

# Heber Public Utility District

## Report to the Board of Directors

Date: January 20, 2022  
From: Laura Fischer, General Manager  
Subject: General Managers Report to Board of Directors

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### **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

#### **HPUD ADMINISTRATION**

##### **Office Closed to Public Access – Staff work hours**

We have closed the office access and I have staggered staff working schedule to reduce the risk of spreading COVID. The office staff is working two at a time in the office with the people at home answering phones and working remote if possible.

Water, Wastewater and Parks staff are split to ensure that there is one healthy person available to perform operations at the water and wastewater plants.

At minimum this schedule will run through January and we will reevaluate in February.

##### **HPUD Events are postponed or cancelled**

The events the Recreation Center are cancelled in January. We will still make the Center available for use, but HPUD sponsored events are cancelled in January. We will have very limited staff available at the Recreation Center due to COVID concerns.

##### **Tamale Festival has been postponed**

##### **Auto Parts Theft**

Someone broke into the water plant and stole the catalytic converters from three HPUD vehicles. We have filed a claim with our liability insurance carrier, SDRMA, and have ordered parts. Staff will be bringing to the Board quotes for security. The ICSO was called and a report filed.

##### **Employee Appreciation Lunch**

The lunch was a success and the HPUD staff were very appreciative of your support. Director Garcia attended the event, and Director Molina stopped by.

##### **Sewer Line Flushing Project**

We will be flushing lines in January on Correll Road from Oak east to Yourman. The company that will be flushing this large 36” diameter line will also be cleaning the Regional Pump Station.

##### **Repairs at Water Plant**

We will be replacing a coupler at the water plant. In order to replace the coupler, the plant must be shut down. We will be notifying our customers in the February water bill and scheduling the work during the night when the flows are very low. We will make every effort to minimize the  
Memo to BOD 01/20/22

impact to our customers and we hope to use our new communication tools to get the word out as well as a flyer in our water bill.

### **New Insurance Carrier**

New insurance goes into effect on February 1, 2022. Staff held a meeting with Keenan to train on the use of their enrollment software.

### **Development News**

The first phase of the new Heber Wood homes have been completed and HPUD and the County have signed off on the homes.

The new apartments going in at the corner of Pitzer and Correll Roads are moving forward and HPUD has completed the review of their plans.

### **Grant Information**

#### **Imperial Regional Water Management**

You may recall that we very quickly applied for two grants through the Imperial Regional Water Management Plan. These two grants are managed by the County of Imperial and benefit HPUD.

The first is a water line extension project from the water plant to Heffernan Avenue that connects to the water line running down highway 86. This line will expand our water flow and provide increased pressure and fire flows to the school and development at highway 111 and Yourman Road. Installing this line down the alley south of highway 86 decreases cost as we are not working inside CalTrans right-of-way or in asphalt.

The second project is to install new sprinkler system to Estancia Park. This will reduce water consumption and improve the quality of the park to promote use.

These two projects will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on January 25<sup>th</sup> on consent agenda. I have been asked to attend in case there are any questions. If approved HPUD would receive the majority of the funds available for the County for our projects.

This item will be brought back to the HPUD Board for approval of any funding agreements or contracts.

#### **Cal Recycle Grant.**

I met with representatives from Cal Recycle to learn about the requirements of SB1383, which makes several changes to legislation that effect HPUD. The main change is that Special Districts are now considered a jurisdiction that must monitor and enforce applicable recycling regulations set out in SB 1383. Heber PUD's main focus will be on the enforcement Ordinance, hauler requirements, and collection services along with education and outreach. We must have an enforcement Ordinance adopted and effective by April 1, 2022. I will have the Ordinance on the agenda in February and representatives from Cal Recycle will be present via Zoom to answer questions.

These requirements are funded by a \$20,000 grant to be used for these purposes.

SB 1383 establishes guidelines for organic waste to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The links below provide information and outline the requirements that HPUD must implement and enforce.

[General requirements for Jurisdictions and links](#) - a lot of the links on this page are included below

[Hauler requirements](#)

[Guidance for elected officials](#)

[Collection and recycling](#)

[Edible food recovery](#) and [Jurisdiction requirements for edible food recovery](#)

[Enforcement](#) (more specific requirement webpages on this topic are in development)

[Education and outreach](#) resources

[Non-local entities](#)

[Local education agencies](#) (K-12 schools)

[YouTube page](#) - A lot of the webinars and presentations are also available on the webpages that the webinar focuses on (e.g. local education webinar is on the local education agencies page) but our YouTube page has all the resources in one place if you'd like to take a look