

News from the GM

MARIANA RANCHOS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- This month's Regular Board meeting is Tuesday, January 10th at 12:00 pm
- Office CLOSED 23rd thru the 27th this month.
- Please call the office with any questions or to receive financial assistance with your bill.

It's time for the second installment in our series of articles about your Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Last month we covered what a CIP is, what the benefits and features are. This month we are going to cover the overall process and the steps we will be taking over the next few months.

Overall Process: During the coming months, your Board of Directors will be meeting many times in both regular and special meetings. They will be helping me outline which parts of the puzzle are to be considered, what priority to assign each item, and lastly, to formulate the plans to start and fund these upcoming projects. They will also be considering where we can expect future growth and demands. This will enable us to not only replace our aging infrastructure, but to also improve and expand it only where necessary.

Some of their specific steps will be:

1. Decide whether to establish a Capital Planning Committee.
2. Take inventory of our current assets.
3. Evaluate our previously approved, unimplemented or incomplete projects.
4. Assess our current financial capacity.
5. Solicit, compile and evaluate new project requests from the GM.
6. Prioritize the projects.
7. Develop a financing plan.
8. Adopt our Capital Improvements Program.
9. Update existing/ongoing Capital programs.

Our first project last December went very well. We were able to determine the valve we thought was faulty was indeed serviceable. This allowed us to continue down the line to another project slated for a later date and finish it early. All parts, personnel and equipment were already onsite. We also received a great piece of news about our Sagebrush line. It's in much better condition than we previously thought. With some slight reconditioning, this line should last another 30 to 40 years! Our second project of earthquake knuckles for the Sagebrush tanks had to be set aside until January 2012 due to scheduling conflicts. The parts have been received and are waiting for the crews to install them.

We would like to ask for your help during this time. One critical requirement of this CIP is you. We need your ideas, challenges, and most of all, recommendations. We know it is an uphill battle, especially with the staggering costs. We have a few options there as well. Show up at the meetings. Ask for information. Get involved. It's your money!

OFFICE CLOSURE FOR THIS MONTH

In the month of January, the office will be closed on the 23rd thru the 27th. This allows the District to save money on electricity and gas by keeping most of the employees in the field during the hours the office is normally open.

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**EMERGENCY AND AFTER HOURS
PLEASE CALL 760-912-9400**



M A R I A N A R A N C H O S
C O U N T Y W A T E R
D I S T R I C T

James Hansen
General Manager

Becky Sipes
Office Assistant

9600 Manzanita Street
Apple Valley, California 92308

Phone: 760-247-9405

Fax: 760-247-1205

E-mail: gm@marianaranchoscmd.org
www.marianaranchoscmd.org

Office Hours: 8:30a.m.-1:30p.m. M-F
Closed the 3rd week of every month

**Agenda Items from the December Regular Meeting of
the Board**

There was no December Regular meeting of the Board of Directors. It could not be held due to lack of a quorum. One Director refused to attend any meetings in December and two Directors were still out of state.

**Agenda Items for the January Regular Meeting of the
Board**

Discuss & Approve modification to the teleconferencing requirements.
Discuss & Mitigate customer challenge to Prop 218 mailing and subsequent Public Hearing.
Discuss & Approve Rate and Fee structure increases.

Tuesday, January 10th, 2012 @ 12:00 p.m.

The agenda for this Regular meeting is available online at our website. You can view it on Friday, January 6th.

W A T E R D I S T R I C T M A I N T E N A N C E

Happy New Year! I hope the new year is bringing you all that you hope for. It's sure got the District started with a bang! We are already experiencing personnel changes, computers blowing up and systems being offline.

The main valve replacement on Sagebrush Street last month went extremely well. The water was off longer than we anticipated, but the information gathered was well worth the sacrifice. Now we can shut off this main distribution line in case of emergency and know the pipe has a lot more life in it than previously thought. Good News!

Our second item is the earthquake flex connectors we are installing on our Sagebrush reservoirs. These little beauties will allow up to 30 degrees of flex in any direction before they fail. Similar connectors actually survived the last big San Francisco earthquake! We will be so much safer with these devices installed. They will not only help to prevent the loss of the reservoir, but also the resulting damage from the flood that would be coming, as 900,000 gallons of water has no where to go, but down. These items will be installed this month.

Get involved in our new CIP program. Attend the meetings; Come to the public hearings.

"The mission of the Mariana Ranchos County Water District is to efficiently serve our customers with the highest quality water, 24/7."