

AGENDA

FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CARPINTERIA SANITARY DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD TO BE HELD April 7, 2026

The regular meeting of the Governing Board will be held commencing at 5:30 p.m. The location of the meeting is at 5300 Sixth Street, Carpinteria, CA.

The public is encouraged to participate in one of the following ways:

1. Submitting a Written Comment. If you wish to submit a written comment, please email your comment to the Board Clerk at kimg@carpsan.com by **3:00 P.M. on the day of the meeting**. Every effort will be made to read your comment into the record, but some comments may not be read due to time limitations.
2. Attend the in-person meeting at the Carpinteria Sanitary District Board room.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. BOARD APPROVAL OF AGENDA AS [SUBMITTED] [MODIFIED]

Board President asks the Board, public, staff, and legal counsel if there are any additions and/or modifications to the Agenda.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AS [SUBMITTED] [MODIFIED]

March 19, 2026

V. PUBLIC FORUM

The public may address the Governing Board on items of interest to the public which are not already on this evening's agenda and are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. The time allotted for this discussion shall be pursuant to Board Bylaws.

VI. MATTERS BEFORE THE BOARD

A. GENERAL REPORTS:

1. General Manager's Status Report (Pages 1-28)

Description: General Manager to review his written report regarding the following issues:

- Quarterly Incident Report
- Team Updates
- CWEA Small Collection System of the Year
- Battery Energy Storage Project Update
- Annual Budget Update
- SAMA Meeting Report
- CASA Board Updates
- Operations Updates

**2. Change Order No. 2 – Cash Contract No. 523
Belt Press Replacement Project**

(Pages 29-43)

Description: The Board will consider approving Change Order No. 2 to Cash Contract No. 523 with James C. Cushman, Inc. The change order totals \$95,819.36, increasing the contract price to \$1,298,815.86.

Staff Recommendation: That the Board approve Change Order No. 2 to Cash Contract No. 523.

3. Carpinteria Advanced Purification Project (CAPP) Update

(Pages 44-45)

Description: The Board will receive an update status report on the Carpinteria Advanced Purification Project being pursued in conjunction with the Carpinteria Valley Water District. Information on current activities and future tasks or milestones will be presented.

Staff Recommendation: None. Information only

VII. BOARD ITEMS

A. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Description: Verbal reports by the committee chairperson(s) of the following committees:

- Standing Finance Committee
- Standing Personnel Committee
- Standing Public Relations Committee
- Standing Utilities Committee
- Standing Recycled Water Committee

B. GENERAL ITEMS

1. SBCSDA (Santa Barbara – California Special Districts Association) Report
2. Board Member Vacation Dates
3. Future Agenda Items

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

FURTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE

A staff report providing more detailed information is available for most agenda items and may be reviewed in the District office during regular hours (Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and/or 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.). Copies of individual reports may be requested at this office. Call (805) 684-7214 extension 110 for more information.

In compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need a disability-related modification, accommodation, or other special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District's Board Secretary at (805) 684-7214, extension 111, at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

Next Ordinance Available.....#21
Next Resolution Available.....R-385
Posting Date.....4/3/26

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
CARPINTERIA SANITARY DISTRICT GOVERNING BOARD
March 19, 2026**

These are the **minutes** of the **special** meeting of the Governing Board of the Carpinteria Sanitary District in the City of Carpinteria, County of Santa Barbara, and State of California.

The Governing Board of the Carpinteria Sanitary District held a special board workshop meeting on **March 19, 2026**, at 9:00 a.m. at its District administrative office located at 5300 Sixth Street, Carpinteria, California.

The agenda notice for this meeting, including instructions for the public to provide comments, was posted in the front window of the administrative office of the Carpinteria Sanitary District and on the District's website at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Murphy called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and noted that all Directors were present at today's special workshop meeting.

Directors Present: Debbie Murphy– President
 Lin Graf – President Pro-Tem
 Mike Modugno – Secretary
 Gerald Velasco – Secretary Pro-Tem
 Mike Damron – Treasurer

Staff Present: Craig Murray – General Manager
 Kim Garcia – District Administrator/Board Clerk

Legal Counsel
Present: None

Public Present: None

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. BOARD APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Murphy asked if there were any modifications and/or changes to the agenda. Hearing none, the agenda was approved as submitted.

IV. BOARD APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF February 17, 2026

Director Damron made a motion, seconded by Director Velasco that the Board approve the minutes of the February 17, 2026 Regular Board meetings as presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

| | | |
|----------|---|--|
| AYES: | 5 | Damron, Velasco, Murphy, Modugno, Graf |
| NOES: | 0 | None |
| ABSENT: | 0 | None |
| ABSTAIN: | 0 | None |

V. PUBLIC FORUM

None

VI. MATTERS BEFORE THE BOARD

A. GENERAL REPORTS:

1. Financial Status and Transaction Report

District Administrator reviewed the staff report related to Financial Status and Transaction Reports.

No Board action was taken on this item.

2. Cash Contract No. 532 – Better Information Services, Inc.; Sewer Service Charge Software Upgrade

General Manager reviewed his staff report related Cash Contract No. 532 between the District and Better Information Services Inc for development of a custom software application for management of the District’s Sewer Service Charge system. If approved, the contract would engage BIS with a not to exceed fee of \$15,000.

Director Velasco made a motion, seconded by Director Graf that the Board approve and execute Cash Contract No. 532 between the District and Better Information Services Inc. pending legal counsel review of insurance requirements . The motion carried by the following vote

| | | |
|----------|---|--|
| AYES: | 5 | Damron, Velasco, Murphy, Modugno, Graf |
| NOES: | 0 | None |
| ABSENT: | 0 | None |
| ABSTAIN: | 0 | None |

3. Amendment No. 1 to Cash Contract No. 495 – Rincon Consultants, Inc. Mitigation and Restoration Services for the Floodwall Embankment Repair Project

General Manager reviewed his staff report related Amendment No. 1 to Cash Contract No. 495 between the District and Rincon Consultants. Cash Contract No.495 engaged Rincon Consultants to implement a multi-year restoration program as set forth in the Habitat Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) for the Floodwall Embankment Repair Project. If approved, Amendment No. 1 to Cash Contract No. 495 would authorize additional out-of-scope tasks based on direction from Central Coast RWQCB. The authorized contract would be increased by \$14,454 to a total of \$185,596.

Director Velasco made a motion, seconded by Director Graf that the Board approve Amendment No. 1 to Cash Contract No. 495, increasing the contract amount by \$14,454, as presented. The motion carried by the following vote

| | | |
|----------|---|--|
| AYES: | 5 | Damron, Velasco, Murphy, Modugno, Graf |
| NOES: | 0 | None |
| ABSENT: | 0 | None |
| ABSTAIN: | 0 | None |

4. Board of Directors Strategic Planning Workshop

The District Board and Staff participated in an interactive strategic planning workshop. In a round-table format, the participants will discuss strategic and long-range planning topics involving the

District included:

- CSD Mission, Vision and Identity
- Organizational and Succession Planning
- CAPP Implementation and Operations
- Financial Stability and Rate Setting Strategy
- 100 Year Anniversary!

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Debbie Murphy
President

Lin Graf
President Pro-Tem

Mike Modugno
Secretary

Gerald Velasco
Secretary Pro-Tem

Mike Damron
Treasurer



Carpinteria Sanitary District

Board of Directors Meeting
General Manager's Status Report

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Craig Murray, P.E. – General Manager
SUBJECT: General Manager's Status Report
DATE: April 7, 2026

Quarterly Incident Report. Attached is the incident summary report for the first quarter of 2026.

Team Updates. At our monthly all staff meeting held on April 1st, Stephanie James was recognized as the Employee of the Quarter for Q1 2026. This award was based on anonymous voting from the staff and is the new incarnation of our employee recognition program that will culminate in an Employee of the Year in December. Joe Aguilar and Christian Jimenez attended a week long wastewater operations training program in Monterey in preparation for their Grade 3 WWTP Operator certification exam.

CWEA Small Collection System of the Year. As verbally reported, the District has been selected as the statewide Small Collection System of the Year for 2025! Travis Kearney and Robert Luna will be attending the CWEA Annual Conference this week in Sacramento and will accept this prestigious award. Mark Bennett will also be attending the awards ceremony at the conference.

Battery Energy Storage Project Update. The Energy Services Agreement with Holt Renewables was finalized and executed by both parties and I approved the Limited Notice to Proceed. A project kick-off meeting was held on April 1st and subsequently we received a 30 percent design submittal from Holt. Terra Verde and District staff will review the package and provide a response. Of note, the SGIP approval of the selected ELM battery is expected this week. Holt's preliminary schedule currently anticipates construction during the first quarter of 2027. We issued payment for Holt's first progress payment request.

Annual Budget Update. Staff is working on development of the FY 2026/27 operating budget and planned capital improvement projects. We will be adding a new set of departmental accounts for the AWPf operation (CAPP) to begin tracking costs and refining processes for coordination with CVWD.

SAMA Meeting Report. I attended the March meeting of the Sanitation Agency Managers' Association held at the Montecito Sanitary District on March 18th. There was a presentation from Southland Industries on alternative delivery methods for construction projects. There was good roundtable discussion on air quality and collection system topics.

CASA Board Updates. I am continuing to serve on the CASA Board of Directors through August 2026 when my term expires. I'm part of the Nominating Committee working to identify candidates for my seat and another open Board seat. For reference, a copy of the CASA Committee Reports from the March 25th Board Meeting are attached.

Operations Update

System operations updates are as follows:

- The treatment plant is operating well and in full compliance with our NPDES discharge permit.
- A new primary sludge pump was ordered to replace a failed pump that was not cost-effective to repair. A second pump may be purchased this fiscal year, as the single in-service pump is also showing sign of wear.
- Operations staff has been working on repair and replacement of one the plant water pumps. Structural repairs to the pump base were necessary in conjunction with rebuild of the vertical turbine pump section by an outside vendor.
- Operators were able to reset and reprogram the drive for Blower 962 following failure during a planned SCE outage.
- Odor control chemicals were delivered to Lift Station No. 2 (magnesium hydroxide) and to Lift Station No. 8 (bioxide).
- The collection system is operating normally with no mainline blockages or other operational issues reported.
- A batch of ten E-One pumps was ordered to build our inventory and keep up with pumps that are being retired from service.
- The Vactor was successfully repaired and has been in regular service.
- Collections staff have been focused on manhole inspections and repairs over recent weeks. To address issues with two manhole affected by the City's Linden Avenue Improvement project, we are providing two new manhole frames and covers to Toro Construction for reinstallation.

**CARPINTERIA SANITARY DISTRICT
 QUARTERLY SUMMARY INCIDENT REPORT
 January 1 - March 31, 2026**

| Date | Location | Incident/Complaint | Determination/Resolution |
|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---|
| 2/1/2026 | 714 Oak Ave | Lateral Blockage | Home owner's sewer lateral was backing up into their residence. This was not the District's responsibility. |
| 3/14/2026 | 871 Arbol Verde | Lateral Blockage | Staff located and pumped a backed up CSD lateral. The service schedule for this lateral has been adjusted to monitor it. |
| 3/20/2026 | 4140 Via Real | Lateral Blockage/Spill | Private sewer for apartment complex experienced a blockage that spilled over. Robert noticed the spill while driving by the manhole and adressed it immediately with the team. The owner has been notified of required maintenance and the spill was reported to CIWQS. |

| Low Pressure Sewer System Responses | Rincon | Sandyland | Sand Point |
|--|---------------|------------------|-------------------|
| E-One Pump Replacements | 4 | 0 | 2 |
| Other Call Outs | 2 | 0 | 1 |



REGULATORY UPDATE



Top Air, Climate, and Energy Stories for February 2026



Air, Climate, & Energy

Please reach out to [Sarah Deslauriers](#) with any questions or if you would like access to any documents referenced. If you are not already a member of the ACE Workgroup and would like to be, let us know!

- 1. Clean Water Summit Partners (CWSP) Host 'BACEN' Webinar** – On February 11, the CWSP hosted a webinar for members, policymakers, and regulators focusing on Biosolids, Air, Climate, Energy and Nutrient (BACEN) issues. Municipal wastewater agencies provide services essential to community and environmental protection and critical to national security 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The presentations (linked below) were designed to give legislators, policymakers, and regulators a peak into the challenges and opportunities we face in maintaining reliable services, our core role in community resilience, and the need to collaborate going forward. We are working to balance the challenges of complying with near-term BACEN regulations with the opportunities that a more coordinated, holistic regulatory approach offer - supporting climate mitigation goals, maintaining affordability, and strengthening community resilience for future generations. Copies of the presentations are posted on CASA's [Resources Page](#) and links to the recordings are provided below:
 - [Getting the Waste Out of Water: Wastewater Treatment 101](#) – Sarah Deslauriers, CASA

- [Intersection of Nutrient Removal & Air Emissions at Wastewater Treatment Facilities](#) – Lorien Fono, BACWA and Mike Falk, HDR
- [Intersection of Organic Waste Diversion & Wastewater Treatment](#) – Steve Jepsen, Clean Water SoCal and Rashi Gupta, Carollo Engineers
- [Wastewater Biogas: A Resource to Support the Circular Economy](#), Sarah Deslauriers, CASA and Ali Chehrehsez, TerraVerde Energy

2. **CARB to Formally Release 15-Day Changes to the Advanced Clean Fleet (ACF) Regulations in March.** On December 15, CASA submitted comments on, as well as specific edits to, the “preview” version of the 15-Day Changes in the ACF regulations for consideration by staff. We then met with CARB Board Member Lynda Hopkins in January to discuss public agency needs for the regulation to be workable, which she then presented to CARB’s Executive Officer. As written, the ACF regulation limits use of biogas as a low carbon (biomethane) fuel in our own fleets, limiting our ability to qualify for LCFS credits as well as public agency access to the regulatory exemptions needed while truck manufacturers roll back or halt production of zero-emission vehicle options. CASA continues its outreach to CARB staff and Board Members, with a meeting scheduled with staff March 4 and an invite to speak on their [Drive Forward panel March 9](#). CASA is reconvening its Advanced Clean Vehicle Subgroup to develop guidance for regulatory compliance and a forum for connecting members.
3. **CA Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) Holds First [Nature-Based Solutions \(NBS\) Summit On January 29](#),** CNRA held their inaugural NBS Summit and released their [2025 Progress Report](#). The report outlines what CNRA considers as NBS (ways to manage CA lands to keep them healthy and resilient while achieving climate goals) as well as steps taken to set, track, and position CA to achieve carbon sequestration targets by 2045 (including implementing healthy soils practices on croplands, such as land application of biosolids). CASA staff met with CNRA’s Deputy Secretary for Climate Change, Amanda Hansen, and OPC’s Executive Director, Jenn Eckerle, to discuss the wastewater sector’s role in nature-based solutions, the circular economy, and ultimately community resilience. They are eager to work with stakeholders to resolve permitting issues for co-digestion and composting facilities whose products are used in NBS.
4. **CARB Releases Updated [Natural & Working Lands \(NWL\) Carbon Inventory on February 10](#)** – The NWL Carbon Inventory is meant to

quantitatively estimate levels of organic carbon stored in and across CA's eight (8) landscapes. The Inventory was updated with the intent to reflect conditions as of 2022. It now captures the influence of climate, wildfire, land-use change, and management of carbon stocks and stock change, including in vegetation, soils, and harvested wood products. Integrating these conditions was necessary to evaluate the impact of implementing nature-based solutions (NBS) and CA's progress toward meeting its carbon neutrality targets by 2045. CASA asked CARB whether they incorporated land application of biosolids as an NBS and CARB said it could be a future update if we can provide more land-based data.

5. **CalRecycle Releases Final [Zero Waste Plan February 13](#)** - The Plan focuses on "circular materials management", acknowledging that to achieve zero waste requires coordinated action across state agencies, local governments, businesses, and communities, an action that CASA has been advocating for since the early 2000's. We were also pleased to see that wastewater facilities were recognized as "Infrastructure of Circularity", acknowledging the available anaerobic digestion capacity at wastewater treatment facilities for receiving and co-digesting with diverted food waste (which also serves as a climate mitigation pathway). CASA is scheduling a meeting with CalRecycle to discuss follow-on actions, including SB 1383 implementation as part of their Plan.
6. **CA Air Districts Reviewing Wastewater Sector's Proposed Plan for Statewide Air Toxics Source Testing** - On November 18, the wastewater sector achieved a major milestone – Steering Committee members representing the CA municipal wastewater sector presented the Proposed Plan for complying with CARB's air toxics source testing requirements to Air Districts for their review and approval. Air Districts are now reviewing the Proposed Plan to provide their collective feedback that we will address before final submission to CARB in 2026. We are hoping to begin source testing in 2026 and end in 2027, assuming approval of the Proposed Plan in early 2026. If your agency receives 5 million gallons per day or more and you have not been involved in this effort, please reach out to Sarah Deslauriers and Shacara Gamboa to ensure you are in compliance.
7. **California Air Resources Board (CARB) Holds Virtual [Public Workshop – On February 27](#)**, CARB held a virtual workshop to discuss potential standards for off-road new diesel engines, referred to as Tier 5 standards. The Tier 5 rulemaking aims to reduce oxides of nitrogen (NOx) and particulate matter (PM) emissions from new off-road

compression-ignition engines sold in CA. CARB released documents (including [draft amendments](#)) on the following topics for discussion purposes and requests written feedback by May 4, 2026:

- Off-road new diesel engine emissions standards, including changes to the On-Board Diagnostics, Off-Road In-Use Testing, and Tier 5 elements.
 - Applicability of the Large Spark-Ignition engine standards regulation to hydrogen internal combustion engines.
 - Potential amendments to the Off-Road In-Use Fleet regulation.
 - [Potential changes to Tier 4 In-Use Test Procedures](#).
8. **CARB-Funded Research Leads [CalHealthMap](#)** - This new online tool is meant to be a resource for you to visualize, track, and communicate information on health conditions that are sensitive to changes in air quality for CA neighborhoods. CalHealthMap differs from other web-based dashboards such as [CalEnviroScreen](#), the [Happy Places Index](#) (HPI), and [Tracking California](#). [CalHealthMap](#) includes a wider range of health outcomes related to air pollution, with estimates of excess mortality and ER visits using historical and age-adjusted data at the zip-code level, which could be used to identify health trends at the community level.
9. **DWR Engages Stakeholders to Understand Benefits & Impacts of Water Conservation Per SB 1157** - The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is holding meetings to inform stakeholders (via a Working Group) and gather technical feedback (via a Technical Advisory Panel, TAP) regarding their approach to evaluate the potential economic benefits and impacts associated with achieving the 2030 indoor residential water-use standard (42 gallons per capita per day). The focus is on impacts to water, wastewater (collection and treatment), and recycled water systems. A research team is collecting responses to surveys and conducting interviews to assess both direct and indirect effects on equipment and infrastructure within each system. The TAP held its fourth meeting March 5 and the Working Group will convene periodically to support the collection of information, modeling, and the follow-on evaluation process.
10. **Department of Treasury and IRS Issued New IRA Related Regulations** - The [proposed regulations](#) are designed for domestic producers of clean transportation fuel to determine eligibility for and calculate the Clean Fuel Production Credit (Section 45Z) enacted by the Inflation Reduction Act. They extend eligibility for this credit through 2029 (vs 2027) for fuel that is produced between January 1, 2025, and December

31, 2029. Stakeholders can review and comment on the proposed regulations by April 6, as well as participate in the public hearing scheduled for May 28.

11. OPC’s Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning & Implementation Grant Solicitation Remains Open - The Ocean Protection Council (OPC) issues Sea Level Rise Adaptation Planning and Implementation Project Funding quarterly under the [SB 1 Sea Level Rise Adaptation Grant Program](#), but its future is uncertain. The program seeks competitive applications to support nature-based shoreline adaptation projects along CA’s coastal zone and in San Francisco Bay. Projects include site assessment, preliminary design, final design, permitting, and construction—ranging from \$500,000 to \$2,500,000 over a maximum 3-year grant period. OPC’s next deadline for submissions is March 20 by 5 pm. At least 40% of funds must benefit vulnerable or disadvantaged communities, 10% for severely disadvantaged communities, and encourages partnership with CA Native American tribes. OPC’s [website](#) offers helpful resources including application materials, an informational webinar, and fact sheet on the Grant Program.

12. Announcement for Associate Members - CARB conducted a public hearing February 26 (Item 26-1-3) to approve the proposed [CA Corporate GHG Reporting and Climate-Related Financial Risk Disclosure Initial Regulation](#). This regulation requires businesses formed under the laws of CA, any other state of the US or DC, or under an act of the US Congress, with total annual revenues >\$1,000,000,000 that do business in CA to annually disclose their Scopes 1, 2 and 3 emissions for the prior fiscal year. The first-year annual emissions disclosures (for 2026) include Scopes 1 and 2 emissions, and subsequent years (beginning 2027) must also include Scope 3 emissions. The Disclosure Program authorized by SB 261 also applies to both public and private US companies that do business in CA with annual revenues >\$500 million.

CASA Calendar

| | |
|----------|---|
| March 12 | CASA ACE Workgroup |
| March 19 | CASA Regulatory Workgroup Meeting (Virtual) |

| | |
|------------|--|
| April 16 | CASA ACE Workgroup |
| April 23 | CASA Regulatory Workgroup Meeting (Virtual) |
| May 14 | CASA ACE Workgroup |
| May 21 | CASA Regulatory Workgroup Meeting (Hybrid) |
| June 11 | CASA ACE Workgroup |
| June 25 | CASA Regulatory Workgroup Meeting (Virtual) |
| August 4–7 | 71 st CASA Annual Conference – Napa, CA |

Upcoming Events

| | |
|-------------|--|
| March 8-11 | WaterReuse Symposium |
| March 11-12 | California Bioresources Summit; Sacramento, CA |
| March 17 | Clean Water SoCal Air Quality Committee |
| March 24-26 | WEF-AWWA Utility Management Conference |
| April 7-10 | CWEA Annual Conference |
| April 21 | Clean Water SoCal Air Quality Committee |
| May 11-14 | WEF Residuals, Biosolids, & Treatment Technology Conference; Kansas City, MO |
| May 15 | BACWA Annual Meeting |
| May 20 | BACWA AIR Committee |
| June 8-9 | CA Hydrogen Summit |

July 12-16

[USDA W5170 Research Committee + Mid-Atlantic Biosolids Association Summer Symposium; Albany, NY](#)

For more information please reach out to the CASA Regulatory Team:

[Jared Voskuhl](#), Water Quality
[Maile Lono-Batura](#), Biosolids
[Sarah Deslauriers](#), ACE
[Spencer Saks](#), Newsletter

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REGULATORY UPDATE



Top Biosolids Stories for February 2026



Biosolids

Regulations

CASA Meets with U.S. EPA Biosolids Team in DC

Following CASA's DC Policy Forum, participants had the opportunity to join our scheduled meeting with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Biosolids Team along with their Branch Chief and Division Director. Also in attendance were national representatives, Emily Rimmel (National Association of Clean Water Agencies) and Ashley Voskuhl (Water Environment Federation). CASA shared the current state of renewable resource potential and end-use in the state. California leads the nation in biosolids production with 736,000 dry metric tons, which represents roughly 10% of the nation's biosolids, that is primarily land applied for beneficial use. An overview on some of the drivers and initiatives shaping legislation and regulations were shared, such as CalRecycle's SB1383 mandating

organic waste diversion from landfills and agencies exploring regionalization opportunities to leverage resources for biosolids management.

Much of the meeting was focused on PFAS, discussing options to cooperatively move forward towards unified guidance and eventually regulation. CASA, alongside the national associations, asked the U.S. EPA if interim guidance or a statement that supports biosolids management done in accordance with the existing Part 503 Biosolids Regulation could be issued, while the Draft PFAS Risk Assessment for Biosolids continues to shape biosolids management across the nation. To illustrate the impact of the limited options available for biosolids management, a recent report demonstrating how a biosolids land application ban in New York would create interregional and interstate turmoil. The report found that if a ban was approved, 177,000 tons of biosolids that is currently land applied would face extremely limited options and conflict with the state's climate and solid waste goals that support increased land application. In addition, the recent publication of the University of Arizona led study with the largest U.S. study of soil PFAS in land applied biosolids sites was highlighted, noting that across the 440 soil samples from 21 sites in 16 states, the median surface soil concentrations for all PFAS analyzed were less than 1 ng/g.

U.S. EPA responded that they have completed review of the Draft Risk Assessment comments, are evaluating how U.S. EPA Administrator Zeldin's PFAS plan impacts this process and are working to move forward.

[CASA representatives following their meeting with U.S. EPA \(from l-r\): Jim Dunbar \(Lystek\), Maile Lono-Batura \(CASA\), Steve Jepsen \(Clean Water SoCal\), Jason Dafforn \(Valley Sanitary District\), and Sarah Deslauriers \(CASA\).](#)

U.S. EPA ECHO Biosolids Facility Search and Report Webinar

On Tuesday, March 10, the U.S. EPA will host a webinar featuring the Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) from 10:00am – 11:00am PT. This webinar will feature an overview on accessing ECHO for biosolids facility searches and

reports. The webinar will present an overview of electronic biosolids annual reporting and how to use the ECHO database to search for biosolids facilities, biosolids annual reports, and biosolids facility reports. Register [here](#) for this webinar.

Clean Water Summit Partners BACEN (Biosolids Air Climate Energy Nutrients) Webinar

On February 11, the Clean Water Summit Partners (CWSP) hosted a free webinar for policymakers and regulators on challenges wastewater agencies face complying with near-term biosolids, air, climate, energy, and nutrient (BACEN) regulations, and opportunities for more coordinated, holistic regulatory approaches. This 2.5-hour webinar offered insights on how agencies are addressing BACEN requirements alongside priorities to support climate goals, maintaining affordability, and strengthening community resilience. Copies of the presentations are posted on CASA's [Resources Page](#) and links to the recordings are provided below:

1. [Getting the Waste Out of Water: Wastewater Treatment 101](#) – Sarah Deslauriers, CASA
2. [Intersection of Nutrient Removal & Air Emissions at Wastewater Treatment Facilities](#) – Lorien Fono, BACWA and Mike Falk, HDR
3. [Intersection of Organic Waste Diversion & Wastewater Treatment](#) – Steve Jepsen, Clean Water SoCal and Rashi Gupta, Carollo Engineers
4. [Wastewater Biogas: A Resource to Support the Circular Economy](#), Sarah Deslauriers, CASA and Ali Chehrehsez, TerraVerde Energy

CalRecycle Zero Waste Plan Released

On February 13, CalRecycle released their Zero Waste Plan that focuses on strategies that support circular systems for the state. CASA shared comments on the Draft Zero Waste Plan during their listening sessions and through formal comment letters that emphasized how CASA represents a large cross-section of renewables on tap across the state that can help to realize this plan. Plan components and recommendations focus on such things as policy alignment, financing efforts, infrastructure for circularity, research and innovation, communication for behavior change, and partnerships. You can access to final plan that includes comment letters [here](#).

Legislation

Senate PFAS CERCLA Liability Exemption Bill

In early February, Senator Ricketts (R-NE) presented legislation to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works for consideration that focuses on exempting certain entities from liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980 with respect to releases of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (containing at least 2 sequential fully fluorinated carbon atoms). Exempt entities include wastewater or water utilities, as well as those that transport and manage biosolids. As written, the bill would prevent any person from recovering costs or damages related to releases of PFAS from those exempt entities. For additional information, visit bill text [here](#).

New York Hearing to Ban Sludge

On February 5, a hearing was held by Senator Harckham and Assemblymember Kelles, alongside Environmental Advocates New York and the Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, with the objective to make the case for halting biosolids land application due to the risks of PFAS. The Mid-Atlantic Biosolids Association (MABA) is tracking developments related to this hearing and intent to ban biosolids land application.

Agri-Pulse Covers Proposed Fertilizers in Assembly Bill 643

On January 28, Agri-Pulse released an article outlining Assembly Bill 643 that was presented by Asm. Wilson (D-Suisun City), allowing local jurisdictions the ability to account for organic waste diversion when procuring California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) approved agricultural amendments. At the January hearing, Jason Dafforn (Valley Sanitary District) and Steve Jepsen (Clean Water SoCal) both spoke in support of the bill, highlighting how this recognizes nutrient rich fertilizer available to jurisdictions to help achieve waste diversion targets. While Solano County Farm Bureau supports the bill, the California Climate & Agriculture is in opposition alongside Californians Against Waste. Read the full article [here](#).

Research

Solano County Biosolids Stakeholder Meeting to Review Trihydro Study

On February 26, Solano County hosted a Biosolids Stakeholder Meeting to review the [Trihydro Study](#) on the Fate of PFAS in Biosolids After Land Application. The report was prepared for the [Solano County Department of Resource Management](#), Environmental Health and Services Division, to evaluate the fate of PFAS following biosolids land application with particular focus on PFAS persistence in shallow soils. The study utilized the publicly available dataset for California, via the Geotracker database, gathered for the statewide order WQ 2020-0015-DWQ alongside additional datasets. Samples were analyzed side-by-side with Methods 537M and 1633 for comparison. Participants at the February meeting queried the research team on pore water sampling methods, historical site applications of fertilizers or pesticides, and whether add-on PFAS exposures were considered like anthropogenic sources. Due to the limited scope for this project, historical or add-on exposures were not considered as part of the study. Attendees included representatives from State and Regional Water Resources

Control Boards, Bay Area Biosolids, BACWA, CASA, CRROPS and Californians Against Waste.

NAS Release PFAS in Agricultural Systems Report

On February 13, the National Academy of Sciences released their PFAS in Agricultural Systems report. The purpose of the study was aimed at offering a proposed framework for conversationists in addressing PFAS on agricultural land as requested by the National Resources Conservation Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The committee charged with this task represent diverse backgrounds and specialized expertise. W5170 Chair, Jim Ippolito, The Ohio State University, Chaired this NAS Committee.

The report focuses on the multiple pathways that PFAS can enter agricultural soil systems. Numerous studies and resources were reviewed to help identify information gaps and to shape their framework recommendation ([see Figure S-2](#)). Ultimately, more research is needed to understand PFAS fate and transport in agricultural soils from these multiple pathways. You can view the webinar that presents the report findings [here](#).

Featured Innovative Tech Project Update – Side Stream PFAS Treatment

The University of Arizona Water & Energy Sustainable Technology (WEST) Center has released a [research story](#) focused on their innovative pilot study to remove and destroy PFAS using a two-stage process that utilizes foam fractionation to separate PFAS from wastewater and electrooxidation to destroy these contaminants by focusing on the wastewater centrate side stream. This study was done in partnership with Pima County Regional Wastewater Reclamation Department. This project was featured at CASA's recent Innovative Technology Seminars. Seminar presentations are available for viewing [here](#).

Resources

California Bioresources Alliance Symposium

The California Bioresources Alliance Symposium, “Comprehensive Impacts from the Local to Planetary Scale,” will be held on March 11 - 12 at the University of California Davis, Aggie Square Innovation Campus in Sacramento. CASA will join the UC-Davis Grand Challenges team to open the event and will also be presenting on Day 1 of the event. Visit the [event page](#) to view the Symposium agenda and register to participate.

Australia PFAS & the Water Sector Fact Sheet

The Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) released an illustrative and informative [fact sheet](#) that aims to inform readers on the origins of PFAS, how they travel throughout our environment, and the impacts this presents for water resources. The WSAA has asked the Australian government to take stronger measures to prevent further PFAS pollution through non-essential use bans, mandatory labelling, developing and implementing a National Contaminants Strategy and national source control, monitoring, and remediation of contaminants. The graphics on PFAS and the water cycle and relative concentrations of PFAS in consumer products, biosolids, and compost in relation to the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines offer a pragmatic glimpse at the complexity that PFAS contamination presents in society.

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District PFAS Video

The Western Lake Superior Sanitary District released a video, [PFAS: What Are Forever Chemicals](#), that offers a short overview on everyday products that contain PFAS, how this impacts water resource recovery facilities, and steps you can take to reduce PFAS in our bodies and the environment.

Magazine Article on PFAS Impacts to Treatment Plants

Salish Sea Currents Magazine released an [article](#) that spotlights the impacts that PFAS are having on wastewater treatment plants. Washington State Department of Ecology stated that, “The presence of PFAS in biosolids reflects the mass production and use in consumer products that individuals interact with regularly. Once contaminants reach the Wastewater treatment plant, they have already passed through people’s bodies, homes, and businesses.” The article frames the PFAS issue from historical use and impacts, possible treatment options, sampling efforts, and source control.

Northwest Biosolids Resource Library Updates

The [February 2026 library](#) narrows in on how the advent of modern food systems, moved us further from circular systems and produced broken nutrient cycles. Dr. Sally Brown, University of Washington, offers a review of five different research studies that each discuss the role of nutrients in returning to circular systems that nature ‘naturally’ operates within. Between the graphs illustrating research findings and the cost savings to farmers noted in the final paragraph, this is a must read for those of us with nutrients consistently woven into the work of resource recovery. Please reach out if you would like any of the included research papers.

CASA Calendar

| | |
|------------|--|
| March 19 | CASA Regulatory Workgroup Meeting (Virtual) |
| April 23 | CASA Regulatory Workgroup Meeting (Virtual) |
| May 21 | CASA Regulatory Workgroup Meeting (Hybrid) |
| June 25 | CASA Regulatory Workgroup Meeting (Virtual) |
| August 4–7 | 71 st CASA Annual Conference – Napa, CA |

Upcoming Events

| | |
|-------------|---|
| March 11-12 | California Bioresources Summit; Sacramento, CA |
| May 11-14 | WEF Residuals, Biosolids, & Treatment Technology Conference; Kansas City, MO |
| July 12-16 | USDA W5170 Research Committee + Mid-Atlantic Biosolids Association Summer Symposium; Albany, NY |

For more information please reach out to the CASA Regulatory Team:

[Jared Voskuhl](#), Water Quality
[Maile Lono-Batura](#), Biosolids
[Sarah Deslauriers](#), ACE
[Spencer Saks](#), Newsletter

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REGULATORY UPDATE



Top Water Quality Stories for February 2026

- [DWR Releases Water Conservation Surveys due 2/27](#)
- [SWRCB Reissuing Wastewater Rates Questionnaire](#)
- [SWRCB Releases Draft Nonpoint Source Plan incl. PFAS](#)
- [SWRCB Opens 2025 VAR Portal, Responses due 4/30](#)
- [SWRCB Launching Inland Nutrient Rulemaking](#)
- [CASA Regulatory Workgroup Meeting Next on 2/19](#)
- [CASA Calendar and Upcoming Events](#)
- [CASA's December and January Regulatory Newsletters](#)



Water Quality

DWR Issues Surveys to Evaluate Impacts of Water Conservation

Last month, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) released three surveys for agencies to provide input on the impacts of water conservation and declining flows to your [Collection Systems](#), [Treatment Facilities](#), and [Water Reuse/Recycle Facilities](#). The final surveys reflect extensive direction from CASA and the water community to the DWR research team, and your participation would be very much appreciated. These surveys build off of the ones the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) issued in 2020 [that resulted in this linked report](#), as part of their [“Making Water Conservation a Way of Life” regulation](#). This 2026 initiative is part of DWR’s broader SB 1157 studies to evaluate the economic benefits and impacts associated with achieving the 2030 indoor residential water-use standard of 42 gallons per capita per day, under SB 1157, with a final

report due to the legislature in 2028. PDFs of the collections, treatment, and reuse surveys are linked to organize your answers for the online submission. Thank you for your time to participate in this initiative- it is critical for providing researchers with comprehensive information from around the state in order to best evaluate the impacts of decreasing the indoor water use standard at the end of the decade. [Please reach out](#) with questions, comments, or feedback.

SWRCB Expected to Re-issue Wastewater Rates Questionnaire

In late March or early April, we anticipate the SWRCB will re-issue their voluntary Wastewater Rates Questionnaire. The SWRCB [last sent a wastewater rates questionnaire in 2018](#), which resulted in [this linked data visualization tool](#) and [rate data repository](#). From preliminary discussions with SWRCB staff, they are inclined to re-issue the questionnaire in a shortened streamlined form that will include prior years to backfill essential data missing since the previous issuance. We anticipate the Summit Partners will review a draft of the 2026 version in early March for the SWRCB to release in early spring. More details will be forthcoming, but please plan now for your agency to participate in this critical initiative! [Please reach out](#) for further information.

CASA Toxicity Subgroup Hosting RBI Presentation on Cerio

On February 9, the CASA Toxicity Subgroup will meet at 1 PM for Part 2 of RBI's presentation regarding their recently completed technical report, attached, on the five performance metrics (PMs) that were in the [Final Expert Report to the SWRCB](#) for the [2020-23 Cerio Study](#) of chronic toxicity testing with ceriodaphnia dubia. Building from RBI's November 2025 presentation to our subgroup, they will provide a more in-depth look at each of the PMs, particularly with respect to issues of interest to your agency such as: locating specific PM data within your typical laboratory toxicity report, using these metrics to determine if test results are reliable and reproducible, steps agencies and toxicity testing laboratories have implemented to address low-performing test results, and practical responses when results "Fail" the TST or exceed chronic toxicity effluent limits, targets, or triggers. Contact [Cam Irvine](#) and [Paul Bedore](#) in advance with any specific questions or topics from the report you would like to see addressed. If you need meeting information, [please reach out](#) for more details and the meeting link.

CASA & SMC Collaborative Exfiltration Research Workshop

On February 10, CASA and the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC) will co-host a cross-sector workshop at SCCWRP in Costa Mesa focused on advancing our shared understanding of bacteria in the environment during wet weather events. This collaborative effort marks a significant step for the wastewater and stormwater sectors to move forward with science-based solutions for protecting public health and California's waterways. Panelists will engage in plenary sessions and breakout groups to address two primary technical objectives: (1) identifying

the most significant technical challenges to quantifying exfiltration and its transport to receiving waters, and (2) determining which research projects should be prioritized for collaboration between the stormwater and wastewater communities. To facilitate these technical discussions, participants have been provided with background materials and recent journal articles covering topics such as HF183 in stormwater discharges, sanitary sewer biofilms, and prototype samplers for measuring pipe segment volume loss. CASA looks forward to the insights gained from this opportunity for coordinated inquiry between our two sectors. Afterwards, we will provide an update to our Collection Systems Workgroup via e-mail and to our Regulatory Workgroup at our next meeting on February 19. [Please reach out](#) with questions, concerns, or for more details.

Summit Partners Hosting 2/11 Cross-Media “BACEN” Webinar

On February 11, the Clean Water Summit Partners (CASA, BACWA, CVCWA, Clean Water SoCal, and CWEA) will host a collaborative webinar focused on the critical intersection of biosolids, air quality, climate, energy, and nutrient (BACEN) issues. The event will explore how local California agencies are navigating complex regulatory and technical challenges while maintaining resilience, supporting state climate objectives, and ensuring service affordability. The webinar will feature a "systems-thinking" integrated approach to wastewater management, moving beyond traditional silos. Presentations will be delivered on the following: (1) Wastewater Treatment 101, (2) Nutrient Management & Air Emissions, (3) Organic Waste Diversion, and (4) Biogas & the Circular Economy. Members and interested parties are encouraged to [register here](#) to participate in this important cross-sector dialogue. [Please reach out](#) with questions, concerns, or for more details.

SWRCB Nonpoint Source Plan, incl. PFAS; Comments due 2/12

On February 12, per the [Notice](#), comments are due to the SWRCB for their [Draft 2025-2030 Nonpoint Source \(NPS\) Program Implementation Plan](#). The five-year strategic plan is a critical roadmap that outlines the state’s approach to addressing water quality impairments from non-permitted sources, including agriculture, forestry, and onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS). Of particular interest to the clean water community are the provisions related to Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) and the intersection of NPS pollution with traditional wastewater infrastructure. The plan also emphasizes targeted assessments of OWTS in high-risk watersheds to address bacteria and nitrate impairments, along with prioritizing technical and financial assistance for septic-to-sewer conversions in disadvantaged communities. The NPS plan also has a section on Constituents of Emerging Concern (CEC) that designate PFAS as a high-priority CEC due to evolving toxicology and the lack of universal enforceable California or federal health standards. The plan identifies wastewater treatment plants as "identifiable point sources" that contribute to the presence of these constituents in the environment, noting the NPS program’s strategy is to

improve the understanding of the "presence, frequency of occurrence, source, fate, and transport" of these chemicals through non-point channels like atmospheric deposition and runoff. The plan also acknowledges wastewater facilities will play a central role in the broader monitoring framework to manage these "forever chemicals." CASA is currently reviewing the draft with a select group of members and attorneys to identify potential impacts to member agencies, particularly regarding cross-media impacts and salt/nitrate management strategies. Written comments are due to the SWRCB on Thursday, February 12. The draft plan can be found on the [SWRCB NPS program page](#). [Please reach out](#) with questions, concerns, or for more details.

CalEPA Announces 2026 Vapor Intrusion Public Workshops

On February 12, [the California EPA \(CalEPA\) Vapor Intrusion Workgroup \(Workgroup\) will host the first of five virtual public workshops](#) to share and gain input on their efforts to address vapor intrusion (VI) at contaminated sites. This series follows the Kickoff Workshop held on July 24, 2025, where the Workgroup provided updates on VI strategies and gathered public feedback to inform the future workshop series. Accordingly, the upcoming sessions will feature introductory training, community engagement, and technical presentations on holistic management tools. The 2026 series is currently scheduled to cover VI Cleanup Case Basics (Feb 12), VI in the Community (Feb 25), Conceptual Site Models (March 10), Paths to Closure (May), and VI Data (June). Public notices with registration information will be shared prior to each workshop. [Please reach out](#) with any questions or for more details.

CWEA Collection Systems Fundamentals Workshop Series

On February 25, the California Water Environment Association (CWEA) will host the second of five workshops in 2026 as part of their [Collection Systems Fundamentals Workshop Series](#). These in-person events will provide a critical training opportunity for early-career professionals and those seeking Collection System Maintenance Certification. Led by industry expert William Kleinau, the one-day workshops cover essentials from safety to spill response, aligning with the updated Grade 1-3 KSA (Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities) categories. Attendees can earn up to 7.8 contact hours. Several dates remain open across the state: February 25 (Sacramento, SacSewer), April 29 (City of Fresno), May 13 (City of Thousand Oaks), and June 10 (Petaluma). Early bird registration is available for each session until approximately six weeks before the event, with member rates starting at \$210. Agencies are encouraged to register staff early to secure the best value and ensure participation in these high-demand sessions. [Please reach out](#) with questions, concerns, or for more details on coordinating attendance for your team.

SWRCB Opens 2025 VAR Portal, Required Submissions due 4/30

On April 30, responses are due for the SWRCB's 2025 Volumetric Annual Report (VAR). The SWRCB's Recycled Water Policy requires wastewater and recycled water permittees (including wastewater permittees that do not produce any recycled water) to annually report monthly volumes of influent, wastewater produced, and effluent, including treatment level and discharge type. The 2025 VAR is in the same format as the previous year and requires the entry of volumes in acre-feet per month for influent, effluent, and if applicable, recycled water use. The VAR portal can be accessed through the [GeoTracker Electronic Submittal of Information \(ESI\)](#). Additional information, including the [Help Guide](#) and Webinar training for submitting the VAR, as well as data from 2019 to 2024, can all be found on [the SWRCB's VAR webpage](#). Annual Report through the volumetric annual report module in GeoTracker by April 30, 2026. For assistance with submitting the 2025 Volumetric Annual Report or any questions, email DWQ-recycledwater@waterboards.ca.gov.

SWRCB Announces Inland Nutrient Rulemaking and Workshops

[The SWRCB's February Executive Director's Report](#), announces the initiation of a rulemaking project to establish numeric water quality objectives and a program of implementation for harmful algal blooms (HABs) and cyanotoxins. Previously known as the Biostimulation, Cyanotoxins, and Biological Conditions Provisions, the project has been narrowed to focus specifically on critical HAB impacts while providing a flexible implementation program to control environmental factors such as nutrients. These inland nutrient regulations will apply to rivers, lakes, inland surface waters, enclosed bays, and estuaries statewide, and it is being developed as a statewide water quality control plan and policy for water quality control. The primary objective is to reduce the occurrence of HABs and enhance protections for municipal and domestic drinking water supplies, as well as water contact recreation. This initiative comes in response to a significant surge in HAB reports, which have increased by approximately 200 percent since 2021. Staff plan to host outreach meetings later in 2026 to discuss the project's scope and content. CASA and the Summit Partners will be tracking this development closely, particularly for the ramifications on nutrient management for member agencies and regarding flexible implementation tools. More information is available on the [SWRCB's project webpage](#). [Please reach out](#) with questions, concerns, or for more details.

SWRCB Posts Summary of 2025 Stormwater Capture Workshop

On January 22, the SWRCB released a ["What We Heard" summary document](#) following the [Stormwater Capture and Use Workshop held on November 18, 2025](#). The workshop was a key component of the Strategy to Optimize Resource Management of Stormwater (STORMS) program, focusing on identifying barriers and opportunities to increase stormwater capture across the state. While the summary does not represent final staff conclusions or priorities for the STORMS unit, it serves as a foundational reference for future policy development and

stakeholder engagement. A recording of the full November workshop is [archived here](#) for those who were unable to attend. CASA continues to track the STORMS program as it relates to integrated water management and potential impacts on wastewater agencies. [Please reach out](#) with questions, concerns, or for more details.

SWRCB Rescinds Pre-Treatment Questionnaire, Next Steps

On January 26, the SWRCB's Office of Enforcement sent out a voluntary "preliminary treatment/headworks" survey about which many members expressed concern to CASA and the other Summit Partners. The Summit Partners were able to connect with the SWRCB to learn more about the survey and convey our concerns. As a result, the SWRCB rescinded the survey and will work with the Summit Partners to refine it further, then re-send it for voluntary participation later in 2026 after coordinating more on messaging, timing, and distribution. [Please reach out](#) if you have additional questions.

SWRCB Conducts WWNA AG Meeting Focused on Phase 2 Scope

On January 30, [CASA and the Central Valley Clean Water Association \(CVCWA\) submitted comments](#) to the SWRCB regarding the scoping of Phase 2 for their [Wastewater Needs Assessment \(WWNA\)](#). While expressing appreciation for enhanced communication and the re-issuance of the wastewater rates questionnaire, CASA and CVCWA identified several areas where the assessment's framework requires refinement to better reflect the clean water community's operational reality. A primary focus of the letter is the need for distinct terminology that differentiates the WWNA's academic data-gathering goals from formal regulatory and enforcement actions. To avoid confusion with existing legal definitions, CASA and CVCWA proposed replacing the labels of "Inadequate" and "At Risk" with more proactive designations. We also offered technical recommendations for analyzing Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) data, with the support of Mike Flores at HDR. CASA and CVCWA look forward to continued dialogue with the SWRCB to reach consensus on these analytical methodologies as the project enters Phase 2. [Please reach out](#) to with any questions regarding these comments.

SWRCB Adopts 2026 Integrated Report on 2/3

On February 3, the SWRCB adopted the [2026 California Integrated Report and 303\(d\) list](#). While this year's "on-cycle" assessments primarily focused on receiving waters within the North Coast, Lahontan, and Colorado River Basin regions, where there are less CASA members discharging, the SWRCB approved a new approach to prior listings of impairments for benthic communities, in response to [USEPA's prior partial disapproval of the 2024 Integrated Report](#). In the RTC and [revised 2026 Integrated Report Staff Report](#), the revisions to the Benthic Community Effects (BCE) assessment methodology formalized a new "Category 5-bio" subcategory and specific reclassifications for constructed

channels and Central Valley floor streams. The new Category 5-bio listings will not result in traditional TMDL's but rather provide the Regional Water Quality Control Boards and the regulated community more flexibility for addressing associated water quality impairments. Looking ahead to [the 2028 Listing Cycle](#) for the Central Coast, Central Valley, and San Diego regions, the data solicitation period closed last October, and we expect the draft report due in early winter 2027. [Please reach out](#) with questions, concerns, or for more details.

2026 Regulatory Meeting Dates

Numerous regulatory meeting schedules have been released for 2026. Here they are for quick reference: [SWRCB Meetings](#) (First and Third Tuesday of the month, typically) OPC Meetings (March 23, June 16, September 22, and December 8), [SWRCB Water Quality Fees Quarterly Schedule](#) (March 5, June 12, July 30, and September 16 adoption), [SWRCB CWSRF DFA Quarterly Environmental Package Webinar](#) (February 12, May 14, August 13, and November 12), [the California Water Quality Monitoring Council](#) (February 26, May 28, August 27, and November 19), [CalEPA Vapor Intrusion workshops](#) (February 12 & 25, March 10, May, and June), and the [SCCWRP Commission](#) (March 6, June 6, September 4, and December 4).

SWRCB Agenda Roundup and Executive Director's Reports

Here are the recent SWRCB agendas: [January 6](#), [January 21](#), and [February 3](#). Their next meetings are on February 18 and March 3. The SWRCB Executive Director's reports are linked for [January](#) and [February](#), and they feature a URL to the [SWRCB's current statewide and regional policies calendar](#), which provides the latest updates on current proceedings and calendar estimates for upcoming rulemakings.

CASA Calendar

| | |
|----------------|--|
| February 9 | CASA Aquatic Toxicity Subgroup (Performance Metrics presentation) |
| February 11 | Summit Partners BACEN Webinar |
| February 12 | CASA Air Quality, Climate Change, and Energy Workgroup (Virtual) |
| February 19 | CASA Regulatory Workgroup Meeting (Virtual) |
| February 23-24 | CASA DC Policy Forum (Washington, DC) |

| | |
|----------|--|
| March 12 | CASA Air Quality, Climate Change, and Energy Workgroup (Virtual) |
| March 19 | CASA Regulatory Workgroup Meeting (Virtual) |

Upcoming Events

| | |
|-------------|---|
| February 10 | CASA-SMC Exfiltration Workshop |
| February 12 | Cal EPA Vapor Intrusion Workshop #1 |
| February 12 | SWRCB Nonpoint Source Program Comment Deadline |
| February 12 | SWRCB CWSRF Environmental Package Webinar |
| February 25 | CWEA Collection Systems Fundamentals (Sacramento) |
| February 25 | Cal EPA Vapor Intrusion Workshop #2 |
| February 26 | California Water Quality Monitoring Council |
| March 3 | SWRCB Meeting |
| March 5 | SWRCB WQ Fees Workshop |
| March 6 | SCCWRP Commission |
| March 17 | SWRCB Meeting |
| March 23 | OPC Meeting |

For more information please reach out to the CASA Regulatory Team:

[Jared Voskuhl](#), Water Quality

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[Maile Lono-Batura, Biosolids](#)
[Sarah Deslauriers, ACE](#)
[Spencer Saks, Newsletter](#)

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Carpinteria Sanitary District
Board of Directors Meeting

STAFF REPORT

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Craig Murray, P.E. - General Manager
**SUBJECT: Change Order No. 2 – Cash Contract No. 523
Belt Press Replacement Project**
DATE: April 7, 2026

REQUESTED ACTION: Board Consideration and Approval of Change Order No. 2 to Cash Contract No. 523 with James C. Cushman, Inc.

FUNDING SOURCE: CIP Project No. P-220

BACKGROUND: On January 7, 2025 the Board of Directors approved Cash Contract No.523 between the District and James C. Cushman, Inc. (Cushman) for the Belt Press Replacement Project. The contract authorized a contract price of \$1,198,800 with a 550 calendar day construction period ending on July 28, 2026. District staff authorized one change order totaling \$4,196.50 to reasonably compensate Cushman for documented tariff related cost impacts for one pump, making the authorized contract amount \$1,202,996.50.

Change Order No. 2 to Cash Contract No. 523, attached hereto, covers four discrete changes to the scope of work directed by the District. Descriptions and justifications for these adjustments are provided on Change Order No. 2 and in supporting documentation.

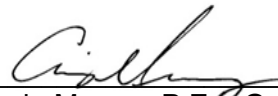
Change Order No. 2, if approved, would result in a cost amendment totaling \$95,819.36, increasing the contract price to \$1,298,815.86. The contact duration would not be modified by this change order.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Board approve Change Order No. 2 to Cash Contract No. 523 with Cushman as presented.

SUGGESTED MOTION: I move that the Board approve Change Order No. 2 to Cash Contract No. 523 with Cushman as presented.

M _____ S _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Prepared By: 
Craig Murray, P.E. - General Manager

Attachments: Change Order No. 2 and Backup Information



Carpinteria Sanitary District

Change Order No. 02

CARPINTERIA
Sanitary District

Cash Contract No. 523

Date Prepared: March 25, 2026

Contract Title: Belt Press Replacement Project

When this contract change order has been approved by the District Board or General Manager, you are directed to make the below changes to the plans and specifications or to complete the following described work not included in the plans and specifications of this contract.

DESCRIPTION:

Item 2.01 – PCO 002: Reorientation of Control Panel

REFERENCE: JCC CCO2 dated 3/19/26, Taft Electric CO with backup documentation, field review.

Reorientation of Alfa Laval control panel and associated conduit modifications, construction of concrete pad for operator accessibility, conduit and wiring to flow meter and booster pump not shown in contract documents, and realignment of feed piping to optimize site layout and access.

REASON FOR CHANGE:

Owner directed reconfiguration of belt press control panel to orient HMI screen out of direct UV exposure. Includes operator access improvements and critical refinement of belt press feed piping.

Item Total: \$ 36,497.95

Item 2.02 – PCO 003: New Aluminum Grating Supports and Grating Modifications

REFERENCE: JCC CCO2 dated 3/24/26, field review.

Installation of new aluminum grating support framing throughout belt press bay, including modifications to accommodate reuse of access platform and stairs and expansion of grating for operator safety.

REASON FOR CHANGE:

Owner directed change. Original design called for in-place sandblast and recoating of existing steel grating support system. Following demolition of existing press and grating, the support channel was found to be severely deteriorated in locations. Replacement with aluminum supports will provide service through life of equipment. Modification and reuse of existing platform, critical for regular service of vertical pressure section, not addressed in contract documents. Includes credit for contract work not performed.

Item Total: \$ 38,729.96

Item 2.03 – PCO 004: Remove and Reinstall Seals and Pressure Switches

REFERENCE: JCC PCO4 dated 3/23/26, Taft Electric CO with backup documentation, field review.

Reinstallation of diaphragm seals and pressure switches for new sludge feed pump to provide signal for pump protection control.

REASON FOR CHANGE:

Contract documents did not indicate existence of seals and pressure switches for existing transfer pump that are necessary for protection of new positive displacement sludge transfer pump to monitor system pressure and absence of flow.

Item Total: \$ 4,302.29

Item 2.04 – PCO 005: Relocate Hydraulic Controls

REFERENCE: JCC PCO5 dated 4/4/26, Alfa Laval CO Proposal

Relocation of hydraulic controls on pressure section of belt filter press to a higher location in order to coordinate with reinstalled aluminum platform and stairs.

REASON FOR CHANGE:

Contract documents did not indicate the retention of an access platform and stairs for maintenance and routine cleaning of the pressure section of the new Alfa Laval belt filter press. The location of the hydraulic controls is at ground level and would sit below the retained platform deck, inaccessible to the operators. The District requested that the manufacturer relocate the controls during the startup period. JCC has agreed to omit any markup from this equipment modification and absorb their coordination costs.

Item Total: \$ 16,289.16

Change Order Total: \$ 95,819.36

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Original Contract Amount: | \$ 1,198,800.00 |
| | |
| Total Change by Previous Change Orders: | \$ 4,196.50 |
| | |
| Contract Amount Prior to this Change Order: | \$ 1,202,996.50 |
| | |
| Contract Amount to be Increased by this Change Order: | \$ 95,819.36 |
| | |
| Adjusted Contract Amount including this Change Order: | \$ 1,298,815.86 |
| | |
| The Contract Period will be increased by <u>0</u> working days. | |
| Final Contract Completion Date including this Change Order: | July 28, 2026 |

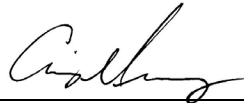
This adjustment shall include full payment for all items required for such work, including, without limitation: all compensation for all direct and indirect costs for such work; costs for adjustments to scheduling and sequence of work; equipment; materials delivery; project "acceleration"; costs for labor, material, equipment and incidental items; costs for cumulative impacts of contract change orders; overhead costs and supervision, including all extended overhead and office overhead of every nature and description.

ACCEPTED:

Contractor

Date

APPROVED:



District Manager

4/7/26

Date

DISTRIBUTION:

- Frankie Ortiz, James C. Cushman Inc.
- Craig Murray, Carpinteria Sanitary District
- Kim Garcia, Carpinteria Sanitary District



JAMES C. CUSHMAN INC.
GENERAL ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS

P.O. Box 1416

Goleta, CA 93116-0147

Office (805) 964 -8661

Carpinteria Sanitary District

03/19/2026

5300 Sixth Street
Carpinteria, CA 93013

ATTN: Craig Murray, General Manager

REF: (CSD) Belt Filter Press Replacement

Subject: Reorientation of Control Panel

Mr. Murray,

Following installation of the Belt Filter Press control panel enclosure, the District identified concern regarding long term UV exposure to the HMI and external components. Field direction was provided to rotate the control panel enclosure 180 degrees in order to orient the equipment away from direct sunlight exposure.

Implementation of this direction required additional work beyond the original contract scope including:

- Rerouting electrical conduit, raceways, and wiring associated with the control panel relocation
- Removal and reinstallation of the existing wash water hose rack and piping
- Demolition of the existing concrete curb at the panel location
- Drilling and doweling into the existing concrete and roughening the slab to prepare for new concrete placement
- Forming, pouring, and stripping a new concrete curb and pad to maintain code compliant access clearance in front of the panel
- Field modification and rerouting of the 4-inch DIP sludge feed pipeline including fittings and supports to accommodate the new panel orientation and walkway clearance

The attached cost proposal summarizes the additional labor, equipment, materials, and subcontractor costs. PE & Superintendent's work to quantify, price, procure materials, plan & execute work.

James C. Cushman, Inc. respectfully requests issuance of a change order in the amount of:

\$36,497.95

This work will require approximately **5 additional working days** to complete.

Please contact us if any additional information is required.

Sincerely,

James C. Cushman, Inc.

Frankie L, Ortiz

Carpinteria Sanitary District
Change Order 02
Cost Summary

Date: 3/18/2026
CCO #: 02
Description: Reorientation of Control Panel

Control Panel relocation and associated civil, mechanical and electrical modifications.

JCC

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Labor | \$ <u>7,618.16</u> |
| Equipment | \$ <u>1,850.00</u> |
| Materials | \$ <u>7,885.80</u> |
| Subcontractors | \$ <u>13,061.00</u> |
| Subtotal | \$ <u>30,414.96</u> |
| <u>20%</u> Mark-up Includes Bond & Insurance | \$ <u>6,082.99</u> |

CCO Total: \$ 36,497.95

Additional Time: 5 Working Days



Subcontractor's Breakdown:

| Name | Amount |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Taft Electric | \$ 13,061.00 |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Subcontractor's Total: | \$ 13,061.00 |

Notes: Taxes included in the above change order total.

TAFT ELECTRIC COMPANY

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
STATE LICENSE NO. 772245, DIR# 1000000149
2310 "A" Street, Unit A - Santa Maria, CA 93455 - (805) 642-0121

James C. Cushman
PO Box 1416
Goleta CA 93116

03/16/2026

RE: 35-1754 Carpinteria Belt Press
SUBJECT: Additional work at Belt Press area
ATTENTION: Jim Dinning

Our Price for Taft Electric's proposed change order **002** is as follows:

TOTAL CHANGE TO CONTRACT **\$13,061.00**

Schedule Activities Impacted N/A

Additional Time Required: 4 Working Days

This change proposal is based on the usual cost elements such as labor, materials, and markup. Note: the proposal does not include any amount for impacts such as interference, disruptions, rescheduling, and change in the sequence of work, delays and/or associated acceleration. We expressly reserve the right to submit our request for any of these items should we be faced with performing work under any of these conditions.

This change proposal affects certain schedule activity durations as indicated above. We expect the work items will be incorporated into the most current schedule based on direction to proceed. The Contractor/Owner shall determine if this change or work by others have a direct effect on project completion.

This cost proposal supersedes all previously submitted cost proposals relating to this same work. The work of other trades which may be required to complete this change order is not a part of this change proposal.

This quote is valid for 30 calendar days from the above date and void thereafter. All work affected by either the acceptance or rejection of the enclosed change order quotation is on hold pending notification.

Sincerely,
Taft Electric Co.

Carlos Placencia

Carlos Placencia
Project Manager



Carpinteria Sanitary District

03/24/2026

5300 Sixth Street
Carpinteria, CA 93013

ATTN: Craig Murray, General Manager

REF: (CSD) Belt Filter Press Replacement

Subject: CCO-03 New Aluminum Grating Supports, Additional FRP Grating, and Upper Deck Access Platform Reinstallation Rev.1

Mr. Murray,

The drawings show replacing grating and coating existing supports. Upon removal of the existing grating, it was observed that the underlying grating support members were substantially corroded and no longer structurally adequate. Replacement of the support system is required to maintain structural integrity.

Additional grating is also required beyond the original scope due to field conditions and coordination with installed equipment.

JCC was directed by the district to modify and install the existing stair platform, which was shown to be demolished. This will provide access to the upper deck controls and daily wash down activities.

A credit has been included for the original scope of coating the existing support system.

The following outlines the steps required to execute this revised scope of work:

- Remove and dispose existing grating support system
- Lay out placement of new structural supports
- Fabricate C-channel and angle clips
- Field weld edge bar anchor tabs
- Drill and install anchors
- Install the existing platform, modify as necessary to the structural supports and provide access to the belt filter press upper deck
- Perform structural repair to spalling curb
- Adjust grating layout to accommodate new pipe supports and conform to new equipment configuration

James C. Cushman, Inc. respectfully requests issuance of a change order in the amount of \$38,730.

This work will require approximately 8 additional working days to complete.

Please contact us if any additional information is required.

Sincerely,

James C. Cushman, Inc.

Frankie L, Ortiz

Carpinteria Sanitary District
Change Order 03
Cost Summary

Date: 3/24/2026
 CCO #: 03 Rev. 1
 Description: New Aluminum Grating Supports, Additional FRP Grating, and Upper Deck Access Platform Installation

JCC

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| Labor | <u>\$ 16,968.96</u> |
| Equipment | <u>\$ 3,600.00</u> |
| Materials | <u>\$ 18,006.01</u> |
| Subcontractors | <u>\$ -</u> |
| Credit | <u>\$ (6,300.00)</u> |
| Subtotal | <u>\$ 32,274.97</u> |
| <u>20%</u> Mark-up Includes Bond & Insurance | <u>\$ 6,454.99</u> |

CCO Total: \$ 38,729.96

Additional Time: 8 Working Days

Subcontractor's Breakdown:

| Name | Amount |
|------------------------|-------------|
| | <u>\$ -</u> |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Subcontractor's Total: | <u>\$ -</u> |

Notes: Taxes included in the above change order total.



JAMES C. CUSHMAN INC.
GENERAL ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS

P.O. Box 1416

Goleta, CA 93116-0147

Office (805) 964 -8661

Carpinteria Sanitary District

03/23/2026

5300 Sixth Street
Carpinteria, CA 93013

ATTN: Craig Murray, General Manager

REF: (CSD) Belt Filter Press Replacement

Subject: CCO-04 Remove and Install Diaphragm Seals and Pressure Switches

Mr. Murray,

During installation of the new sludge feed pump, the plant directed JCC to reinstall the existing wafer diaphragm seals and associated pressure switches. This was not included in the original contract drawings. The additional work requires installation of two wafer diaphragm seals which require modifying the piping and associated wiring. The electrical work includes rewiring the pressure switches to a farther location.

James C. Cushman, Inc. respectfully requests issuance of a change order in the amount of \$4,302.

This work will require approximately 2 additional working days to complete.

Please contact us if any additional information is required.

Sincerely,

James C. Cushman, Inc.

Frankie L. Ortiz

Carpinteria Sanitary District
Change Order 04
Cost Summary

Date: 3/23/2026
 CCO #: 04
 Description: Remove and Install Diaphragm Seals and Pressure Switches

JCC

| | | |
|---|----|-----------------|
| Labor | \$ | <u>682.98</u> |
| Equipment | \$ | <u>-</u> |
| Materials | \$ | <u>184.26</u> |
| Subcontractors | \$ | <u>2,718.00</u> |
| Subtotal | \$ | <u>3,585.24</u> |
| <u>20%</u> Mark-up Includes Bond & Insurance | \$ | <u>717.05</u> |

CCO Total: **\$ 4,302.29**

Additional Time: 2 Working Days

Subcontractor's Breakdown:

| Name | Amount |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Taft Electric | \$ 2,718.00 |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Subcontractor's Total: | \$ 2,718.00 |

Notes: Taxes included in the above change order total.

TAFT ELECTRIC COMPANY

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
STATE LICENSE NO. 772245, DIR# 1000000149
2310 "A" Street, Unit A - Santa Maria, CA 93455 - (805) 642-0121

James C. Cushman
PO Box 1416
Goleta CA 93116

03/16/2026

RE: 35-1754 Carpinteria Belt Press
SUBJECT: Additional work at sludge pump and 2 sensors
ATTENTION: Jim Dinning

Our Price for Taft Electric's proposed change order 001 is as follows:

TOTAL CHANGE TO CONTRACT **\$2,718.00**

Schedule Activities Impacted N/A

Additional Time Required: 2 Working Days

This change proposal is based on the usual cost elements such as labor, materials, and markup. Note: the proposal does not include any amount for impacts such as interference, disruptions, rescheduling, and change in the sequence of work, delays and/or associated acceleration. We expressly reserve the right to submit our request for any of these items should we be faced with performing work under any of these conditions.

This change proposal affects certain schedule activity durations as indicated above. We expect the work items will be incorporated into the most current schedule based on direction to proceed. The Contractor/Owner shall determine if this change or work by others have a direct effect on project completion.

This cost proposal supersedes all previously submitted cost proposals relating to this same work. The work of other trades which may be required to complete this change order is not a part of this change proposal.

This quote is valid for 30 calendar days from the above date and void thereafter. All work affected by either the acceptance or rejection of the enclosed change order quotation is on hold pending notification.

Sincerely,
Taft Electric Co.

Carlos Placencia

Carlos Placencia
Project Manager



JAMES C. CUSHMAN INC.
GENERAL ENGINEERING CONTRACTORS

P.O. Box 1416

Goleta, CA 93116-0147

Office (805) 964 -8661

Carpinteria Sanitary District

04/01/2026

5300 Sixth Street
Carpinteria, CA 93013

ATTN: Craig Murray, General Manager

REF: (CSD) Belt Filter Press Replacement

Subject: CCO-05 Hydraulic System Relocation for Operator Access

Mr. Murray,

Following delivery and field review of the belt filter press, it was identified that maintaining the elevated platform is necessary for proper belt washing, access to the pressure section, and ongoing maintenance.

With the platform in place, the current configuration places the hydraulic manifold, tensioning components, and associated controls beneath the platform, limiting operator access and serviceability.

To address this, the District requested relocation of the hydraulic system to an accessible position at the elevated platform. This work will be coordinated with Alfa Laval during startup.

The cost for parts and vendor services associated with this modification is \$16,289.16, as provided by Alfa Laval (attached).

James C. Cushman, Inc. will coordinate this work at no additional markup.

If additional scope is identified during startup that requires further labor, materials, or modifications beyond this proposal, we will review and address that separately with the District.

JCC request issuance of a change order in the amount of \$16,289.

Please let us know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely,

James C. Cushman, Inc.

Frankie L. Ortiz

Carpinteria Sanitary District
Change Order 05
Cost Summary

Date: 4/1/2026
 CCO #: 05
 Description: Hydraulic System Relocation for Operator Access

JCC

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| | Labor | \$ <u> -</u> |
| | Equipment | \$ <u> -</u> |
| | Materials | \$ <u> -</u> |
| | Subcontractors | \$ <u> 16,289.00</u> |
| | Subtotal | \$ <u> -</u> |
| <u> -</u> | Mark-up | \$ <u> -</u> |

CCO Total: \$ 16,289.00

Additional Time: -

Subcontractor's Breakdown:

| Name | Amount |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Alfa Laval | \$ 16,289.00 |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| | |
| Subcontractor's Total: | \$ 16,289.00 |

Notes: Taxes included in the above change order total.



April 1, 2026

To: Cushman Contracting Corporation
P.O BOX 147 Goleta, CA 93116
Carpinteria Sanitary District
Belt Press Replacement Project

Alfa Laval Inc.
10470 Deer Trail Drive
Houston, TX 77038
800-362-9041

Attn: Jim Dinning

Ref: Carpinteria Sanitary District
Belt Press Replacement Project
Customer PO No. 0325-A
Alfa Laval, Inc. SO #: P003040

Mr. Dinning,

On behalf of the Alfa Laval, Inc. we thank you for the opportunity to offer this change order proposal for your consideration on this project.

The equipment we propose to furnish is as follows:

| <u>QUANTITY</u> | <u>DESCRIPTION</u> | <u>COST</u> |
|-----------------|---|--------------|
| 1 | Parts and Service for Moving the Hydraulic System for Carpinteria Sanitary District | \$ 14,944.18 |

Total price for changes in scope plus 9% State of California taxes: **\$16,289.16**

Sincerely,

Yanely Ascencio

Yanely Ascencio, Project Manager



Carpinteria Sanitary District

Board of Directors Meeting

STAFF REPORT

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Craig Murray, P.E. - General Manager
SUBJECT: Carpinteria Advanced Purification Project (CAPP) Update
DATE: April 7, 2026

REQUESTED ACTION: None. Information Only.

BACKGROUND: Progress continues to be made on development of an indirect potable reuse (IPR) recycled water project in conjunction with the Carpinteria Valley Water District (CVWD). A brief summary of activities underway is provided below.

Construction Status. A construction contract was issued to Walsh Construction and we have had several planning meetings with their team to review logistics. At this point, mobilization is not likely before May. We are reviewing Walsh's Site Safety Plan and expect to receive a detailed construction schedule in the next week.

Entitlement and Right of Way Acquisition. The project team has been working on acquiring a small portion of Olive Avenue from the City of Carpinteria for over a year. The City initiated a Surplus Lands Act process to vacate approximately 1,800 square feet of unused road right of way near the existing entrance to the WWTP. This process has been protracted and is preventing CVWD from seeking grant and loan funds from the State of California to cover construction phase costs. Legal counsel and management from the City, CVWD and CSD have been working on potential pathways to streamline or accelerate this action, as well as other alternative approaches. This group is also working on entitlement for construction of the Meadowview injection and monitoring wells, which is also required for project funding.

Permitting Update. The Division of Drinking Water provided comments on the first submittal of the Title 22 Report for the CAPP Project. The project team is reviewing and making necessary modifications to the plan. The District is pushing to complete the Enhanced Source Control Program element for inclusion in the next submittal. CVWD is pursuing a Coastal Development Permit from the County of Santa Barbara for installation of the monitoring well cluster on a private parcel just west of the Meadowview injection well.

Other Items. Bob McDonald officially retired from CVWD on March 31st. He plans to be back in town for the Groundbreaking Ceremony that is scheduled for May 28th at 4:00 p.m. here at CSD. Save the Date Notices have been sent out and invitations will follow next month. Bi-weekly outreach meetings are continuing and significant work has been done on messaging related to construction impacts.

RECOMMENDATION: None. Information Only.

SUGGESTED MOTION: None.

Prepared by:



Craig Murray, P.E. - General Manager