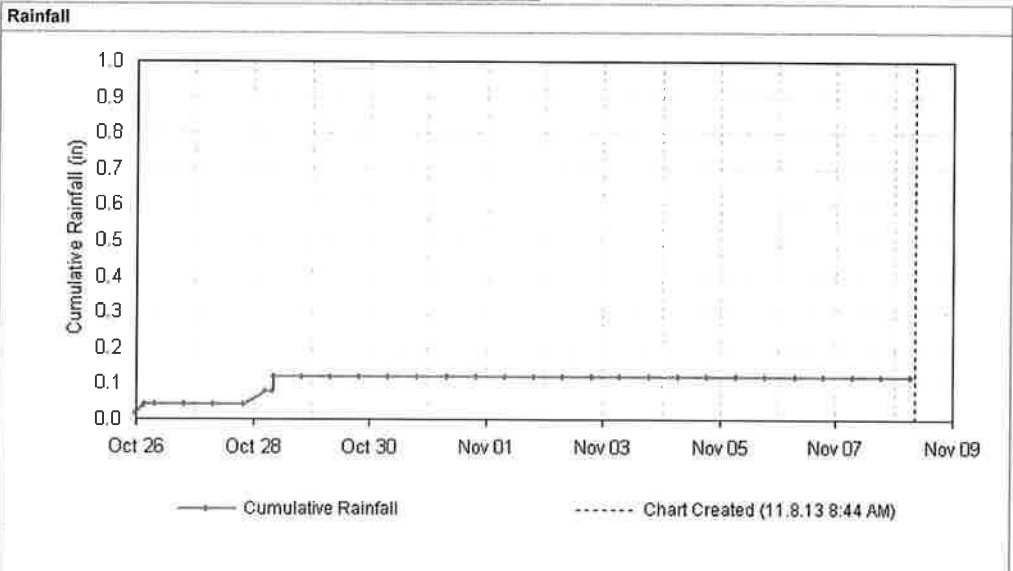
- Nipomo Community Service District (NCSD) water tanks, Nipomo, CA.

Established

- November 18, 1999

Annual Average Rainfall

- 18 inches



Real-Time Rainfall Data

Date	Real-Time Rainfall (in)
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DIAdvisor™ Web Reports

Nipomo East Precipitation (Sensor 728)

Period: 10/25/2013 8:40:05 AM to 11/8/2013 8:40:05 AM

Date/Time	In for Report	Accum Inch	Pd Accumulated Rain
11/08/13 06:49:07 AM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/07/13 06:49:06 PM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/07/13 06:49:04 AM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/06/13 06:49:04 PM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/06/13 06:49:02 AM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/05/13 06:49:02 PM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/05/13 06:49:01 AM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/04/13 06:49:00 PM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/04/13 06:48:59 AM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/03/13 06:48:59 PM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/03/13 06:48:57 AM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/02/13 07:48:57 PM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/02/13 07:48:55 AM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/01/13 07:48:55 PM	0.000	0.118	0.118
11/01/13 07:48:54 AM	0.000	0.118	0.118
10/31/13 07:48:53 PM	0.000	0.118	0.118
10/31/13 07:48:52 AM	0.000	0.118	0.118
10/30/13 07:48:51 PM	0.000	0.118	0.118

Date/Time: Specifies the date and time the County Computer detected a transmission from the sensor.

In For Report: Specifies the incremental rainfall (in inches) reported between successive data transmissions.

Accum Inch: Specifies the accumulated rainfall (in inches) reported since July 1st.

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Hour Rain: Specifies the accumulated rainfall (in inches) reported in the last one (1) hour, three (3) hours, six (6) hours, etc.



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ATTACHMENT C

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Planning and Building	(2) MEETING DATE 10/15/2013	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Kami Griffin, Acting Director / 805-781-5708	
(4) SUBJECT Report on Department of Planning and Building Priorities. All Districts			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board provide direction regarding any changes to the Department priorities as set by the Department.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Department Budget	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT { } Consent { } Presentation { } Hearing (Time Est. ___) { X } Board Business (Time Est. <u>30 min</u>)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS { } Resolutions { } Contracts { } Ordinances { X } N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: { } 4/5th's Vote Required { X } N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY { } N/A Date: <u>September, October, November 2008; January, February, September 2009; January, August, November 2010; January, March, June, October 2011; February, October 2012, February 2013</u>	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW <i>Nikki J. Schmidt</i>			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts -			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Planning and Building / Kami Griffin, Acting Director
DATE: 10/15/2013
SUBJECT: Report on Department of Planning and Building Priorities. All Districts

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board provide direction regarding any changes to the Department priorities as set by the Department.

DISCUSSION

Background

Beginning in October of 2008, the Department of Planning and Building has been providing reports to the Board of Supervisors on Department workload and priorities. On February 19, 2013, the Department presented the latest comprehensive priority and workload update to the Board.

Four Guiding Department Priorities

As part of past actions, the Board has established four guiding priorities for the Department. As part of the February 2013 presentation on Department priorities the Board provided the following direction to use during preparation of the Department budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 and to determine which projects are a part of the "Top10" list.

- (1) Paying customers are not adversely affected;
- (2) Mandates are accomplished;
- (3) That the department should focus on those items that forward the goals and the implementation of a Comprehensive County Energy Strategy; and
- (4) That the department should focus on those items that forward the goals and the implementation of a County Economic Strategy.

Department Priorities

For the remainder of this fiscal year the Department will be focusing on four areas using the four guiding priorities as defined above. These are: Process Improvements, Infrastructure, Energy and Economic Development. Each of these key focus areas is reflected by items on the attached tables. As a number of items on the Department's Top 10 list are completed or nearing completion, the items that are proposed for addition reflect the four guiding priorities. These items include the work on the Renewable Energy Streamlining Program, the emPower program and work necessary to implement the urgency ordinance for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin. In addition, because of these new items, a number of items on the list show as postponed. This is to reflect the additional staff time that these programs will involve. As these projects are completed, work will begin again on postponed projects.

Attached Tables

The attached tables have been updated and reflect both the priorities as set forth by your Board and the adopted FY13-14 budget (See Exhibit A for additional information). The shaded items in the tables note the current and proposed "Top 10" priorities. The tables also note where a project or program is an

implementation measure identified in an adopted General Plan Element. In addition, the tables reflect additional business operation and technical support priorities that are needed to provide improvements to customer service and to increase County operational effectiveness, such as the conversion of microfiche to scanned documents and the replacement of the permit tracking system. Tables 4, 5, and 6 include all programs from the County's General Plan. The last column notes which, if any, of the four guiding priorities apply. For a summary of the content included in Tables 1 – 6, refer to Exhibit A.

Table 2 specifically addresses mandated programs that are not revenue generating or offset. These items require General Fund support and can require a significant amount of staff resources. Some of these items are mandated by County Ordinance or the General Plan. Typically the repercussions of not meeting these local mandates are not fiscal but rather are a matter of the Board not receiving reports on various programs that the Department administers. For example, the Biennial Resource Summary Report provides the Board information on the resources tracked by the County's Resource Management System. On the other hand, non-compliance with State and Federal mandates have varying consequences. For instance, if the County does not comply with the requirements of the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA), the County, including businesses and residents, could lose its flood insurance or have premiums increased. As both the Department and the Board consider mandates important, as evidenced by mandates being the second guiding priority, Department resources are often focused on these programs before working on other programs.

Status of Top 10 Priorities

The Department maintains an active "Top 10" list of priorities. The Department is recommending a new Top 10 list based on previous decisions and direction from the Board of Supervisors.

Completed Top 10 Items

The following items were completed since the last update of the Top 10 list.

- **Complete the Oceano Community Revitalization Plan.**
Status: Complete. This Plan was presented and approved by your Board on August 6, 2013
- **Prepare ordinance amendments to implement a Planned Development Ordinance.**
Status: Complete. The ordinance amendments were adopted by your Board on June 18, 2013.
- **Complete the Camp Roberts Joint Land Use Study.**
Status: Complete. On June 18, 2010, your Board received a report on the Final Camp Roberts Joint Land Use Study (JLUS).

Proposed Top 10 Priorities

Based on direction from your Board, the proposed Top 10 list and status is as follows:

- **Prepare the Public Review Draft of the Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) update.**
Status: In Progress. On March 29, 2011, the Board directed staff to undertake a reorganization of the Land Use Element to streamline and make it user-friendly. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the consolidation on August 8, 2013. Staff prepared a Planning Commission recommended draft and has made this available to the public. Public hearings before the Board of Supervisors are scheduled to begin early in 2014.
- **Complete amendments to implement post-construction stormwater requirements.**
Status: In Progress. On September 6, 2012, the Central Coastal Regional Water Quality Control Board (CCRWQCB) passed Resolution R-3-2012-00-2 that established Post-Construction Stormwater Management Requirements for Development Projects for municipalities throughout the Central Coast Region. Amendments to the Land Use Ordinance and Coastal Zone Land Use Ordinance will be required to implement these requirements. On June 13, 2013, the Planning Commission recommended approval of the amendments. Public Hearings before the Board of Supervisors are tentatively scheduled in late 2013.

- **Prepare a 'Complete Communities' survey**
Status: In Progress. The Department received a grant to complete a community infrastructure needs assessment for the communities of San Miguel, Nipomo, Oceano, and Templeton. Public meetings occurred in the communities in late 2012 and a report on the survey, including potential financing options, should be complete by late 2013 or early 2014.
- **Complete the draft Los Osos Habitat Conservation Plan (Begin Fish and Wildlife agency review) and begin Los Osos Community Plan update.**
Status: In Progress. Consultation between agencies and County staff is occurring. Phase I includes the agency review draft plan and is scheduled for completion in late 2013. Phase II includes public review of the draft plan and is scheduled to be completed in 2014. The Community Plan update has been authorized for processing by the Board. Funding for preparation of an Environmental Impact Report is in the Department budget. Notification to property owners for requests for zone changes were advertised in two local newspapers in March 2013. New subcommittee meetings (twice monthly) with LOCAC began in June 2013 and will continue through November 2013.
- **Complete e-permitting for specific photovoltaic systems.**
Status: In Progress. The Department is currently in development of an e-permit for specific photovoltaic system permits. This would allow applicants to complete the permitting process entirely on-line without having to come into the office. This system should be available early in 2014.
- **Update the San Miguel Community Plan.**
Status: In Progress. Following a successful community outreach process and preparation of an administrative draft plan by the City and Regional Planning Department at Cal Poly, the Board, on November 1, 2011, authorized the community plan update. Grant funding was received to complete technical background reports most of which are complete. A public review draft of the Community Plan update was released in June 2013. The preparation of an Environmental Impact Report is underway. This comprehensive community-based plan will help shape new growth and development, enhance the quality of life, and bring vitality to San Miguel.
- **Prepare ordinance amendments to revise standards to encourage in-fill development**
Status: In Progress. The Department received a grant to complete amendments that would evaluate and revise existing provisions in the Real Property Division Ordinance (Title 21), Land Use Ordinance (Title 22) and Coastal Land Use Ordinance (Title 23) which make it difficult to develop on in-fill sites in urban areas in compliance with the County's strategic growth policies. A Request for Proposal process was completed and a consultant chosen. Public outreach has occurred and drafts of both amendments and guidelines to assist communities with visioning should be available in the Winter/Spring of 2014 or earlier.
- **Implement an "emPower" program in San Luis Obispo County**
Status: In Progress. This program would be an expansion of Santa Barbara County's comprehensive financing program for energy efficiency project for homeowners. The program would cover San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties and would offer homeowners the ability to get low interest unsecured loans to complete energy efficiency projects. Grant funding will cover the costs of staffing and marketing of the program. Agreements from Santa Barbara County for the grant funding should be coming to your Board for review in the next two months.
- **Complete the draft of a Renewable Energy Combining Designation and related ordinance amendments for implementation.**
Status: In Progress. The California Energy Commission (CEC) has awarded the County a Renewable Energy and Conservation Planning Grant of \$638,152 to fund a Renewable Energy Streamlining Program. The program would include amendments to revise policies, combining designations and ordinances to streamline development of renewable energy projects in areas of the County that meet selected criteria. Also includes preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that evaluates specific areas proposed for a new Renewable Energy (RE) combining designation based on mapping of resources, infrastructure and constraints. The grant agreement

with the CEC was approved by your Board on July 9, 2013, and a contract for a consultant team to perform the work in conjunction with County staff was approved on August 13, 2013. The team is conducting stakeholder interviews and working on the constraints mapping.

- **Paso Robles Groundwater Basin (PRGWB) Urgency Ordinance Implementation.**

Status: In Progress. On August 27, 2013, your Board adopted an Urgency Ordinance covering a majority of the PRGWB that requires new uses to offset their water demand at a ratio of 1:1 and new wells to be metered and monitored by the property owner. On October 1, 2013, your Board took action to provide direction to staff relative to implementation of the ordinance. Implementation includes preparation of a County Approved Conservation Program for both residential and agricultural offsets. These should be prepared for presentation to the Board by early 2014.

Summary

The attached tables illustrate that the Department has a large number of programs being worked on in addition to many complicated permit applications. The four guiding priorities established by your Board are directing how the Department is prioritizing completion of these programs and permit applications. Timing of completion is based on the availability of staff resources, the need to complete mandated programs and continuing to provide responsive service to our customers who are processing applications for permits.

As the Board has the Department take on additional tasks, programs or implementation of policies prior to the items on the Tables 1-3 being completed, we have reevaluated our ability to complete the items within the timeframes outlined and have deferred some of the programs and projects listed. Although a number of items on Tables 1-3 have been completed since our last update, new items have also been added. These new items are based on Board direction provided to the Department, as well as state and federal mandates.

Currently the Department estimates that in order to complete the revenue generating items on Table 1, 37.75 FTE (full time equivalent) positions are needed. The mandated and budgeted programs on Tables 2 and 3 require an approximate additional 52.75 FTE positions. The Department currently has 90.5 FTE positions on the Position Allocation List (PAL) and at this time, 5.00 of these positions are vacant and three are actively under recruitment. Any reduction to the number of FTE positions on the Department PAL would affect the ability to complete the programs that are currently budgeted, as well as, the Department's ability to take on any additional work.

The Planning and Building Department will continue to provide updates to your Board relative to the Department's priorities and progress towards completion of our assigned workload.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

The Department regularly coordinates with County Counsel, Public Works, County Parks, Agricultural Department, Environmental Health, Air Pollution Control District, Local Agency Formation Commission, San Luis Obispo Council of Governments, Airport Land Use Commission, Cal Trans, Cal Fire, and California Coastal Commission. Continued collaboration and coordination between these agencies and others will occur as the Department strives to continuously improve.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Completion of programs that are not revenue-offset requires General Fund support. The level of General Fund support is determined each fiscal year through the Department's approved budget. In the adopted budget for fiscal year 2013-2014, revenues were estimated at \$6,810,441, expenditures at \$12,595,884 and General Fund support at \$5,785,443.

RESULTS

The discussion with the Board will provide more clarity about the overall workload, priority of workload items and specific programs for the Department to focus on in remaining months of fiscal year 2013-2014

and looking ahead at budgeting for fiscal year 2014-2015, consistent with the countywide goal of a Well-Governed Community.

ATTACHMENTS

- Exhibit A - Description of Tables 1 - 6 / Guiding Priorities and Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6
- Exhibit B - Representative Sample of Major Development Projects in Process

NOVEMBER 13, 2013

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT D

Historic Perspective of the Grover Beach Water Supply



Jim Garing

Consulting City Engineer

- Sewer/Water

1

Pre Historic

About 2,000,000 to 1,500,000 years ago:

Fine gray sand Beach Forms.

- 600 feet down (approx.)
to
- 300 feet down (approx.)

About 1,500,000 years ago:

Arroyo Grande and Los Berros Creeks deposited about 50 feet of fine sands and clays in layers to about 200 feet down. This layer does not allow water to move vertically through it.

About 1,000,000 years ago:

Arroyo Grande and Los Berros Creeks deposited coarse gravels, sands and cobbles:

- 250 feet down (approx.)
to
- 50 feet down (approx.)

About 200,000 years ago:

Wind blown sand dunes were deposited over Western Arroyo Grande, most of Grover Beach and most of Oceano.

2

By March, 1950, the Pismo Water District had been in existence for many years. The Pismo Water District had three wells in the shallow ground water aquifer located between Huber and Griffin Streets and served the City of Pismo Beach as well as western Town of Grover to South 16th Street on the East.

3

LAYOUT MAP
OF
WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
PISMO WATER DISTRICT

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
DESIGNED BY
FRANK W. WINGFIELD & ASSOCIATES, INC.
TELEPHONE 444-1111

(Note – Full
Map on Wall)

4

In 1950, the Grover City County Water District was formed. In the 1950s, three wells were drilled in what is now known as 16th Street Park. These wells, (Well #1, #2, and #3), were drilled into the shallow groundwater basin to depth of about 200 feet. These wells produce large quantities of relatively good quality groundwater, except for nitrate concentrations.

In the mid-1950s, the Town of Grover pumped an average of 350 to 500 acre-feet per year from the 16th Street Park wells. By 1966, the City of Grover City pumped 875 acre-feet from the groundwater basin.

5

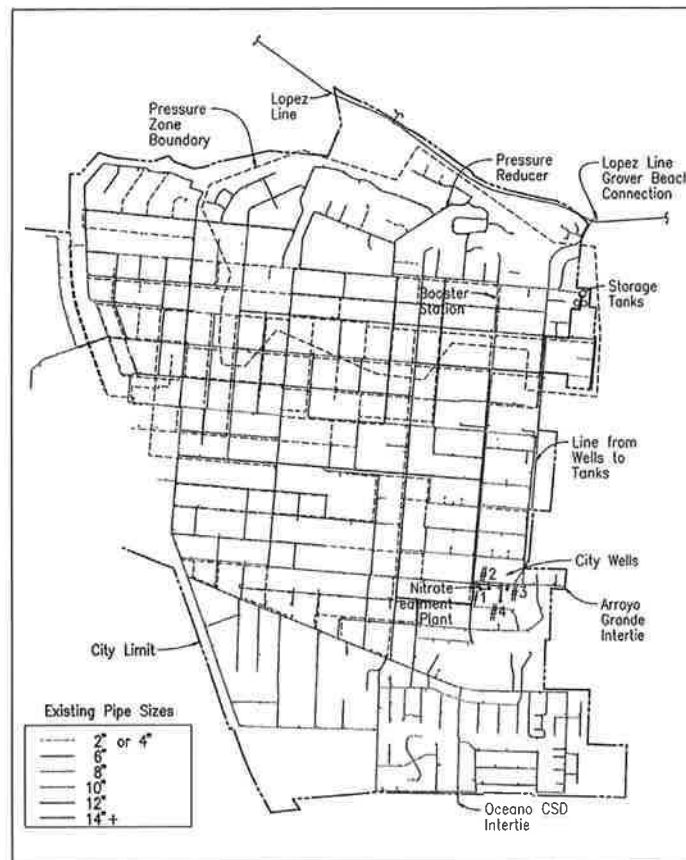


Figure 2. Grover Beach Water System – Distribution Schematic

6

In December of 1959, the City of Grover City Incorporated.

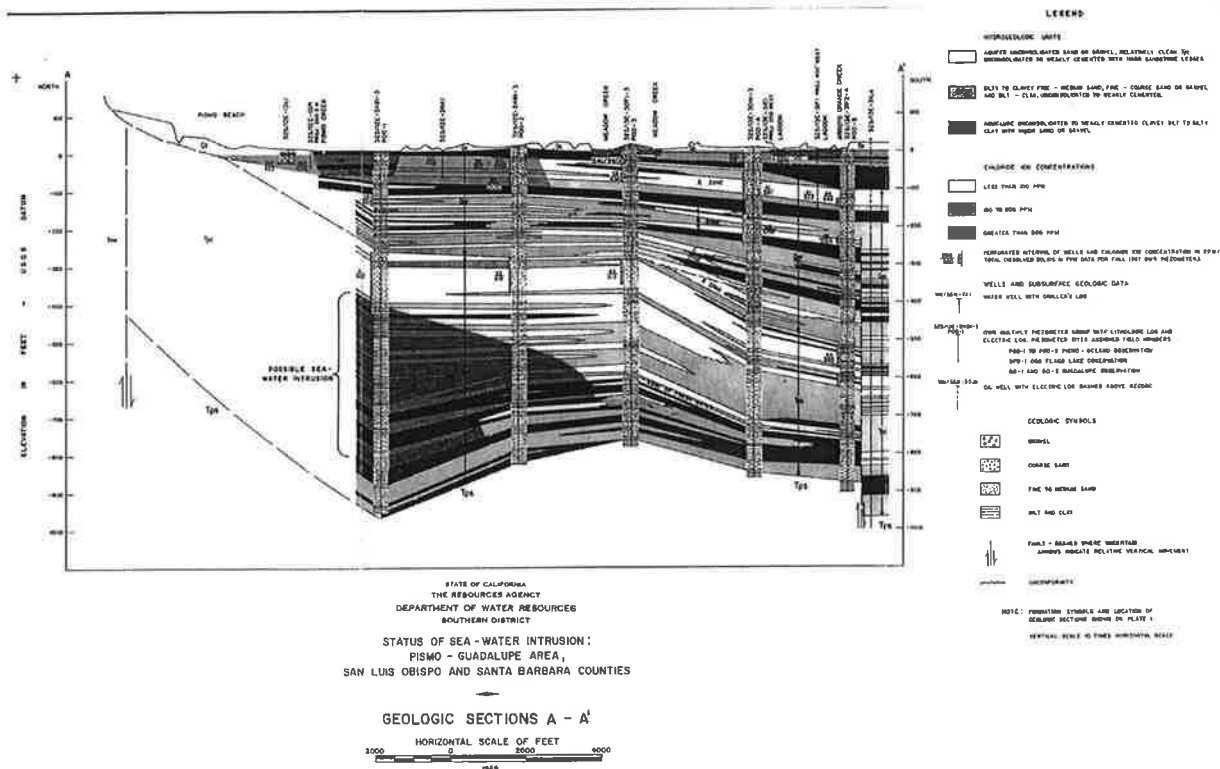
Then in 1965, the City of Grover City signed a contract with the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District receiving entitlement to 800 acre-feet per year of Lopez water.

The amount of groundwater being pumped by the City declined immediately after 1970 to less than 100 acre-feet per year but thereafter increased steadily with increasing population in the City.

Reasons for deciding to participate in the Lopez project:

- Potential Sea Water Intrusion
- Increasing Nitrate Concentration of the shallow aquifer
- Future Needs

7



8

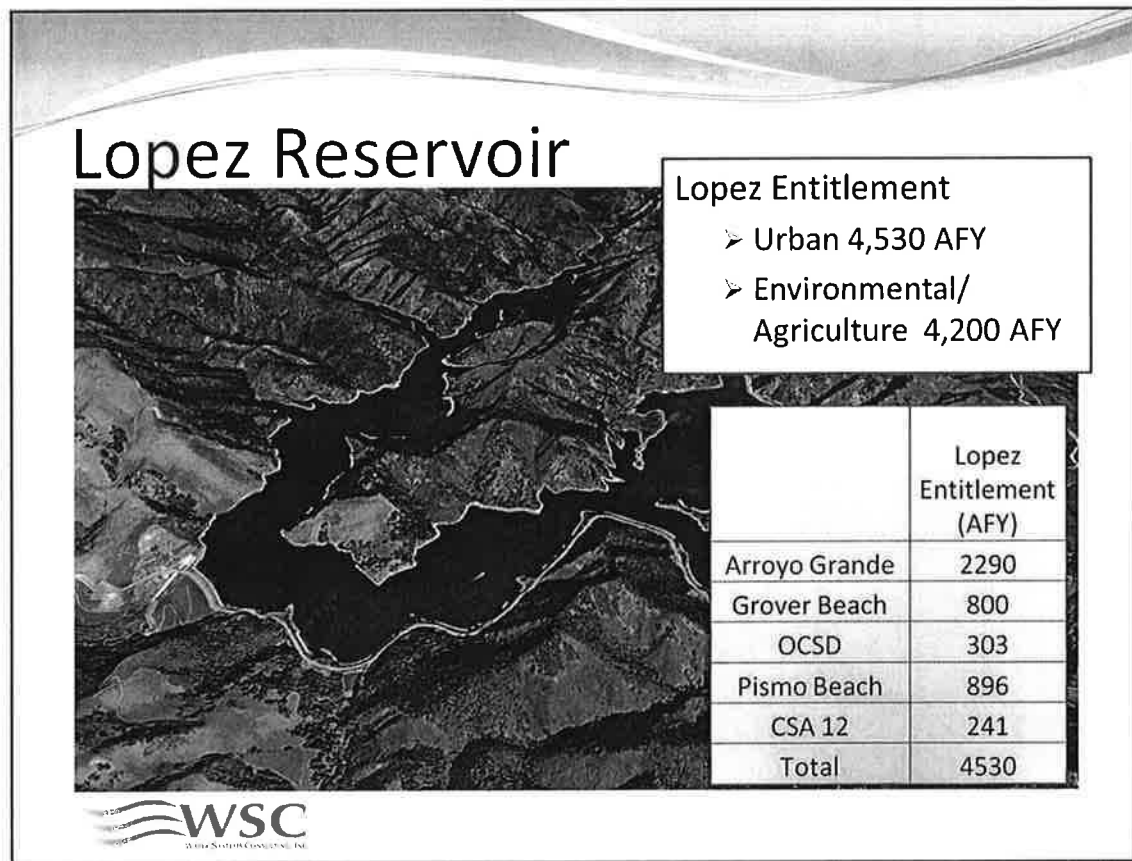
Nitrate Contamination

- By 1972, Nitrate contamination had been changed to a primary standard.
 - 45 milligrams per litre maximum
- Most municipal wells in Five Cities Area exceeded 45 milligrams per litre.
Typical levels of nitrate in Grover City Wells exceeded 100 milligrams per litre.
- Nitrates were thought to have come from:
 - Agricultural fertilizers
 - Septic Tanks

Note that:

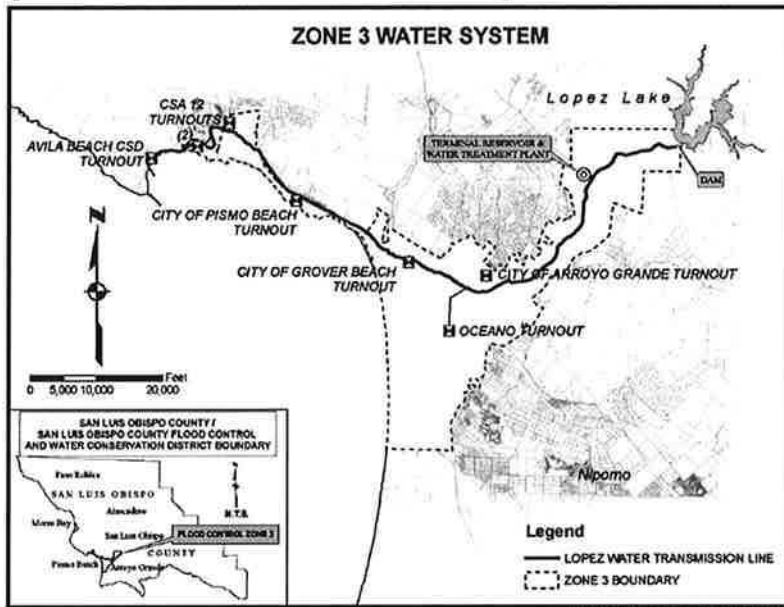
- Grover City sewerred in 1965
- Oceano sewerred in 1967
- Western Arroyo Grande sewerred 1972

9



10

Lopez WTP and Pipeline



Source: 2010 Urban Water Management Plan for Zone 3

11

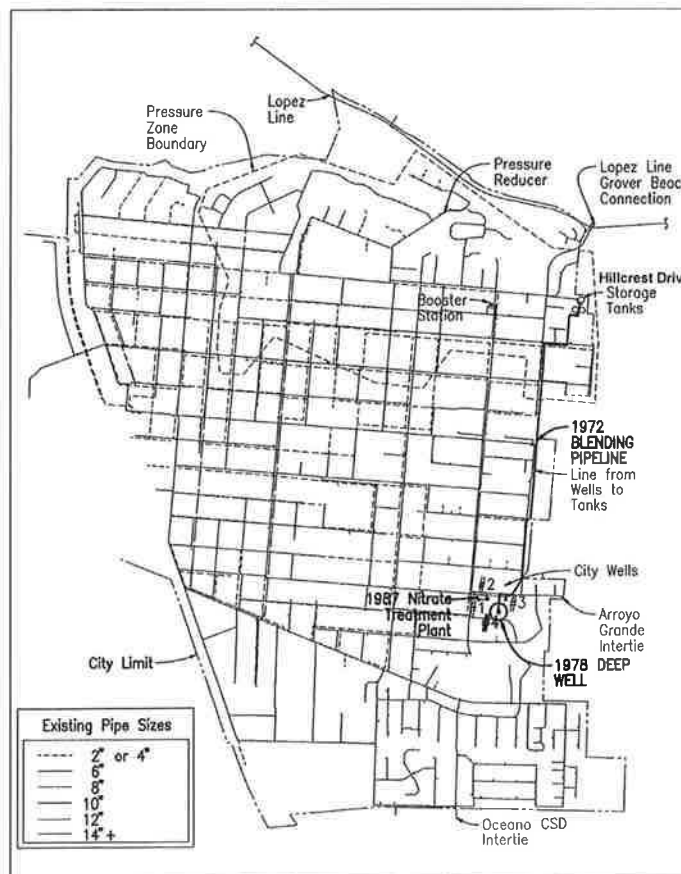


Figure 2. Grover Beach Water System - Distribution Schematic

12

Gentlemen's Agreement-

In February of 1983, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 83-1, which in essence was the "Gentlemen's Agreement". This agreement provided for the subdivision of the safe yield of the Tri-Cities Mesa Groundwater Basin among the Cities of Arroyo Grande, Grover City, Pismo Beach, the Oceano Community Services District and the agricultural community. This agreement provided that the division of the safe yield of the basin be accomplished based upon the following figures:

Applied irrigation	-	5,300 acre-feet
Subsurface flow to Ocean	-	200 acre-feet
<u>Urban Use</u>		
City of Arroyo Grande	-	1,202 acre-feet
City of Grover City	-	1,198 acre-feet
City of Pismo Beach	-	700 acre-feet
Oceano Community Services District	-	900 acre-feet

As of February 1983, the total water resources available to the City of Grover City were groundwater (1,198 acre-feet) plus Lopez water (800 acre feet) for a total of 1,998 acre-feet per year.

13

In 1987, the City constructed the Nitrate Removal Plant at the northwest corner of 16th Street Park. This plant is still in operation, removing nitrates from the shallow groundwater wells at the park. This facility allowed the City to utilize its full allocation of groundwater from the groundwater basin, regardless of the nitrate content. In combination with the deep well at the southeast corner of 16th Street Park, as well as Lopez water available up at the City's Hillcrest Reservoir site, the City had available to it several options regarding blending and source availability to provide reliable water to its citizens.

- Nitrate levels in the shallow aquifer began falling after 1990.
- Nitrate levels decline more rapidly after nearby agricultural operations were converted to residential use.
- Shallow aquifer nitrates 1972: 150 milligrams per litre
- Shallow aquifer nitrates 2013: 40 milligrams per litre

14

Surplus Water

Lopez Contract, Surplus Water –

One of the provisions of the Lopez Water Supply Contract is that a total amount of 4,200 acre-feet of water is reserved for downstream release to satisfy instream and agricultural uses downstream of the dam.

When less than 4,200 acre-feet are released downstream, the unreleased portion can be converted to surplus water.

When any agency uses less than its Lopez entitlement, the unused entitlement is converted to surplus water.

When available, surplus water is very low cost, typically in the \$60 to \$100 per acre-foot range.

Reasons why surplus water may not be available:

- Drought
- Increased releases since Red Legged Frog and the Steelhead were added to the endangered species list
- Habitat Conservation Plan
 - In process

15

Agricultural Conversion

By 1991, the City of Grover Beach became aware that irrigated agricultural lands within the City were being converted from irrigated agriculture to other urban uses. Since 5,300 acre feet of groundwater had been reserved for irrigated agriculture in the 1983 Gentlemen's Agreement, it seemed logical to staff at the time that when agricultural lands converted for urban use, the respective agricultural water use on that land should also be converted to urban use.

16

In 1992, the City of Grover Beach unilaterally decided to take a credit of 3 acre-feet per acre of irrigated agricultural land which was converted to urban use. Depending upon the urban use actually implemented on the converted land, a net increase or decrease in water supply can result from such conversions.

Some very dense, residential uses and some commercial uses consume more than 3 acre feet of water per acre but most residential uses consume less than 3 acre-feet, leaving a surplus for other uses.

As of this report, the City has a net increase in water supply of 209 acre-feet per year, since 1983, because of agricultural conversion.

17

Groundwater Litigation

In the late 1990s, a number of property owners in the Santa Maria Valley area instigated a groundwater lawsuit. This litigation ultimately involved over 1,000 litigants, including the Northern Cities area comprised of Pismo Beach, Grover Beach, Arroyo Grande, and the Oceano Community Services District.

During the course of the groundwater litigation, it was decided by the Northern Cities to update and expand upon the original 1983 Gentleman's Agreement. The New Gentlemen's Agreement was approved by the City Council on August 6, 2001 and provided for several issues that the original agreement was silent upon.

18

Issues within the 2001 Gentlemen's Agreement

- Same distribution of Safe Yield as 1983 Agreement.
- Method for water payback to Arroyo Grande and Pismo Beach.
- Method to provide for Increases or Decreases in perceived safe yield.
- Authorized Agricultural Conversion and provides conversion methodology.
- Provides for the parties to meet and confer, share information and to monitor pumping and well levels on a quarterly basis.
- Parties shall revisit water allocation in 2010 and 2020.
- Opt out and mediation provisions.
- Other details.

19

2005 Stipulation

The 2005 stipulation arose out of the Groundwater Litigation as a form of Settlement between the majority of land owners in the lawsuit.

Among many things, the Stipulation of 2005 incorporated the 2002 (GB 2001) Gentleman's Agreement, allowing the Northern Cities to continue to operate their Management Area using the provisions contained within the Gentleman's Agreement of 2002.

The Stipulation also required all Management Areas to monitor groundwater conditions and report annually to the Court regarding these conditions as well as to share that information with other Management Areas.

20

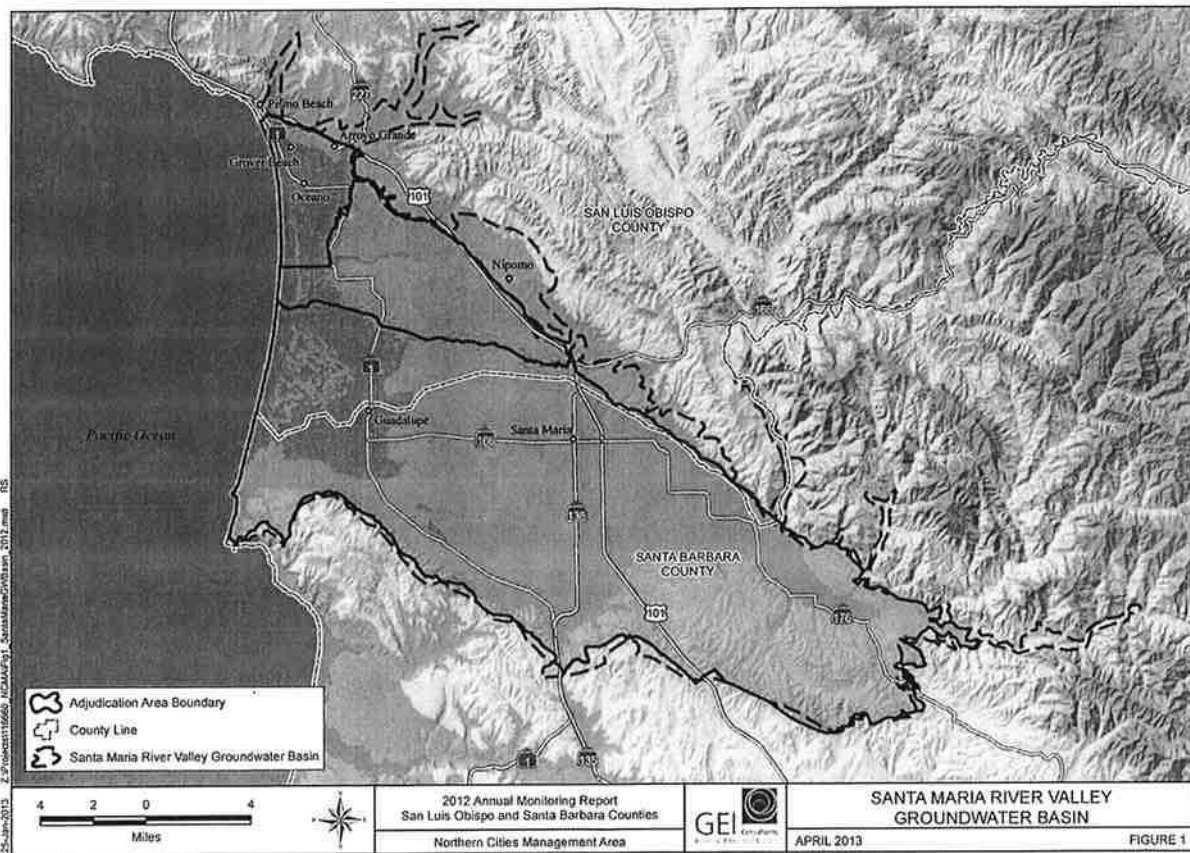
Agricultural Conversion ReEvaluation

The method of calculating the agricultural conversion amount had been different between Cities of Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach and Pismo Beach. Because of these differences and in the order to settle the amount of agricultural conversion among various agencies, agreement was reached in 2007 on the methodology and actual amount of conversion. The 209 acre-feet represented here for the City of Grover Beach is the latest figure which has been agreed upon amongst the Cities of Arroyo Grande, Grover Beach, and Pismo Beach, and the Oceano Community Services District.

It is presently anticipated that upon conversion of the remaining agricultural lands within the City of Grover Beach, an additional 70 acre-feet of agricultural conversion credit will likely be realized. In that event, the total water resource available to Grover Beach will be about 2,277 acre-feet per year.

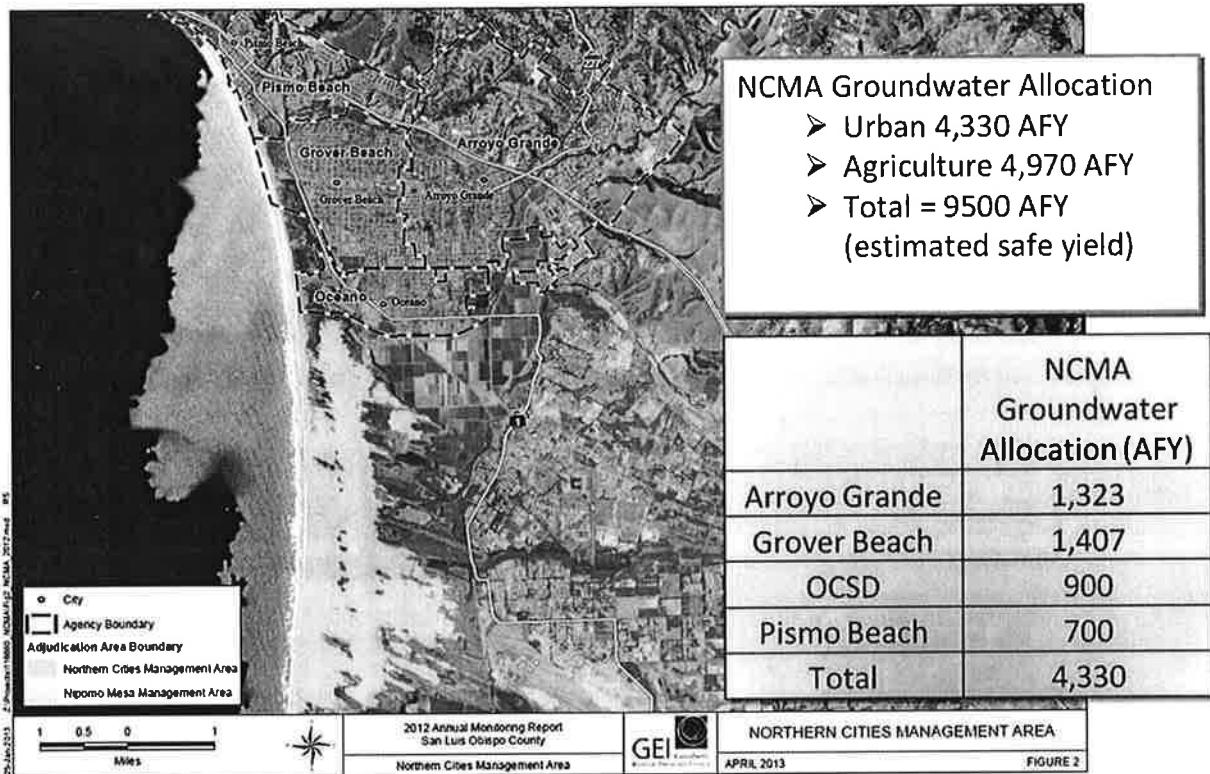
NCMA Groundwater Allocation				
Cost	Initial Groundwater Allocation (AFY)	Ag Conversion Credits (AFY)	Current Groundwater Allocation (AFY)	Fraction of Groundwater Allocation
Arroyo Grande	1,202	112	1,314	0.30
Grover Beach	1,198	209	1,407	0.33
OCSD	900		900	0.21
Pismo Beach	700		700	0.16
Total	4,000		4,321	

21

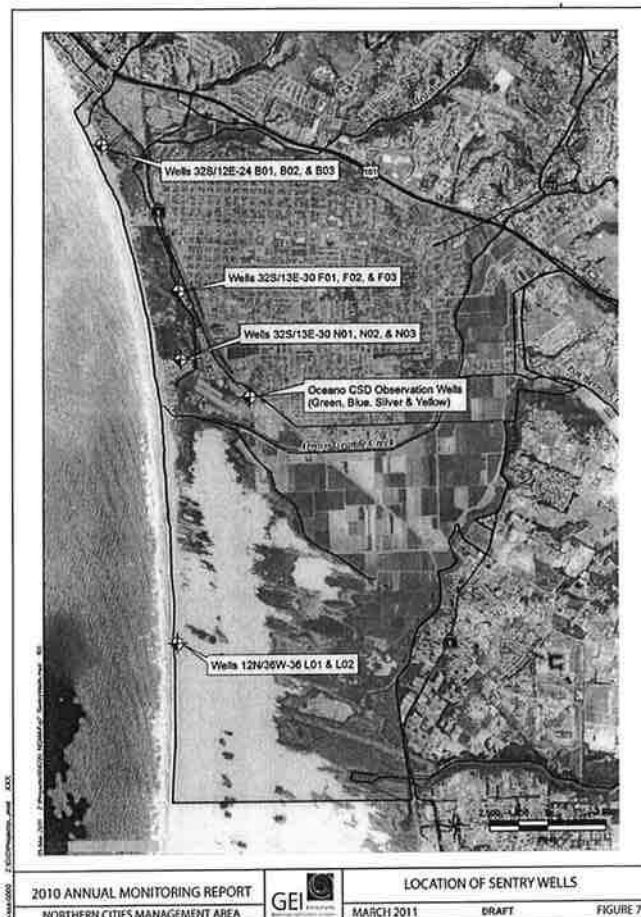


22

Northern Cities Management Area



23



24

32S/13E-30N02	Screened from 175-255'	Date	Depth to Water	Groundwater Elevation	Total Dissolved Solids	Chloride mg/L	Sodium mg/L
North Side of Pier Avenue, 1200' west of Highway 1		1/26/2010	3.72	9.78	970	50	74.2
		10/20/2009	7.38	6.12	2,080	690	274
		8/20/2009	11.94	1.56	1,350	500	199
		5/11/2009	6.98	6.52	1,290	170	129
		3/27/1996	n/a	n/a	1,050	50	71
		6/7/1976	n/a	n/a	1,093	48	62
		1/21/1966	n/a	n/a	1,069	54	71

2010 Urban Water Management Plan

Water Supply Sources	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
Gentleman's Agreement (Groundwater)	1,198	1,198	1,198	1,198	1,198
Agricultural land conversion credit (Groundwater)	209	209	209	209	209
Other Supplemental Water (Future)#			400	400	400
South SLO County–Zone 3 (Lopez)	800	800	800	800	800
Transfers (Oceano Community Services District)					
Exchanges					
Recycled Water					
Total	2,207	2,207	2,607	2,607	2,607
Units of Measure: Acre-feet per year					

NOVEMBER 13, 2013

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT E



**California Special
Districts Association**

Districts Stronger Together

October 17, 2013

Nipomo Community Services District
Ms. Lisa Bognuda
PO Box 326
Nipomo, CA 93444

Dear Ms. Bognuda:

"I am extremely pleased with the support provided by CSDA and its staff. I really appreciate CSDA's weekly e-news and special legislative updates. These vehicles along with the website's Grassroots Action Center not only make me aware of important legislative initiatives, but also allow me to get up to speed on these issues within a very short period of time. Great job, CSDA!"

– Paul Bushee, Leucadia Wastewater District

These words were sent to us by a member district that gained a new appreciation for CSDA services and expertise this past year. While the economic climate is continuing to bring many challenges to local government, it's good to know you've got a friend in Sacramento. CSDA is committed to supporting our special district members through these tough times and into a brighter future. During the past year, CSDA has consistently worked on your behalf - protecting special district revenues and independence and preventing the State from burdening you with additional costly mandates. We are proud to be *your* association.

As a CSDA member, you can count on us to be your advocate and keep you informed of issues that impact your district's budget and operations. You can turn to us for unique and high quality education programs for your board members and staff. In addition, your membership gives you access to a wide array of money-saving programs such as risk management services, tax-exempt financing and so much more.

Enclosed is an invoice for your 2014 membership dues. It is only with the support of our strong, vibrant membership that we are able to offer you these services and benefits. Your district's continued participation in CSDA is essential in keeping the interests of special districts and local government at the forefront.

Special Renewal Bonus: Renew your CSDA membership by January 1, 2014 and your district receives access to online AB 1234 Ethics Compliance Training through February 28, 2014. This access gives you and everyone else at your district required Ethics Training for FREE – just for renewing!

If you have any questions about CSDA or your member benefits, please contact us at 877.924.2732. We'd like to hear from you.

Best regards,

Neil McCormick
Executive Director

Please note: Access to Property/Liability and Workers' Compensation programs through SDRMA are a CSDA member benefit. Participants in those programs must maintain current membership in CSDA.

Enclosures

RECEIVED

OCT 28 2013

NIPOMO COMMUNITY
SERVICES DISTRICT

RECEIVED

OCT 28 2013

NIPOMO COMMUNITY
SERVICES DISTRICT

California Special Districts Association

1112 I Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95814
toll-free: 877.924.2732
t: 916.442.7887
f: 916.442.7889
www.csdanet

A proud California Special Districts Alliance partner

Special District Risk Management Authority
1112 I Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814
toll-free: 800.537.7790
f: 916.231.4111

CSDA Finance Corporation
1112 I Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95814
toll-free: 877.924.2732
f: 916.442.7889



**California Special
Districts Association**

Districts Stronger Together

2013 Major Highlights

ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS – TOP PRIORITIES FOR SPECIAL DISTRICTS

Protecting and Restoring Your District Revenues

- Due to Proposition 1A, which CSDA fought hard to pass, the State of California returned \$1.9 billion, with interest, to special districts and other local agencies this June.
- CSDA successfully advocated for the removal of legislative provisions that would have prevented the ongoing restoration of over \$500 million per year to special districts, occurring as a result of the dissolution of redevelopment agencies.
- To ensure special districts have equal debt collection authority as cities and counties, CSDA sponsored a provision within Senate Bill 184 allowing special districts to recoup money owed to them via the state's Interagency Intercept Collections program.

Upholding Local Control and Preventing Costly Mandates

- Blocked two measures that would have driven costs, created new liability and undermined local decision making for districts that contract with private sector service providers (SB 556, Corbett; Assembly Bill 1333, Hernandez).
- Stopped efforts to establish costly and burdensome Public Records Act requirements (SB 570, DeSaulnier).
- Effectively lobbied against legislation that would have mandated local agencies provide specific homeless support programs while restricting special districts' authority, as employers, to manage resources and hold their staff accountable for inappropriate conduct (AB 5, Ammiano).

Sharing Timely and Relevant Information

- Legislative Hot Sheets—New weekly updates regarding the most significant bills impacting your district at pivotal junctions in the Legislature.
- State Budget Analysis—Overview of the key changes within complex state financial policies.
- Public Employee Pensions—Reports on the latest CalPERS actuarial policies, investment strategies and employer contribution rates.
- Free Biannual Legislative Round-Up Webinars—Direct access to your lobbyists walking the Capitol halls.
- Special Districts Legislative Days—Interaction with key legislators, state officials and top policy leaders.

Guiding the Special Districts Community with Local Policy Development Tools

- Affordable Care Act Memo—Breakdown of how federal healthcare reforms impact special districts and what actions your district needs to take now.
- Property Tax Increment Memo and Fact Sheet—Review of the technical, political and public relations implications of the dissolution of redevelopment agencies and suggested responses.
- Special District Reserve Guidelines, Second Edition—Up-to-date best practices on proactive approaches to prudent savings.
- Proposition 26 Guide for Special Districts—Explanation of the evolving constitutional restrictions on taxes and fees from the local district perspective.
- Open Government Mandate Suspension Talking Points—Tips on communicating the highest standards of transparency and accountability amidst changing Brown Act and Public Records Act state mandates.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVES AS A TRUSTED RESOURCE

Board Secretary/Clerk Conference

This event gathered more than 160 board secretaries and clerks as CSDA brought the conference to Southern California in 2013. Conference tracks were available for first time attendees wishing to earn their board secretary/clerk certificate as well as current certificate holders.

General Manager Leadership Summit

Attendance at the General Manager Leadership Summit continues to grow. Over 160 attendees gathered in Newport Beach this July to focus on issues specific to general managers, including: leadership, social media, employee performance management, community outreach, pension reform and much more.

2013 CSDA Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase

Held September 16 – 19 in Monterey, this year's conference drew over 500 attendees from around the state. Over 30 breakout sessions provided attendees with valuable information covering a variety of topics including governance, GASB pension standards, media relations, The Brown Act and The Public Records Act.

Special District Leadership Academy Conference

In response to demand for comprehensive governance training for elected and appointed directors and trustees, CSDA has created the Special District Leadership Academy Conference as a way for leaders to come together and complete all four modules of the Leadership Academy in one location in only two and a half days. The first conference will be held in Napa in November 2013.

Webinars

CSDA webinars continue to be a cost-effective way for CSDA members to participate in professional development programs. With low registration fees - some are even free - and no travel costs, CSDA members were able to participate in 35 webinars this year on topics ranging from fraud detection/prevention to understanding the Brown Act, and required training including Ethics AB1234 and AB1825 Sexual Harassment Prevention.

DELIVERING MORE BENEFITS TO MORE MEMBERS

More Members than Ever Before

Fifty new members came onboard in 2013, bringing our total membership to 1,028 – a CSDA record!

Local Chapters Join Forces with CSDA

Eight local special district associations across the state have strengthened their relationship with CSDA by adopting a formal affiliation agreement with the state association. Affiliated chapters are officially endorsed and have increased access to many CSDA resources.

Adding Value to Membership

After a short hiatus, Utility Cost Management (UCM) and CSDA renewed an agreement that gives members 16 percent off utility bill auditing services and the potential for saving thousands on future utility charges.

The District Purchasing Card program continues to gain momentum and distributed approximately \$8,000 in rebates.

The 2012 Special District Administrative Salary & Benefits Survey, with data gathered from hundreds of districts, was released this spring. The survey provides a comprehensive look at salary, health insurance practices, retirement plans, sick leave and more.

CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ALLIANCE: YOUR DISTRICT'S PREMIER RESOURCE

The California Special Districts Alliance partners – CSDA, CSDA Finance Corporation and SDRMA – continued collaboration on projects benefitting special districts, with a strong focus on expanding webinars and specialized conferences.

CSDA Finance Corporation responded to requests from nearly 70 districts seeking to take advantage of record-low interest rates. Over the past year, the Finance Corporation facilitated more than \$37 million in financings for capital improvement projects, equipment and vehicle purchases and the refinancing of prior debt.

Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA) continued to focus on providing special districts the most cost-effective risk management solutions possible, including property/liability coverage, workers' compensation and health benefits. SDRMA's Board of Directors kept rates flat for property/liability for the fourth year in a row and also keeps rates flat for workers' compensation for program year 2013-14.

There were 189 attendees at SDRMA Safety/Claims Education Day in Sacramento on March 28, 2013. This free event for SDRMA members and CSDA members included sessions on employment practices, workers' compensation, claim reporting, scheduling property coverage and safety awareness.

Here's a big "Thank you!" for Renewing Membership!

District members that renew CSDA membership by **January 1, 2014** will receive access to web-based AB 1234 Ethics Compliance training for their entire Board of Directors. Details are below:

- To take advantage of this offer, your 2014 dues payment must be received in the CSDA office by January 1, 2014.
- The offer applies only to the web-based, on-demand training.
- Access to this training will be available between January 1 and February 28, 2014 only.
- Renewed members will receive access instructions via email. These instructions will be emailed to everyone within your agency with an email address on file.
- If your district renews membership by the January 1 deadline and does not receive access instructions, please contact the CSDA office.
- To receive credit for the training, participating members must complete a 10 question test and return it to CSDA by March 14, 2014. Certificates of compliance will be mailed to all participants in April.
- Please contact Travis Wills, Member Services Coordinator, with any questions regarding your invoice or this special offer: travisw@csda.net or 877.924.2732.

NOVEMBER 13, 2013

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT F

GM REPORT
NEED RSVP

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
AGENDA**

**Bi-Monthly Meeting
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Friday 11/15/2013**

Hosted by: Wallace Group
612 Clarion Court
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

1. Welcome and Overview – Marshall Ochylski, President
2. Self-Introductions & District Updates
3. Issues of Common Interest:
 - a) **ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM UPDATE**
 - b) **LAFCO ELECTION UPDATE**
 - c) **OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES**

Lunch will be served. Please RSVP so we know how many will be attending.

Tentative Annual Meeting Date: 1/17/2014

NOVEMBER 13, 2013

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT G

TRAFFIC SIGNALS - POMEROY AT WILLOW PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Location

Pomeroy Rd at Willow Rd intersection, Nipomo.



Purpose and Need

The purpose of this project is to reduce average driver delay over the current configuration and provide signal controlled pedestrian crossing improvements

Project Description

Traffic signals and pedestrian crossing improvements at intersection of Pomeroy Rd and Willow Rd.

Funding

TOTAL Project Cost is approximately \$385,000

\$210,000 in Black Lake community development fees

\$175,000 in Regional Surface Transportation Program (Federal) - Tentative

Schedule

Preliminary Design – January 2014 (30% Design)

Environmental Clearance – April 2014

Design – April 2014

Construction – Winter 2015/2016

Critical Issues

Utilities (overhead and other)

NOVEMBER 13, 2013

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT H

**NCSO Outreach Summary
November 2013**

Date Started	Outreach	Description	Status	Date Completed
7/2/2013	FOG	Creating page and graphics for website regarding Fats, Oils, and Grease	In Progress	
8/19/2013	Brochure	Update of "Reading Your Water Meter" brochure	In Progress	
10/16/2013	Website Upgrade	"Design Phase" with website consultant	In Progress	
10/21/2013	Manager's Column	Article 8 for Manager's Column in Adobe Press, pub date 10/25	Complete	10/22/2013
9/17/2013	Program	Creation/printing of program and Project timeline for SWP River Crossing Celebration	Complete	10/22/2013
10/23/2013	SWP River Crossing Celebration	Set-up/greeting for event, pictures, press releases follow-up	Complete	10/23/2013
10/7/2013	Website Updates	Press Releases, Manager's Column	Complete; Ongoing	10/24/2013
10/23/2013	Press Release	Nipomo CSD Board of Directors Approve Park's Request for Water	Complete	10/25/2013
10/28/2013	Ad	High water bills 1/4 page ad in Adobe, pub date 11/1	Complete	11/1/2013
11/5/2013	Invitation	Invite for Founding Board of Directors plaque Unveiling	Complete	11/6/2013
10/1/2013	District Newsletter	Fourth quarter newsletter for November 20th distribution	In 2nd Review	

Firefighting drove system development

Michael LeBrun

Back in the days before community water systems existed, it was not uncommon for a town to be destroyed or nearly destroyed by fire.

Firefighters were often limited by the amount of water that could be conveyed to the fire.

At eight pounds per gallon, water is heavy, and transferring large amounts of water by truck or “bucket brigade” seriously impeded firefighter response.

The desire to have large quantities of water available throughout a community for fire suppression was one of the main drivers for the earliest community water systems.

A pressurized network of pipes that could deliver water to fire hydrants greatly improved the ability of firefighters to limit the spread of a fire in densely populated urban areas.

Towns invested heavily in water systems to ensure their investment in private and public infrastructure would be protected.

If you are a customer of Nipomo Community Services District, chances are there is a fire hydrant within 200 yards of your property.

The district maintains more than 650 fire hydrants distributed along 85 miles of water pipeline. Hydrants receive regular maintenance to ensure they are in proper working order.

Each hydrant is backed by 3.2 million gallons of water in storage. Additionally, district wells have a combined production capability of 4,000 gallons per minute.

There is no substitute for safety and fire prevention; however, should a fire get started in our community, our Cal Fire/County Fire Department firefighters will have plenty of their No. 1 firefighting tool — water — available to them at all times of the day and night.

Conservation note

District water costs only about 1 penny for 3 gallons. However, a well-managed lawn can easily require hundreds of thousands of gallons of water each summer to maintain its dark-green vibrancy.

So even at less than a penny per gallon, the cost of watering large lawn areas can be hundreds of dollars each year.

Consider native and drought-tolerant landscapes. Nipomo Native Garden, at the corner of Pomeroy Road and Camino Caballo, is a living example of how beautiful a drought-tolerant landscape can be.

Fall is an excellent time to plant a native garden.

Don't forget: Daylight-saving time ends at 2 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 3.

Remember to set your clocks back and check the batteries in your smoke alarm and sprinkler control clock.

Michael LeBrun is the general manager of Nipomo Community Services District. He can be reached by calling 929-1133 or by email at info@ncsd.ca.gov.

Posted Friday October 25, 2013

SPEAKING OUT

Letters to the Editor

Communicate to save lives

To the Editor:
I am not surprised that communication was a factor in the deaths of the 19 Hot-shot firefighters.

While working for the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) through the California Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) program, it was obvious communication was a factor in all the fatalities reported on, or that were made in or her states. Not only were devices inadequate in many cases — including PASS devices — but in rural U-agency responses, they could not communicate with one another.

When I spoke to 17,000 firefighters in Toronto about firefighter fatalities, I left them with one recommendation: Go home and insist that your respective agencies provide the best possible communication devices, because their lives depended upon it.

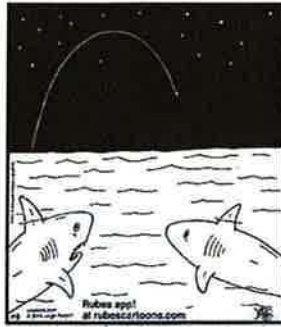
Rick Tibben
Nipomo

A good plan for feral cats

To the Editor:
Oct. 16 National Feral Cat Day, a day to think about the outdoor cats in our neighborhoods.

Feral cats exist in every community. They live healthy lives outdoors in family groups called colonies. They are the same species as domestic cats but are not socialized to humans and can't be adopted. Virtually 100 percent of feral cats brought to shelters or pounds are killed there. In fact, shelters are the leading cause of death for the nation's cats.

Our community should



"An emergency distress flare. ... The bad news is that there's not another ship within 500 miles. The good news is that there's not another ship within 500 miles."

know that trap/trap/return (TNR) for feral cats is a win for the cats and their human neighbors. Santa Barbara-based Catalyst for Cats uses TNR to improve the lives of cats. TNR makes cats healthier and ends the breeding cycle, which means no more kittens. It also ends a lot of common behaviors associated with outdoor cats.

A managed TNR program, with a set feeding area and schedule, further discourages roaming. Outdoor cats have been part of our landscape for thousands of years, and always will be. Compassionate and effective solutions to help cats and communities coexist peacefully are readily available. I have seen the benefits of Catalyst's services for feral cats, both in Santa Maria and in our specific neighborhood.

The focus on feral cat rescue has certainly made our neighborhood and our community a better place.

Anne Marie Rose
Santa Maria

Questioning the shutdown

To the Editor:
I could understand and support a Congress that would shut the government down because that government was impeding people without constitutional due process, or because it was using extraordinary means to spy on its citizens without warrant, or because it was conducting endless wars without congressional approval, or because it was using tax dollars to bail out banksters, or because its Supreme Court equated money with speech and un-

dermined democracy. What I can't understand and can't support is an anarchist ideology that shuts the government down to prevent implementing a health insurance program passed by Congress, signed into law by the president, ruled constitutional by a conservative Supreme Court, demanded by a majority of citizens, and provides health coverage for millions of Americans who otherwise will be left uninsured.

Donald Archer
Cambria

Let Congress miss payday

To the Editor:
Democrats can't work things out? I don't get it. When's that next Obama and Democrats run on last election? Bi-partisanship?

Harry Reid is trying to blame conservatives for a shutdown, even though he is the one who won't work with the House to fund government.

We are tired of watching government squabble and taking our tax dollars as blind checks to whatever they want and will ignore data that are based on companies' contributions.

I have a great idea. We should reclassify government shutdown as defaulting all members of Congress from receiving any part of their salaries, not government services. I think this will be a great start to re-establishing the power of the people.

Sometimes people in leadership need to be reminded of the order of things. The people are the backbone of the government, not congressional-called leaders.

Fernando Quintanar
Santa Maria

Surf:

Continued from A2

able-bodied people struggle with.

"This is where surfing gets to do its thing on them," Quintana said.

This year, Pollock returned to the Central Coast to help inspire other wounded veterans, both British and American, to get in the water and

maybe find their passion in the cold, burning ocean.

Nearly two dozen were expected to participate in Operation Surf with sessions planned last Saturday, Oct. 5, through Monday at Avila Beach and Cayago.

"There's something about being in the water and riding waves that's very powerful. Whatever that thing is, that special spirit that gives you the drive or the reason to do things, that'll be said.

Crash:

Continued from A2

John Harst, who also serves as the Arroyo Grande building inspector, was called in to assess structural damage to the building, Klein said.

The inspector noted "a tremendous amount of damage" but didn't believe the building was in danger of collapsing, Klein added.

Francisco's Country Kitchen is a favorite breakfast spot for many in the Five Cities area and has a dedicated customer base, Klein noted.

The crash came about two hours before the restaurant was scheduled to open, and the building was empty at the time.

Head waitress Cami Adin, a 22-year employee, arrived

about 5 a.m. and began calling co-workers scheduled to work Saturday morning to advise them of the accident.

The Arroyo Grande restaurant remained closed as of press time Wednesday, Oct. 9, although it was business as usual at the Santa Maria location.

Someone who answered the restaurant's phone Monday couldn't speak English, and no one answered the phone Wednesday morning.

"Sad day for Francisco's Country Kitchen — AGET SM. Thank god this happened in the middle of the night," the restaurant's Facebook page said.

Klein said the restaurant's broken windows were boarded up later Saturday and owners were hoping to open at least half the restaurant within a few days.

Fest:

Continued from A3

Stone Fusion.

As in previous years, the Nipomo Youth Coalition will hold its run prior to the start of the festival, and the Dave Dana Memorial Car Show will take place in conjunction with the festival.

Benches scheduled to compete are the Spies Between the Amps, the Joe Charita Band, Miss Grin and the Bearis, 3,000 PSI, Rusted Stone and the Full Gospel Tabernacle.

One thing that won't change is that admission will be free, but this year parking will cost \$3, Wilson said.

For more information, contact the chamber office at 929-1158 or info@nipomo-chamber.org.

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<p>WHAT YOU CAN DO:</p> <p>Outdoors Water your lawn 1 to 2 days a week instead of 5 days a week</p> <p>Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways</p> <p>Indoors Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes</p> <p>Turn off the water while you brush your teeth</p>	<p>HOW MUCH YOU CAN SAVE:</p> <p>Saves 840 gallons per week</p> <p>Saves 150 gallons each time</p> <p>Saves up to 50 gallons per week</p> <p>Saves up to 2.5 gallons per minute</p>
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For more conservation tips, visit the District's website

Nipomo Community Services District
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(805) 929-1133 www.ncsd.ca.gov

CHC
Community Health Centers
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CHC Nipomo Expands Services

Your new home for Women's Health

Anika Moore, MD

Anika Moore, MD, Obstetrics and Gynecology, joined CHC in January 2010. Dr. Moore attended Wright State University School of Medicine in Dayton, OH and completed her residency at Harbor UCLA Medical Center in Torrance, CA in 2009. "My goals are in line with CHC, with a special emphasis on treating the medically underserved," said Dr. Moore. "My goal is to provide comprehensive medical care with a warm personal touch."

Now accepting new patients.

Neil Correlia, MD

Neil Correlia, MD, Obstetrics and Gynecology, joined CHC July 19, 2010. He attended Cuesta College and Cal Poly, and graduated from medical school at the Pennsylvania State University. "I am excited to be working with CHC to provide excellent obstetric and gynecologic care to an underserved community," said Dr. Correlia.

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MINOR MADNESS

Agriculture students win Triple Crown in contest

Annex Staff

Students in the Nipomo Future Farmers of America (FFA) Club earned first-place distinctions in the 2013 Santa Barbara Section Opening and Closing Contest.

The contest, designed to test memory, oral skills, public speaking and teamwork in a mock meeting, was held Oct. 19 at Cal Poly. Thirteen Nipomo students won individual distinctions. The Nipomo team placed first in three categories and earned the Triple Crown for the second consecutive year.

The event was one of several regional and local FFA events held this month in the launch of the new school year.

Pioneer Valley, Santa

Maris and Bighetti High School FFA organizations joined hundreds of statewide members in Helendale for an FFA Regional Leadership Conference the weekend of Oct. 12.

FFA officials led presentations about the negative effects of drug abuse, low self-esteem and racism. Students attended motivational workshops about recruiting students and keeping their interest in agriculture, animals, self-responsibility and community service.

Paulina Delgado, an FFA member at Pioneer Valley, said getting to meet people from many different backgrounds was wonderful.

"There is a place for everyone in the FFA," she said.

SCARY SKATING: Halloween event draws 30 boarders



Phil Kinko/Contributor

Coby French, 13, of Arroyo Grande takes a run during the Halloween Skate Event on Saturday, Oct. 26, at the South County Skate Park in Grover Beach.

YOUTH BRIEF

State releases physical fitness results

The California Department of Education released 2012-13 physical fitness reports for school districts throughout California last week.

California students in grades five and seven improved in aerobic capacity and body composition, two of six areas assessed annually and considered the most important gauges of health.

Central Coast results varied across the six physical fitness areas — aerobic capacity, body composition, abdominal strength, trunk extension strength, upper body strength and flexibility — and were divided into three categories that indicate a healthy score, a result that needs im-

provement and scores that indicate health risk.

Districts throughout southern San Luis Obispo and northern Santa Barbara counties experienced a combination of drops and gains in the number of students who fell into one of the categories from 2011-12 to 2012-13.

More than 50 percent of students met at least five of the six fitness standards in all of the grades tested in Lucia Mar Unified, Orcutt Union, Santa Maria Joint Union and Santa Ynez Valley Union school districts.

California education code requires students in grades first through sixth to complete 200 minutes of physical education every 10 school days. The requirement increases to 400 minutes for grades seven through 12,

Stone Wheels team helps out

Annex Staff

About 30 skaters turned out to ride the concrete curbs Saturday, Oct. 26, at the first Halloween Skate Event at the South County Skate Park in Grover Beach.

"We had many kids dress up in great and scary Halloween costumes, and everyone all loved the live music from the local band, the RK Riders," said Jennine Jones, sports coordinator for the San Luis Obispo County YMCA,

which manages the park. Jones said event organizers were grateful to the Stone Wheels Skate Team that drove up from Los Angeles to help with the event.

Stone Wheels performed some skating demonstrations, sold team T-shirts and skate wheels, helped teach new skating skills to beginning skaters and were an announcer for the skate contest.

Winners included Mahena Ermocida, who

was the top girl skater.

Top boys were Seth Scroggins for age 8 and younger; Ollie Brown, who had a perfect score in the 9 to 12 age group; Donnie Archer for ages 13 to 15; and Andrew Fulton for 16 and older.

Jones said thanks to all the local and statewide business sponsors, the YMCA raised some much-needed funds for the park through raffle prizes and giveaways throughout the afternoon.

He added the South County Skate Park is always looking for donations of any kind, including T-shirts, hats and stickers for prizes, money, services and supplies.

The YMCA is planning to hold another skate contest in early spring 2014, he said.

For more information about the South County Skate Park visit www.scbpark.org as well as the organization's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.

Community Health Centers
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CHC Nipomo Expands Services

Your new home for Women's Health

Anika Moore, MD

Anika Moore, MD, Obstetrics and Gynecology, joined CHC in January 2010. Dr. Moore attended Wright State University School of Medicine in Dayton, OH and completed her residency at Harbor UCLA Medical Center in Torrance, CA in 2009. "My goals are in line with CHC, with a special emphasis on treating the medically underserved," said Dr. Moore. "My goal is to provide comprehensive medical care with a warm personal touch."

Now accepting new patients.

Neil Correia, MD

Neil Correia, MD, Obstetrics and Gynecology, joined CHC July 19, 2010. He attended Cuesta College and Cal Poly and graduated from medical school at the Prague, Czech Republic First Faculty of Medicine in 2005. His surgical training includes advanced laparoscopy and minimally invasive surgery. "I am excited to be working with CHC to provide excellent obstetric and gynecologic care to an underserved community," said Dr. Correia.

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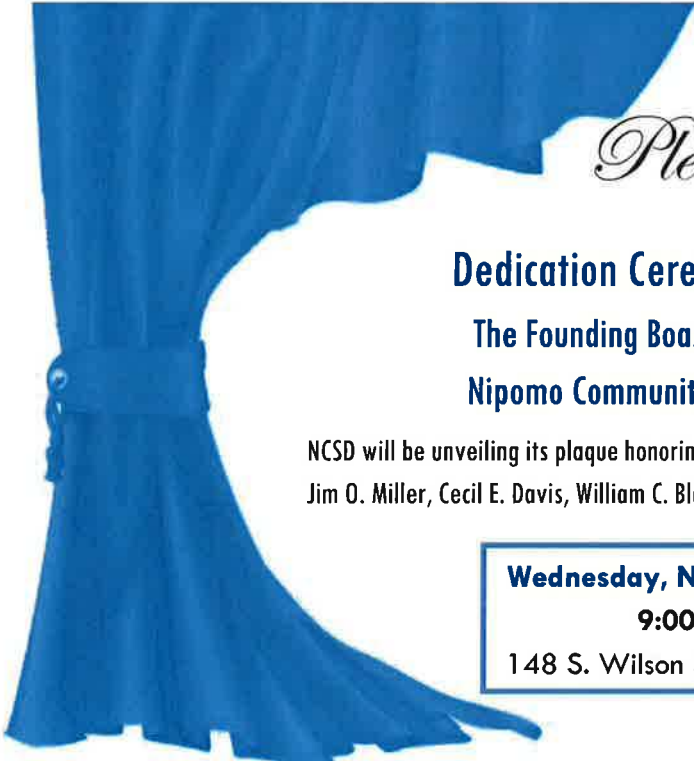
Does your water bill seem higher than usual?

Remember, some fall bills are from summer water usage and are typically higher due to hotter months and more landscape watering.

If you still feel your bill is high, you may want to check the following:

- 1. Check your toilets - 20% of all toilets leak. The District has a free device for checking your toilet for a leak.**
- 2. Look for drips - Check faucets, fixtures, hoses and plumbing in kitchens, bathrooms, laundry rooms, and appliances.**
- 3. Water softeners can malfunction - Check the salt reservoir. Increased salt use can mean increased water usage, and may indicate a malfunction.**
- 4. Observe irrigation in use - Look for broken sprinkler heads, missing emitters, cut drip lines, and saturated areas.**
- 5. Change your irrigation controller's back-up battery - If the battery is dead and the power goes out, irrigation controllers return to the default mode and can double your water bill.**

For more information and tips, visit us at www.ncsd.ca.gov or call 929-1133.



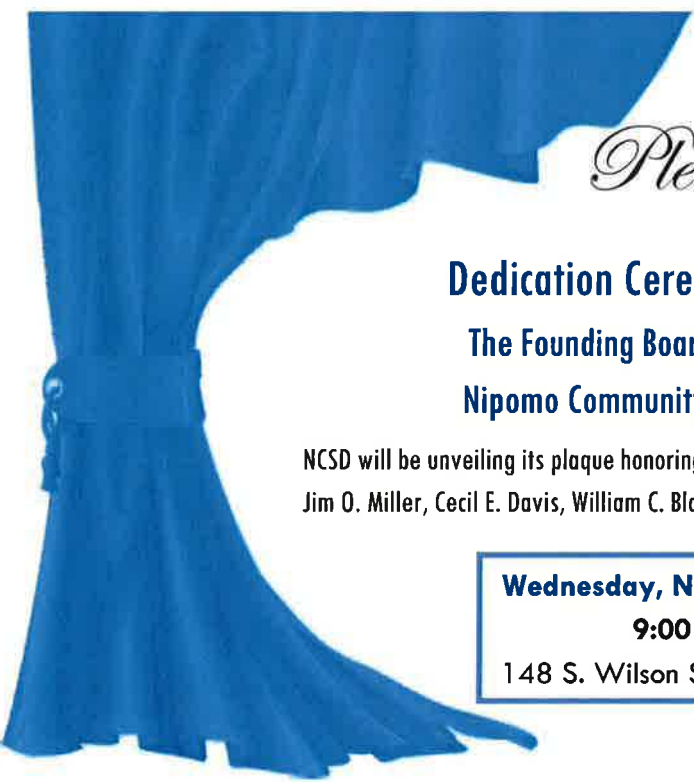
Please Join Us

**Dedication Ceremony Honoring
The Founding Board of Directors for
Nipomo Community Services District**

NCSO will be unveiling its plaque honoring the founding Board of Directors
Jim O. Miller, Cecil E. Davis, William C. Black, James A. Kitchen, and John R. Mylan

**Wednesday, November 13th
9:00 AM
148 S. Wilson Street, Nipomo**

Nipomo Community Services District



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The Founding Board of Directors for
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Nipomo Community Services District



**Press Release Log
2013**

Date of PR	Title	Date Sent to Media	Date Placed On Website	Media Pub	Date PR Published	Media Published	Date PR Published	Media Published	Date PR Published	Media Published	Date PR Published
10/9/2013	Nipomo CSD Board of Directors Approve Amendment for the Development of Park Planning for Jim O Miller Park Takes Significant Step Forward	10/10/2013	10/10/2013	Adobe	10/4/2013	SM Times	10/21/2013				
10/9/2013	Nipomo CSD Board of Directors Inspect New Utility Service Truck	10/10/2013	10/10/2013	Adobe	10/11/2013						
10/16/2013	Nipomo CSD to Celebrate Supplemental Water Project Construction Elected Leaders to be Present	10/17/2013	10/17/2013	Adobe	10/25/2013	SM Times	10/22/13 10/24/13	Tribune	10/23/2013	Sun	10/29/2013
10/23/2013	Nipomo CSD Board of Directors Approve Park's Request for Water	10/25/2013	10/25/2013	Adobe	11/1/2013						

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 23, 2013
Contact: Michael S. LeBrun, General Manager
Nipomo Community Services District
148 S. Wilson St., Nipomo, CA 93444
Phone: (805) 929-1133 – Email: mlebrun@ncsd.ca.gov



Nipomo CSD Board of Directors Approve Park's Request for Water

On Wednesday, October 23rd, the District's Board held its regular meeting at 9AM and approved the Olde Towne Nipomo Association's request for water, sewer and solid waste service (Intent-to-Serve Letter) for the proposed Jim O. Miller park.

The approval of the Intent-to-Serve Letter allows the Association to obtain a Minor Use Permit from the County and proceed with site activities to raise community awareness and input for planning and funding the future park.

The park is currently planned to be located on the south side of Tefft across from Olde Town Nursery. Plans include a gazebo, Veteran's Memorial and picnic tables.

Jim O. Miller was a local businessman, community volunteer, founding Director of the Nipomo CSD, and served as the District first Board President.

Next Scheduled Regular Board Meeting: Wednesday, November 13th, 2013, 9AM, District Board Room 148 South Wilson, Nipomo.

For more information, please contact the Nipomo Community Services District at 929-1133, info@ncsd.ca.gov or visit www.ncsd.ca.gov.

###

Established in 1965 to meet the health and sanitation needs of the local community, Nipomo Community Services is pleased to provide a wide variety of services throughout its district including the provision of water, sewer, and waste management services as well as lighting and drainage in limited areas. The mission of Nipomo Community Services District is to provide its customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.

NCSD approves amended Miller Park agreement

FINAL OK RESTS WITH SLO COUNTY SUPERVISORS

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October 21, 2013 12:48 pm - Staff Report

(0) Comments

Plans to develop the Jim O. Miller Memorial Park in Olde Towne Nipomo took what officials called “a significant step forward” with the approval of an amended agreement with San Luis Obispo County.

Nipomo Community Services District directors unanimously approved an amendment to a memorandum of understanding at their Oct. 9 meeting.

The amendment now must go to the County Board of Supervisors for approval.

“Jim O. Miller Park will provide a much-needed community gathering place in Olde Towne,” said Jim Harrison, NCSD board president.

“Jim Miller was a founding director and the first board president for NCSD. The district is happy to see the park moving forward.”

The amendment is necessary because an original March 2009 agreement between NCSD and San Luis Obispo County did not include the Olde Towne Nipomo Association, which is taking over development of the park.

It also referred to the original park location on the north side of West Tefft Street at Carrillo Street.

The 2009 agreement called for the county to transfer property for the park to NCSD in exchange for the district building and maintaining a public park at the site.

Under the terms of the memorandum, NCSD would activate its latent park powers to facilitate the operation of the park.

However, park plans were placed on the back burner when residents around the proposed site rejected an assessment district to pay for NCSD’s maintenance costs.

Since the adoption of the original agreement, the project has undergone several changes, including OTNA taking over

planning and promotion of the park.

The proposed location was also shifted across West Tefft Street to the vacant lot alongside Carrillo Street

after heavy metal contamination was found at the original site.

The new location is adjacent to Casa Grande Plaza, where Nipomo Arts Commission is planning to replace a mural of Olde Towne landmarks.

Once the amendment is adopted by the Board of Supervisors, OTNA can move forward with planning and fundraising for the future park.

OTNA President Kathy Kubiak said it will likely be three to five years before the park opens.

NCSD to celebrate completion of pipeline

FIRST STEP COMPLETED IN SUPPLEMENTAL WATER PROJECT

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October 22, 2013 12:00 am • Staff report

(0) Comments

Completion of a pipeline under the Santa Maria River to deliver supplemental water to the Nipomo Mesa will be celebrated Wednesday morning by local and state officials.

Nipomo Community Services District will commemorate completion of the horizontal drilling and insertion of the pipe at 10 a.m. at the north end of Blosser Road in Santa Maria.

Elected officials scheduled to attend include 33rd District Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian, R-San Luis Obispo, and a field representative for 17th District Sen. Bill Monning, D-Carmel.

In addition to NCSD directors, local officials planning to attend include Santa Maria City Councilman Jack Boysen and San Luis Obispo County 4th District Supervisor Caren Ray.

Installing the 2,700 feet of 30-inch beneath the river is just one part of the first phase in a \$17.5 million project to deliver additional water to Nipomo.

The water to be purchased from Santa Maria will come from the city's excess allotment of state water that's banked in the Santa Maria Valley Groundwater Basin.

Crews from ARB Inc., working from opposite sides, bored a 42-inch hole 25 feet below the riverbed while another crew fused together sections of high-density polyethylene.

Once boring was complete, the pipeline was pulled through the hole, beating the end-of-October deadline mandated by the district's permit from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The pipeline will now be connected to the city's water system, and work will begin on constructing additional pipelines, a pump station and a 500,000-gallon holding tank on the Nipomo Mesa.

NCSD also must install a new purification equipment to make the district's system compatible with Santa Maria's system, which uses a different chemical process.

Initially, the pipeline will deliver 650 acre-feet of water a year to NCSD's water system. A second phase will boost that to 1,600 acre-feet.

An acre-foot is about 326,000 gallons, or the amount of water generally considered necessary to supply four to 10 people for a year.

The first phase is being paid for using a \$2.2 million Department of Water Resources Grant, NCSD reserve

funds and income from a bond issue.

Eventually, a third phase will push the total to about 3,000 acre-feet per year and bring the total project cost to \$21 million.

The goal is to reduce the amount of groundwater being pumped from the Nipomo Mesa subbasin of the Santa Maria Valley Groundwater Basin, which extends as far north as Pismo Beach.

Nipomo area water purveyors were mandated to bring in supplemental water by a stipulated agreement reached in a 16-year court case over groundwater rights.

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Shutdown's over, but it cost billions

Editorial

Milestone celebration for Nipomo pipeline project is well-earned

Published: October 23, 2013

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Nipomo CSD forward-thinking in breaking crucial water pipeline project into phases

By The Tribune — letters@thetribunenews.com

We raise a brimming glass of — what else? — cold, crystal clear water to the leaders of the Nipomo Community Services District, who will gather today to celebrate the start of a pipeline project that will move water from the city of Santa Maria to Nipomo.

This is a significant milestone for a project that should pull Nipomo back from the brink of a water crisis.

While South County water issues aren't as severe as those affecting the Paso Robles groundwater basin, if nothing is done it could be just a matter of time.

Consider the similarities: Nipomo relies on a groundwater basin that has been showing signs of stress, including pumping depressions and recently, reports of wells drying up. Also, aquifer levels were 30 percent lower this past spring than in 2012, and at their lowest since record keeping began in 1975.

The Nipomo Community Services District began working on the problem years ago, by enacting water conservation plans, limiting the number of new water connections allowed and looking for supplemental water projects.

The district negotiated the purchase of up to 3,000 acre-feet of water from the city of Santa Maria, but property owners turned down a \$26 million tax measure that would have financed a pipeline. Opponents insisted that other methods — such as desalination — would be less expensive and more productive.

We believe the Nipomo Community Services District got it right; the Santa Maria pipeline is the surest and least costly way to increase the water supply.

In fact, a committee that was appointed to study supplemental water alternatives following the failed tax election came to that same conclusion: The pipeline topped the list of supplemental water alternatives.

In order to proceed with the pipeline project, the district decided to break the project into phases and finance the first \$17 million phase through a combination of loan, grant funding and reserves.

Again, we applaud the district's leadership. It could have wasted many more years studying the various alternatives and attempting to win over voters. All the while, the basin would have continued to suffer.

We believe the pipeline is the surest, least expensive and most expeditious way to bring in water to balance the basin.

The district has good reason to celebrate.

CEREMONY TODAY

A river-crossing celebration begins this morning at 10 to mark the progress of the Santa Maria-to-Nipomo water pipeline project. The ceremony will be on North Blosser Road in Santa Maria, at the Santa Maria River levee.

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Housing project next to SLO High may be too big for its parcel

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Shutdown's over, but it cost billions

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Cambria, Pismo Beach to host Tour of California bike race in 2014

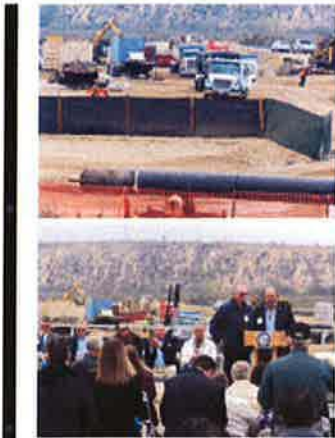
Construction begins on water pipeline from Santa Maria to Nipomo

Published: October 23, 2013

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Nipomo Community Services District board President James Harrison introduces Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian on Wednesday as the board celebrated the first phase of water pipeline construction from Santa Maria to Nipomo. DAVID MIDDLECAMP — dmiddlecamp@thetribunenews.com | [Buy Photo](#)



By David Sneed — dsneed@thetribunenews.com

With the hum of heavy drilling machinery in the background, elected officials from San Luis Obispo and

Santa Barbara counties Wednesday celebrated the beginning of construction of a water project that will help stabilize the depleted Nipomo groundwater basin.

The [Nipomo Community Services District](#) has begun construction of a \$17.5 million pipeline under the Santa Maria River that will eventually bring 3,000 acre-feet of water a year to the Nipomo Mesa for the next 70 years.

"That's nearly a billion gallons of water a year," said Michael LeBrun, district general manager. "That's a lifeline to the area."

Work crews are busy drilling a tunnel at North Blosser Road in Santa Maria that will accommodate 2,700 feet of water pipe. The river crossing is the most technically complex component in the 2-mile-long pipeline that will connect the Nipomo CSD to the city of Santa Maria.

Later phases of the project are the construction of a pump station and laying segments of pipe to connect the river crossing to Santa Maria and the Mesa. The pipeline is scheduled to begin delivering water to the Mesa in May 2015.

Its purpose is to stop over-pumping from the Nipomo groundwater basin, which is at its lowest level since records were first kept in 1975 and is experiencing saltwater intrusion.

Three thousand acre-feet of water is typically enough to supply 9,000 homes. The Nipomo CSD has 4,293 water customers.

"This pipeline will keep water flowing to our faucets for the rest of our lives," James Harrison, president of the Nipomo CSD board of directors, told a group of about 30 people gathered on Santa Maria River levee.

Other speakers celebrated the pipeline as an isolated bit of good news in a region and state fraught with water shortages and rapidly declining groundwater basins.

[Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian](#) said he began working on the crisis in the Nipomo groundwater basin when he was first elected to the county Board of Supervisors 15 years ago and has continued his efforts at the Legislature.

"No matter where you go in California, you hear about water," he said.

County Supervisor Caren Ray praised the perseverance of the CSD directors and other leaders in the area for overcoming a series of setbacks since the pipeline was determined to be the most feasible supplemental water option in 2007.

The most serious setback came in May 2012 when Nipomo voters [turned down a \\$19 million assessment district](#) to pay for the pipeline. The district decided to go ahead with the project using a phased approach and outside funding including a \$2.2 million state Department of Water Resources grant.

"They took a lot of heat, and they took a lot of punches," Ray said.

The pipeline is part of a 2008 court ruling to settle lawsuits over the Santa Maria groundwater basin. The ruling requires Santa Maria to provide water to the Nipomo Mesa.

"It's been a long and arduous process," said Santa Maria Councilman Jack Boysen.

[Nipomo CSD Supplemental Water History](#)

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Pipeline drilling now complete

CEREMONY HELD AT SM RIVER LEVEE

0

2

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Len Wood/Staff

Nipomo Community Services general manager Michael LeBrun speaks during a celebration of supplemental water project to drill under the Santa Maria River to deliver state water to Nipomo.

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October 24, 2013 12:50 am · [Mike Hodgson/mhodgson@santamariatimes.com](mailto:Mike.Hodgson@santamariatimes.com)

(0) Comments

More than 50 people turned out Wednesday morning as Nipomo Community Services District celebrated completion of horizontal drilling under the Santa Maria River for a supplemental water pipeline.

State and local officials addressed the group, which included the entire NCSD board, that gathered on the river levee at the north end of Blosser Road in Santa Maria.

As they spoke, crews from ARB Inc. continued working in the riverbed behind them, preparing to pull 2,700 feet of pipe through the bore hole.

"This is a milestone in the most significant water resources project the district has ever undertaken," NCS D General Manager Michael LeBrun told the crowd.

He noted it will eventually deliver 1 billion gallons of water a year to the Nipomo Mesa, which currently is fully dependent on groundwater.

The supplemental water will be purchased from Santa Maria's excess state water allotment banked in the Santa Maria Valley Groundwater Basin.

Dignitaries attending the 10 a.m. ceremony included Santa Maria Mayor Alice Patino and City Council members Jack Boysen and Willie Green.

Boysen noted the effort required to get the project underway and to forge the water sales agreement was a "long and arduous process."

But he said the city is proud to partner with the district and Nipomo Mesa residents to provide supplemental water.

"This agreement will provide water through 2085 at a very fair price," he said.

Newly appointed SLO County 4th District Supervisor Caren Ray also emphasized the cooperation among all the various agencies.

"This will not just supply water for Nipomo but is a regional solution," she said, noting it required a lot of courage from NCS D directors who "took a lot of criticism (and) took a lot of punches."

Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian, R-San Luis Obispo, who previously served as the 4th District supervisor, cautioned the water the pipeline will deliver is not a panacea for future demand.

"What we're getting is only enough to fill in the blanks," he said, adding, "Hopefully, the next time we'll be meeting at the other end to turn the faucet on."

Installing the 2,700 feet of 30-inch pipe beneath the river is just the first and most technically challenging part of the first phase in a \$17.5 million project, LeBrun said.

Crews from ARB, working from opposite sides, bored a 42-inch hole 25 feet below the riverbed while another crew fused together sections of high-density polyethylene.

With the boring complete, the already pressure-tested pipeline will now be pulled through the hole.

Once that's done, Spiess Construction Co. of Santa Maria will begin constructing the pump station, holding tank and pipeline to NCS D's system.

At the same time, Specialty Construction of San Luis Obispo will construct the pipeline along Blosser Road for the connection to the city water system at Taylor Street.

Initially, the pipeline will deliver 650 acre-feet of water a year to NCSD's water system. A second phase will boost that to 1,600 acre-feet.

An acre-foot is about 326,000 gallons, or the amount of water generally considered necessary to supply four to 10 people for a year.

Eventually, a third phase will push the total to about 3,000 acre-feet per year and bring the total project cost to \$21 million.

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NCS D celebrates completion of pipeline boring



By Mike Hodgson/mhodgson@theadobepress.com [Comments](#) [Email this story](#) [Print this story](#)



Nipomo Community Services General Manager Michael LeBrun speaks during a celebration of supplemental water project drilling under the Santa Maria River to deliver state water to Nipomo./Len Wood/Staff

More than 50 people turned out Wednesday morning as Nipomo Community Services District celebrated completion of horizontal drilling under the Santa Maria River for a supplemental water pipeline.

State and local officials addressed the group, which included the entire NCS D board, that gathered on the river levee at the north end of Blosser Road in Santa Maria.

As they spoke, crews from ARB Inc.

continued working in the riverbed behind them, preparing to pull 2,700 feet of pipe through the bore hole.

"This is a milestone in the most significant water resources project the district has ever undertaken," NCS D General Manager Michael LeBrun told the crowd.

He noted it will eventually deliver 1 billion gallons of water a year to the Nipomo Mesa, which currently is fully dependent on groundwater.

The supplemental water will be purchased from Santa Maria's excess state water allotment banked in the Santa Maria Valley Groundwater Basin.

Dignitaries attending the 10 a.m. ceremony included Santa Maria Mayor Alice Patino and City Council members Jack Boysen and Wille Green.

Boysen noted the effort required to get the project underway and to forge the water sales agreement was a "long and arduous process."

But he said the city is proud to partner with the district and Nipomo Mesa residents to provide supplemental water.

"This agreement will provide water through 2085 at a very fair price," he said.

Newly appointed SLO County 4th District Supervisor Caren Ray also emphasized the cooperation among all the various agencies.

"This will not just supply water for Nipomo but is a regional solution," she said, noting it required a lot of courage from NCS D directors who "took a lot of criticism (and) took a lot of punches."

Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian, R-San Luis Obispo, who previously served as the 4th District supervisor, cautioned the water the pipeline will deliver is not a panacea for future demand.

"What we're getting is only enough to fill in the blanks," he said, adding, "Hopefully, the next time we'll be meeting at the other end to turn the faucet on."

Installing the 2,700 feet of 30-inch pipe beneath the river is just the first and most technically challenging part of the first phase in a \$17.5 million project, LeBrun said.

Crews from ARB, working from opposite sides, bored a 42-inch hole 25 feet below the riverbed while another crew fused together sections of high-density polyethylene.

With the boring complete, the already pressure-tested pipeline will now be pulled through the hole.

Once that's done, Spiess Construction Co. of Santa Maria will begin constructing the pump station, holding tank and pipeline to NCS D's system.

At the same time, Specialty Construction of San Luis Obispo will construct the pipeline along Blosser Road for the connection to the city water system at Taylor Street.

Initially, the pipeline will deliver 650 acre-feet of water a year to NCS D's water system.

Posted Friday October 25, 2013

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Contractors are almost done drilling under the Santa Maria River Levee for the Nipomo pipeline

BY AMY ASMAN

Water was the topic of the day at an Oct. 25 event highlighting the ongoing construction of the Nipomo Supplemental Water Project, which will pump a combination of state and Santa Maria city water to Nipomo via an inter-tie pipeline.

“[This project] is a lifeline to the Nipomo Mesa,” Nipomo Community Services District General Manager Michael LeBrun said before a crowd of local and state officials, as well as employees from the city of Santa Maria and NCS D.

The first phase of the \$17.5 million project includes three separate bid packages. Southern California-based ARB Inc. is in the process of horizontal directional drilling under the Santa Maria River Levee to connect the water systems in Santa Maria and Nipomo—what officials call the most complicated part of the project.

Specialty Construction Inc. of San Luis Obispo will build a mile-long pipeline down Blosser Road to pump stations in Santa Maria, and Spiess Construction Co. Inc. will build the half-mile pipeline heading into Nipomo, as well as four pump heads to assist in the disinfection process.

NCS D’s LeBrun said the district and its leaders are pleased that all three of the contractors involved in this phase of the project are in California.

Newly elected San Luis Obispo County Supervisor Caren Ray—whose district includes Nipomo—called the pipeline “part of a regional solution to our supply issues.”

“It took a lot of courage to go down this path,” Ray said before presenting the NCS D Board of Directors with a certificate of appreciation from the county.

A 2005 settlement stipulation reached as a result of a lawsuit commonly referred to as the Santa Maria Groundwater Litigation requires the NCS D to provide the Nipomo area with a minimum of 2,500 acre-feet of supplemental water per year. This project is expected to pump in 3,000 acre-feet.

Earlier this month, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to review a challenge to the Santa Maria groundwater basin plan, ending 16 years of litigation over the issue.

The \$17 million project’s financing plan was approved in April of this year. A similar, but more expensive, pipeline proposal was knocked down by voters in spring of last year.

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NCSD approves service letter for Miller Park

By Adobe Staff

Efforts to create the Jim O. Miller Memorial Park took another small step forward last week when Nipomo Community Services District directors approved an intent-to-serve letter for the project.

The letter is a quasi-commitment on behalf of the district to provide water, sewer and trash collection services to the park if certain conditions are met.

With the letter in hand, Olde Towne Nipomo Association can apply for a minor use permit from the county to develop the park on the southeast corner of West Tefft and Carrillo streets.

Once the permit is issued, OTNA can proceed with the design and planning process and start raising funds to build the future park.

Intent-to-serve letters are generally valid for two years. NCSD would have to issue a will-serve letter within that time or the intent-to-serve letter would have to be renewed.

OTNA President Kathy Kubiak has said it could take three to five years before the park is complete, depending on how fast funds can be raised the project can move through the county approval process.

As proposed, the park would include a gazebo for community events, a veterans memorial, markers to commemorate both Dorothea Lange's Depression-era photograph called "Migrant Mother" and the route of the Pacific Coast Railway, picnic tables and restrooms.

The park itself would be dedicated to the memory of Jim O. Miller, a longtime Nipomo businessman, community volunteer and founding director of NCSD.

Miller also served as NCSD's first board president when the district was formed.

Posted Friday November 1, 2013

LCSLO plans events

By Jacqueline Frederick

The Land Conservancy of San Luis Obispo County has a number of wonderful events coming up in October.

On Thursday, Oct. 3, the organization will hold the Terra Firma Society Lunch, an event designed to encourage long-term giving to the organization.

Then on Saturday, Oct. 12, the conservancy will host an apple picking at the San Luis Obispo Lower Creek Preserve.

The month's events conclude Saturday, Oct. 26, when the organization will host singer Amber Cross for an outdoor concert of old-time music at the Dana Adobe.

To make reservations or for more information, visit the Land Conservancy's "Events" page at www.LCSLO.org or talk to Nipomo resident and board President Herb Kandel.

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Nipomo Community Services District is moving forward with the first phase of the supplemental water project and recently awarded \$14.5 million in construction contracts and

\$2 million in related contracts.

This phase of the project is expected to be completed by late 2014 and is being financed by a \$2.2 million state grant and \$14.3 million in district funds from both reserves and bond revenue.

This project will bring about 600 acre-feet of water to the the Mesa to help the groundwater basin restore itself.

The Nipomo Mesa Management Area Technical Group recently released a report indicating the Nipomo subbasin is just shy of reaching a "potentially severe water shortage" and that supplemental water is important to the health of the basin.

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Martin Pollack and 20 other wounded American and British active duty military personnel and veterans will participate in an adventure in surfing and healing Oct. 3 to 9 with Operation Surf on the Central Coast.

Avila Beach-based nonprofit organization Amazing Surf Adventures, working in collaboration with Operation Comfort and Help for Heroes, will pair professional adaptive surf instructors with wounded and injured military for a week of surfing at Avila, Cayucos and Morro Bay beaches.

Now in its eighth event, Operation Surf has helped transform the lives of more than 200 injured military men and women.

It is recognized as a recreational, rehabilitative program by the U.S. government but is not federally funded and relies solely on the donations and support of the community.

Without the efforts of more than 100 volunteers and numerous local businesses, next week's Operation Surf would not be possible.

The public is welcome to join in supporting our heroes on the beaches as well as several events, including an emotional welcome at 11:30 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 3, at San Luis Obispo Regional Airport and a dinner at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 7, at the San Luis Obispo Elks Lodge.

See www.operationsurf.com for a detailed schedule as well as volunteer opportunities.

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The Women's Shelter Program fundraiser to benefit South County transitional housing and other services for victims of domestic violence is coming up Saturday, Oct. 26, at the South County Regional Center in Arroyo Grande.

The theme this year is "Far East" and will feature a catered Asian-inspired dinner as well as Asian d/cor and entertainment.

There will be a silent auction with lots of great prizes and, of course, the famous live auction that will feature a trip to the Tuscany region of Italy, tickets to a concert at Vina Robles and much more.

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The Latino Outreach Council recently hosted its second Affordable Healthcare Act forum to provide the public with information needed to comply with the Obamacare mandate that every person apply for health insurance coverage starting Oct. 2.

As the LOC chairwoman, I moderated the forum. Presenters included Sen. Bill Monning, Supervisor Debbie Arnold, Jose Guzman of Community Health Centers of the Central Coast and Joel Diringer, a lawyer and health policy expert.

The forum will be aired on Charter Cable's public television station channel 21, and I urge you to watch it to learn more about what is required of you.

The information about the various options available to you also are posted on the official website at www.acatoday.org.

Jacqueline Frederick is a lawyer and farmer in Nipomo and can be reached at jvflaw@aol.com or 929-1120.

Posted Friday September 27, 2013