



General Manager's Monthly Bulletin

February 2018

As part of Ross Valley Sanitary District's (RVSD) efforts to stay connected with the community we serve, RVSD is providing this monthly news bulletin of current notable activity and events. We welcome your feedback on any information in the bulletin and if at any time you no longer prefer to receive this information, simply unsubscribe using the link below.

For more information, visit www.RVSD.org.

Completion of Emergency Replacement of the Baywood Court Creek Crossing

Pipe: At the January 2018 Board meeting, the Board reviewed and terminated the emergency repair work begun in July 2017 to replace a 14-inch pipeline that spanned 90 feet across Baywood Creek in Fairfax. The 14-inch pipe crossing was constructed in 1922 with a cable suspension bridge support, which was damaged from a falling tree. The new pipeline crossing is a self-supporting clear-span steel pipe. Maggiora & Ghilotti completed this emergency project under contract with RVSD.



New Accessory Dwelling Units

Connection and Permit Fees: RVSD has approved new connection fee and permit fees applicable to Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), to be in compliance with new State laws passed in 2017 and early 2018. The new [Ordinance 90](#) contains four defined

types of ADUs for the RVSD service area, and the fees and charges for each. Please contact RVSD if you are considering a permit (or are in progress) and construction of a legally compliant ADU with your local building authority. RVSD staff can assist in clarifying the new connection fees and permit charges for your project.

Central Marin Sanitation Agency Approves New Five-Year Regional Charges for Member Agencies: Central Marin Sanitation Agency provides treatment and disposal of the wastewater from its three-member agencies: RVSD, San Rafael Sanitary District, and Corte Madera. Every five years, CMSA updates the rates it charges the member agencies for the Operations and Maintenance (O&M) and infrastructure assets (capital projects) activity necessary to operate and maintain the wastewater treatment plant. At the January 2018 RVSD Board meeting, the Board reviewed and discussed the new CMSA charges, which will increase approximately 3.5 percent per year for the next five fiscal years. The regional charge revenue will support both O&M costs and necessary capital replacement and rehabilitation projects for the 30-year-old treatment plant. CMSA's services make up about 50 percent of the operational costs for RVSD, so this scheduled increase in RVSD's cost of service will be considered in the next RVSD rates study anticipated to begin in late 2018.

Larkspur Paving Program and Laterals Replacement: Residents of Larkspur are encouraged to contact the City and find out if your street is scheduled for paving projects in the near future. RVSD is providing grants of up to \$2,500 for replacement of private sewer laterals ahead of the local paving projects. If your property is in a designated high Inflow-and-Infiltration (I&I) basin, you may be eligible for up to \$4,000 in grant funding for your lateral replacement. All RVSD customers are encouraged to contact their local municipality and confirm if your street will be paved this year or in the near future. Replacing your lateral ahead of time can save thousands of dollars in paving restoration costs after a "no dig" moratorium is in place. In just the past six months, RVSD customers have replaced over 300 laterals totaling two miles in length! Funds remain available for both grants and low interest loan financial assistance to replace your lateral if needed. Visit our [webpage](#) about these programs for more information. Degraded private sewer laterals are a major source of wet weather I&I flows and debris that increase the risk of sanitary sewer overflows in the public system.

RVSD Goes Deep Green with MCE: RVSD will begin using 100 percent renewable energy through Marin Clean Energy's Deep Green program, starting in July 2018. RVSD currently uses 50 percent renewable energy. This supports the sustainability goals of the 2016 RVSD Strategic Plan and supports the local governments and State of California climate action plan and resiliency goals. The change to Deep Green renewable energy is expected to increase annual O&M costs by less than 0.05 percent, or about \$8,000 per year.

Styrene-Based CIPP Lining Materials: RVSD uses trenchless pipe rehabilitation and replacement construction methods, when feasible, to minimize construction disruption and cost. One of the most widely used pipe rehabilitation methods is Cured-in-Place Pipe, or CIPP. CIPP has been widely used across the U.S. for nearly 30 years. Recently RVSD was reminded of potential public health concerns for some community members due to the use of styrene in the CIPP liners process, which can emit a notable odor. In response to these concerns, the District has taken the following steps: expanded the public notice buffer around the construction site, increased on-site air quality monitoring, begun development of FAQ informational materials for the public, and begun evaluating the cost and benefit tradeoffs of styrene free CIPP liners.

Next Board Meeting: The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2018, with closed session scheduled for 5 pm. Check the agenda posting [here](#) 72 hours before the meeting for open session time. The meeting will be held at the Central Marin Police Authority's Community Room, located at 250 Doherty Drive in Larkspur. The agenda will be posted to the [rvsd.org](#) website on Friday, February 16.

Do you receive an alert when the agenda has become available? If you would

like to be included in agenda alerts, please write to Mary Brown, Clerk of the Board, at mbrown@rvsd.org.

[Click here to visit RVSD.org](http://RVSD.org)