

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

Heber Public Utility District
Office of the General Manager

Date: August 16, 2018
To: Heber Public Utility Board of Directors
From: Laura Fischer, General Manager
Subject: General Manager Report to Board of Directors

HPUD EVENTS

Friday, August
17th at Tito Park
Water Slides start at 5:30
Free Popsicles
Movie (Surf's Up) starts at 8:00pm



HPUD OPERATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

Special Districts Joining LAFCo

IID staff presented the alternative cost proposal, authorized by the Special Districts attending a meeting to determine the feasibility of joining LAFCO, to the IID Board. The IID Board voted to cast their vote to not join LAFCO, but if a majority of the other Special Districts vote to join, then IID would join and would request a guaranteed seat on the LAFCO Board. They authorized the cost to join in an amount not to exceed \$120,000 per year. This amount is subject to change during the annual LAFCO budget approval process.

The next step in our efforts to secure Special Districts a seat on LAFCO Board is to attend the City County Managers meeting, which is held monthly. I will attend along with a representative from IID to encourage City/County Managers to talk with their Boards about the alternative cost proposal should Special Districts vote to join LAFCO. I will keep you posted, but the next meet will most likely be in September.

Harassment Prevention Training Requirement

You are all signed up to take the free online Harassment Prevention Training provided by CSDA through our insurance carriers SDRMA. If you have any trouble accessing the training or getting your certificate, please let me know. Once you get the certificate, please forward it to me or Raquel for our files.

Assemblyman Garcia's Office

I have been in contact with Assemblyman Garcia's office regarding a location to have a mobile office once a month in our area. I offered our conference room as a public accessible meeting location and also offered to help them coordinate with the County community center if that better suits their needs. No updates from July.

Financial Auditor Visit

The auditors were at our office performing their field review the week of July 23rd. This is part of our annual audit process.

Clean out of sewer lines in Correll Estates

We finished cleaning the sewer lines at Correll Estates. There were very little issues. We found some construction debris in the main lines, and removed it successfully.

Sink Hole Update

The sink hole is still there. Last I heard Ormat was waiting on parts/materials to repair their pipe encasement and then they will have the contractor start working on it.

HPUD PROJECTS

DAC Grant - Heber Public Utilities District Water & Sewer Master Plan

Project Description:

The Heber Public Utility District (HPUD) owns, operates and maintains a system for the treatment, distribution and storage of potable water resources that serves approximately 1,620 water service connections for residences, businesses, and public facilities within HPUD and HPUD's Sphere of Influence. HPUD owns, operates and maintains a wastewater system which provides wastewater collection and treatment services to the Heber community, and areas immediately outside of the HPUD boundary, but within its Sphere of Influence. The wastewater treatment plant services an area of approximately 8.7 square miles of largely rural development. HPUD's wastewater treatment plant was constructed in the 1960's and expansions were completed in 1981, 2002 and 2013. 100% of HPUD's service area is considered a DAC.

Currently, HPUD does not have a comprehensive Water or Sewer Master Plan. Since its formation in 1931, HPUD has experienced high levels of sporadic growth which resulted in concurrent water and sewer system facility improvements that correlated to the level of resources available at the time. Much of the infrastructure is aged, deficient or inadequate for both existing and projected demand. Specifically, many of the water pipelines in the existing system have inadequate fire flows and many of the manholes and sewer pipelines are aged and in need of repair. Not all locations have been inventoried for full assessment and need. Without a comprehensive assessment of the water treatment and distribution system and of the wastewater collection and treatment system, HPUD management responds to water facility needs in a reactive manner after

they have failed. This can result in compliance violations and potential fines that ultimately impact residents who are an SDAC.

The District proposes to hire a professional engineer to survey and digitally map its water and sewer systems for the purpose of preparing a Water and Sewer Master Plan. The Water and Sewer Master Plan is to be prepared by a licensed engineer that will assess the existing water and wastewater system infrastructure, noting any deficiencies or capital needs in a final planning document that will be an invaluable resource for water and wastewater management staff. The Water and Sewer Master Plan will serve the following objectives:

- 1) To assess the HPUD's water and wastewater infrastructure's ability to adequately serve the current demands of HPUD's customers,
- 2) To provide a systematic plan to expand HPUD's water and wastewater infrastructure,
- 3) To address any identified deficiencies and capital costs to remediate deficiencies,
- 4) To provide a systematic plan to expand HPUD's water infrastructure to meet future needs of areas planned to be served by HPUD in a manner that won't result in a financial burden to HPUD's DAC, and
- 5) To provide HPUD with a valuable tool to seek future funding opportunities for pre-construction engineering activities including design costs to improve the water and wastewater systems.

Project Justification

HPUD's entire service area is an SDAC with a median household income (MHI) of \$35,153, which is 57% of the California MHI. Since much of HPUD's water and wastewater infrastructure is aged, deficient, or inadequate, a plan to upgrade and expand this infrastructure is crucial. By providing a detailed assessment of HPUD's current water and sewer systems and a comprehensive plan for future facility upgrades and expansions, the Water and Sewer Master Plan will help will ensure that HPUD will be able to adequately serve the current and future needs of their DAC. Additionally, the Plan will identify infrastructure deficiencies before facility failure to ensure sufficient service for HPUD's customers and to help prevent water and wastewater compliance violations and the resulting fines that would negatively impact the residents of the Heber community.

Project Timeline

The County of Imperial will be the lead for this project. The project will start on July 30, 2018 and should be completed by May 1, 2019.