

September 6, 2012

Updated Summary of Current Issues affecting Yosemite West

Hello:

The intent of this correspondence is to provide an additional update to the community concerning issues affecting the Yosemite West subdivision and the Maintenance District.

Sewer System:

Staff visited the subdivision on Wednesday September 5, 2012 along with a representative of Provost and Pritchard, a Fresno based Civil Engineering firm. This firm specializes in water and sewer system design and construction. We have contracted with them to determine how well the current sewer collection system, treatment system and disposal system are operating.

On Tuesday September 4, 2012 this office received a Notice of Violation (NOV) from the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB). This Notice of Violation was a follow-up to a site visit by RWQCB staff following a citizen complaint concerning the condition of the sewage treatment and disposal system. It is my understanding that a copy of the NOV was sent to the YWHPI and that many in the community have now received a copy of that document.

The NOV identifies several specific items that the District (County) need to complete and specific dates by which these items need to be completed. Public Works staff is currently working with Provost and Pritchard to determine what we need to do to satisfy the requirements of the NOV and how quickly we can get these things done. In addition, Public Works staff will be setting up a meeting with RWQCB staff in Fresno to discuss the NOV and be sure that we fully understand exactly what is expected of us.

As soon as more information is available we will provide an updated summary for the community.

Water System:

As residents are aware we had a sequential failure of several Pressure Reducing Valves within the subdivision in the last few days of July. Public Works staff with the help of several contractors we able to make the necessary repairs and get the system back in a functional condition by the middle of August. As part of that effort 5 of the 10 Pressure Reducing Valves were replaced. The remaining 5 valves are scheduled to be replaced during the week of September 24-28. At this time it does not appear that there will be a need to shut off the water in order to replace these valves. However, the contractor will have to make the ultimate decision of how to make these repairs safely. That could mean localized short duration water shut-offs if that is necessary for safety reasons.

Garbage Concerns:

We have received concerns about garbage being bothered by wildlife. As currently assigned this issue is not within the responsibility of Public Works to resolve. Total Waste Systems Inc. provides garbage service to the Yosemite West subdivision. The County does not currently regulate that service. My recommendation to the community is to contact Total Waste and see if there is something that can be devised that will address this issue directly with them. Perhaps this is an issue that the Homeowners Association can address more effectively???

Street Signs:

We have been made aware that there is a concern with the condition of the street signs in the subdivision. This issue has been referred to our Roads Division for them to investigate. I have asked that they determine whatever signage improvements they believe need to be done. The cost of their time and the materials needed will be charged to the District.

I hope this summary helps residents to be better informed of the current issues that Public Works is managing on your behalf.

Sincerely,

Peter Rei
Director of Public Works
County of Mariposa