

AGENDA

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
LEUCADIA WASTEWATER DISTRICT
Wednesday, July 18, 2018 – 2:00 p.m.
1960 La Costa Avenue, Carlsbad, CA 92009**

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **New Business**
 - A. Review the Summer 2018 Newsletter draft text. (Pages 2-6)
5. **Information Items**

None.
6. **Directors' Comments**
7. **General Manager's Comments**
8. **Adjournment**

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 12, 2018
TO: Community Affairs Committee
FROM: Paul J. Bushee, General Manager
SUBJECT: Summer 2018 Newsletter Draft Text Review



RECOMMENDATION:

Staff requests that the Community Affairs Committee (CAC):

1. Review the draft text for the Summer 2018 Newsletter; and
2. Discuss and provide direction, as appropriate.

DISCUSSION:

During June 2018, Rising Tide Partners (RTP) presented a list of story ideas for the summer 2018 newsletter to the CAC and staff for comments. RTP and staff have completed the draft newsletter text. RTP and staff will present the proposed newsletter text at the CAC meeting.

Attached please find the draft text for the summer 2018 newsletter for your review. Staff requests that the committee review the proposed newsletter text and provide comments as appropriate.

Attachment

th:PJB

Summer 2018 Newsletter Draft

Lead Articles

No Increase in Your Wastewater Rate!

As we enter a new fiscal year at Leucadia Wastewater District (District), we are excited to announce that our wastewater rates will remain unchanged at \$28.64 per month! We are proud to say that our wastewater rate is one of the lowest in San Diego County. Since 2017, the District has kept rates flat by carefully managing our maintenance, operations, and capital improvement costs and by maintaining our sewer system in peak operational condition.

To help establish the current and future wastewater rates, the District recently updated its Financial Plan and its Asset Management Plan which projects future capital improvement projects and their costs. Both plans are used as a guide to project financial conditions and is used in the financial planning process. The updated Financial Plan can be read on the District's website in its entirety at <http://bit.ly/LWDFinancialPlan>.

Maintaining Sewer Lines through Easements

The District maintains over 200 miles of gravity sewer lines. Some of these sewer lines run through easements on private property. A couple times per year, we will notify customers through a front door hanger about upcoming sewer line easement inspections. If you have a sewer line easement on your property, we will coordinate with you to schedule a time to inspect and clear any obstructions that may be inside the sewer line in your easement. Sewer line easements are generally checked twice a year or sometimes more often, if there are known to have roots, grit, or other debris.

With over 800 easements in the District's service area, sewer lines are inspected through manholes, which may or may not be on your property. Manholes are a critically important part of our sewer system, allowing our Field Services Technicians to access, clean out, and inspect our gravity sewer lines. Regular maintenance of easements helps us prevent a potential sewer spill from occurring on your property or nearby. If you receive a notice from us, please contact us at the number on the door hanger to schedule your sewer line easement inspection.

Recently, our Field Services Team found and unearthed the manhole seen below. It was buried and hidden under 6' of fill alongside a local apartment complex. If you have a manhole in or near your yard or are planning an upgrade to your landscaping, please be sure to keep it free and clear of obstructions., We are available at 760-753-0155 to answer any questions about access, maintenance or emergencies as well at info@lwwd.org

By working together with our customers, the District can prevent sewage spills in our neighborhoods, on your property, or near Leucadia and Carlsbad's lagoons and beaches.

****GRAPHIC**** Image of buried manhole & graphic of notification card**

Article 3

Can It! Fats, Oil, and Grease (FOG) Can Cause Sewage Spills!

FOG is one of the realities of wastewater treatment, but it's different than the fog that rolls along the coast bringing us May Gray and June Gloom. When improperly disposed of, FOG builds up in our sewer pipes, similar to what trans fats can do to our arteries. Throughout our service area in Encinitas,

Leucadia, and South Carlsbad, there are several areas that we keep an eye on, as they tend to see the greatest accumulation of FOG.

Please help us to reduce the FOG in the sewer lines by putting your fats, oil, and grease in a separate container to cool and throw it out in the trash. The beaches, lagoons, and our Field Services Technicians thank you!

**** GRAPHIC**** Picture of tin can full of Grease w/ LWD topper from the open house on it and possibly sewer line with FOG build up******

Article 4

Schedule a Tour of our Facilities

The District enjoys the opportunity to provide tours to members of the public, community groups or schools. Since March 2018, the District has hosted several tours to groups, such as, the Solana Beach Eco Rotary Club and Pacific Ridge School. These groups were able to tour the District's Gafner Recycled Water Treatment Facility and/or the Leucadia Pump Station. The groups learned about how we maintain our infrastructure, biological processes, and how we keep sewage flowing to help prevent sewer spills while protecting homes, neighborhoods, lagoons, and beaches.

****GRAPHIC**** Image of a tour ******

If you would like a tour, please contact us at (760) 753-0155 or email us at info@lwwd.org to schedule a visit!

Article 5

Providing Grants to Support Water/Recycled Water Science Projects with Local Teachers

Since 2008, the District has granted over \$30,000 to local teachers to help support hands on environmental education projects with a focus on water resource management, water reuse, or ocean pollution prevention. Every year we offer up to \$5,000 in grants to teachers in our community to help fund these types of projects.

We are excited to announce the 2018 Teacher Grants recipients. The first grant recipient is June Honsberger from La Costa Canyon High School and the funds go towards the school's Drought Tolerant Garden at the main entrance of the school. The other recipient is Martin Chaker from San Dieguito Academy and the funds will help towards building a storm water diversion system at the Academy. Congratulations teachers!

Have an interest in applying for a future grant? The next application process opens in September 2018. Send us an email to be notified at info@lwwd.org.

****GRAPHIC**** small infographic of key data 8 years \$31k+ 25k students impacted******

Article 6

Pitching in to Protect our Local Environment

One of the lagoons that the District strives to protect is the Batiquitos Lagoon. It is a beautiful local area that runs from El Camino Real west along the north end of La Costa Avenue to Ponto Beach. The lagoon is one of few remaining tidal wetlands on California's southern coast and is designated as an ecological reserve. The area is managed by the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation, which focuses on the conservation, restoration, and enhancement of the local environment of the Lagoon. The foundation has

been managing this area for over thirty-five years and this is made possible by generous local donations and volunteers from our community.

If you are looking for an opportunity for yourself, your family or coworkers to help protect this beautiful area you can lend a hand to trail maintenance the 1st and 3rd Saturday of every month. Opportunities to volunteer include, helping remove invasive plants and trash from this sensitive salt marsh habitat and ecological reserve. More information can be found at the Foundation's website at <http://bit.ly/LWDBatiquitos>.

GRAPHICS images from LWD dropbox page of the lagoon.

Article 7

Our Sewer Lateral Grant Program

Did you know that the District offers a financial assistance program that can reimburse you 50% of your sewer lateral repair costs, up to maximum of \$3,000? This program is geared to help with necessary sewer lateral repairs due to root intrusion, cracks, or potential blockages. Please note that qualifying sewer repair work includes the installation of lateral liners and/or replacing existing sewer pipe. A cleaning of the private lateral does not qualify for the program.

Since 2008, the District has granted 156 applications for a total of \$340,000 worth of Lateral Grants. More information can be found at <http://bit.ly/LatGrant>.

GRAPHIC Image of Lateral or graphic from previous newsletter

Article 8

Check the Surf at Ponto!

Our Batiquitos Pump Station is right across the street from Ponto Beach, and is an excellent location for our Surf Cam! Check the surf, plan your next beach day, or just unplug for a few minutes the next time you need a break from the daily grind. See it online here <http://bit.ly/PontoSurfCam>

Next time you're out enjoying the beach, please remember to be a good steward and pack out everything you brought in.

GRAPHIC Look for community submitted photos from Ponto*

Article 9

Capital Projects Under Way or Recently Completed

2018 Gravity Pipeline Rehabilitation Project

Throughout this year, manholes and sewer pipes in the District's service are being rehabilitated to prevent sewer spills. The District will use a trenchless rehabilitation method called cured in place pipe (CIPP) to complete the work because it is cost effective and a less intrusive installation method by minimizing the need to dig up the roads. Please see our Facebook for updates on this project.

Completion of Gafner Recycled Water Plant Improvement Project

The Gafner Recycled Water Plant project was completed in early Spring 2018. The project included several improvements to the plant's pumps, valves and electrical systems. These improvements will allow the District to continue providing the Omni La Costa Resort South Golf Course with recycled water to irrigate its turf. The project also improved its safety and compliance requirements.

Leucadia Pump Station Rehabilitation Project

The Leucadia pump station is located at the District's headquarters and it is one of the District's largest pump stations. It pumps an average of 1.5 million gallons of wastewater per day through our force mains to the Encina Water Pollution Control Facility. Engineers have evaluated the condition of the pump station and determined that it requires new pumps, valves, and other hardware. Rehabilitation of this pump station will allow it to run more efficiently, which will help reduce electrical costs and reduce odors. The new design and hardware is estimated to last 10 to 15 years.

****Graphic of each project if available****

Article 10

Calling all Photographers!

We loved the photos the community submitted in response to our last Downstream newsletter so we are asking for more! Please submit your favorite pictures from Encinitas, Leucadia, and South Carlsbad by tagging a photo on Facebook with #LWDPphoto or by email to info@lwwd.org and we may feature your photo(s) in an upcoming social post.,. We will give recognition to any photo we use in any of our postings or newsletters. If you did not notice the caption on the front cover of this newsletter, the photo was taken by (insert name).

Article 11

Welcome our New Employee – Mark Brechbiel as our Administrative Specialist

If you stop by our Administrative office, or contact us, you will be greeted by Mark, our Administrative Specialist.

Mark has a diverse professional background ranging from general medical studies to electrical and audio video construction. For the last nine years he's been involved in customer service and business /property management in the hospitality field. Mark now brings his strong communication and customer services skills to the District.

Since joining the District, he loves the passion that all his coworkers have for their job, on top of the support they give him. Mark and his family live in Oceanside and he enjoys hiking, rock climbing, camping, and skateboarding.

Standout Achievements: Staff Awards, Professional Certifications, District Awards

- ❖ 15 Year Service Award – Maggie McEniry
- ❖ Award for Outstanding Financial Reporting from California Society of Municipal Finance Officers (CSMFO)
9th time receiving this annual award
- ❖ Award for District Transparency Certificate of Excellence from Special District Leadership Foundation
- ❖ Award, 4 years with no District vehicle accidents

----[Images/graphics for each] ----