



YOSEMITE WEST UPDATE

Peter Rei, Public Works Director

2/6/2014

Yosemite West Update

This report is a quarterly update on the status of the infrastructure in Yosemite West Subdivision as requested by Supervisor Lee Stetson.

Water Treatment System

- The Air Stripper system has been installed, tested and is currently undergoing final calibration. It is hoped that the system will be fully functional by February 15, 2014. This system is designed to remove the carbon dioxide present in the well water at Yosemite West which increases the likelihood of premature corrosion to metal plumbing due to the ionic charge of the well water. Previous attempts to resolve this problem have not produced the desired results. Staff will be monitoring the performance of the new Air Stripper to be sure that we are making progress on this important issue.
- The SCADA control system repairs have been completed, including the new lighting protections. Following construction of the repairs the system has been reprogrammed and is functioning properly. This is the computer control system that monitors and controls all of the pumps including the well pump that deliver water to the storage tanks.

Review of Past Financial Transactions between the County and Yosemite West

- The County Administrative Officer has been negotiating a Scope of Work with a firm that specializes in Financial matters. This firm will be asked to review all past financial arrangements between the County of Mariposa and the ratepayers of Yosemite West as directed by the Board of Supervisors. Following that review they will issue a Final Report. It is hoped that this Final Report will be the final chapter in determining whether the County or the ratepayers of Yosemite West owe the other party any funds due to all of the past financial transactions. Once a draft of the Scope of Work is received by the County that meets our requirements it will be circulated to the Yosemite West Maintenance Advisory Committee for review and comment. Following receipt of those comments by staff this matter will be brought to the Board of Supervisors for approval of the contract and the Scope of Work.



Wastewater Treatment System

- The Flowmeter for the Sewage Treatment Facility has been installed, tested and is now operational. Staff will be monitoring the flowmeter to ensure that it continues to work properly and will be recording the flows to begin getting a good handle on how the flows change throughout the year.
- The self-cleaning Strainer has not yet been installed. Staff are preparing a bid package to solicit bids for the installation of the strainer. This item was delayed somewhat due to the investigation of the leachfield performance and capacity study by Provost and Pritchard. We hope to have the Strainer in place sometime in the early Spring of 2014. This will help remove items from the wastewater that are clogging the SDI system which we hope will improve it's performance and allow us to rest the leachfields more often which is intended to improve the performance of the leachfields.
- The Clarifier modifications to allow the use of polyethylene insulation have been completed
- The polyethylene "Armor Balls" to insulate the Clarifier have been ordered and are scheduled to arrive in late February. We had ordered them in December but the manufacturer was in the process of a complete overhaul of their production operation which delayed their arrival. When the Armor Balls are installed staff will monitor the Clarifier and ponds to be sure that they do actually prevent the ponds from freezing.
- The Draft of the Leachfield and Disposal Facilities Report prepared by Provost and Pritchard has been reviewed by staff and the consultant has been directed to produce the Final Report. Once the Final Report is delivered we will be able to use the findings to prepare a proposal to adjust the property boundary with the Doctors group so that the needed leachfield area will be owned by the County. This process will likely take some time but is necessary in order that additional leachfield construction can occur to increase the treatment capacity of the system.
- Provost and Pritchard have been directed to prepare a Sanitary Seware Treatment Plan (SSMP) for the entire Sewage Collection System as required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. We are awaiting the final Scope of Work so that a contract for this work can be brought to the Board of Supervisors for approval to proceed.

- Provost and Pritchard have been directed to begin work on the preparation of a 10 year plan summarizing all of the capital improvement costs for the entire wastewater collection and treatment system. This information will be used in the creation of the required Engineers Report as a part of the upcoming County Service Area assessment hearings.
- Advanced Reliability Technologies Inc. has been retained to provide staff assistance with the operational and maintenance needs of the wastewater plant. The Board of Supervisors approved their contract on December 17, 2013.
- Advanced Reliability Technologies has been directed to begin work on the preparation of a 10 year plan summarizing all of the operations and maintenance costs for the entire wastewater collection and treatment system. This information will be used in the creation of the required Engineers Report as a part of the upcoming County Service Area assessment hearings.

County Service Area Creation Process

- County Staff have met with the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to determine what the proper type of district is for the future of Yosemite West infrastructure. Those meetings have determined that the existing County Service Area #1 already allows the delivery of sewer, water and roadway services anywhere in Mariposa County.
- Engineering Staff are preparing the required documents, application, maps and legal descriptions to create three new Zones of Benefit within County Service Area #1 for Yosemite West. One will be for water treatment and delivery, one for Sewage Collection and Treatment and one for Road Maintenance and Snow Removal. Once these efforts are completed staff will bring the package to the Board of Supervisors for approval of the creation of the new Zones of Benefit. We expect that to occur in mid to late March 2014.
- Provost and Pritchard and Advanced Reliability Technologies are developing Scopes of Work which will assist with the preparation of the Engineers Report for the upcoming Rate Hearings.
- Engineering Staff are preparing the required analysis of costs for Road Maintenance and Snow Removal which will assist with the preparation of the Engineers Report for the upcoming Rate Hearings.
- Staff are beginning the process of soliciting for a consultant to prepare the Engineers Report for the new Zones of Benefit as required by Proposition 218.

Once completed the Engineers Report will be the basis of the determination of proposed assessments for water, sewer and road services for the upcoming Rate Hearings.