

July 2, 2020



To: LOCSD Board of Directors
From: Ron Munds, General Manager
Subject: Agenda Item #4D General Manager Activity for June 2020

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

• COVID-19 Response. The General Manager continues to monitor the County's Office of Emergency Services conference calls in order to understand the changing response from the State and local levels. The office remains closed to the public but staff continues to provide service to the community through phone and email contact. Staff was considering opening the office to the public with limited hours and access in early July but with the recent spike in cases in the County, the situation will be continued to be monitored to assure a safe opening. I am always available by phone or email to answers any questions you may have; 805-528-9379 or munds@lososocsd.org.

• The Department of Water Resources released the Prop 1 grant draft awards which were reviewed by the Regional Water Management Group at their June meeting. The District's 8th Street Well Project is recommended for the requested funding which is approximately \$240,000. Final award is expected in mid-July with funding agreements with the County in place by the end of the year. It is estimated that the construction of the final components of the well will begin in spring 2020.

• Staff has been working and coordinating with Greening Los Osos to initiate a tree planting project at the District owned Vista de Oro drainage basin site. The group has secured a grant to pay for the purchase of the trees and material needed to plant. It is anticipated the actual planting will take place in September. The District is excited about the beautification project and the partnership with Greening Los Osos. The group and District will be providing more information to the community as planting date nears.

• To keep the Board up to date on the impacts of waiving late and other fees, below is a table that shows amount of fees that have been waived since March.

FEES WAIVED TO DATE					
	Cycle 2	Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 1	
Past Due Date	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	June 2020	
# of Late Fee Accts	72	109	129	74	
Late Fee	\$1,461.90	\$2,979.21	\$1,862.52	\$2,459.24	\$8,762.87
Door Hanger Fee			\$550.00	\$810.00	\$1,360.00
Lock Out Fee			\$4,125.00	\$6,075.00	\$10,200.00
TOTALS	\$1,461.90	\$2,979.21	\$6,537.52	\$9,344.24	\$20,322.87

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As indicated, the dollar amounts are rising especially in the Lock Out Fee category. Staff is in the process of evaluating the fee waiving procedures since many customers have not contacted the District to provide an explanation for not paying their bills which is required.

- Los Osos Community Plan Update. Earlier this year the County released the draft Los Osos Community Plan Update (LOCP). Staff has been involved in several meetings during June regarding the water section of the plan. The Basin Management Committee (BMC) and their respective staff have received a presentation from the County on the framing of the Los Osos water supply situation in the plan and its relationship to future development in the community. The County has scheduled the first Planning Commission meeting for July 9th to start the approval process of the LOCP update.

After the County presentation at the BMC meeting on June 17th, the consensus of the three water purveyors was that the data and assumptions used in the LOCP for the amount of water available for new development requires more time and analysis in order to confirm that the water quality trends as identified in the latest BMC annual report are sustainable. There are other subsequent issues also covered in the letter. It was decided that each purveyor would individually submit letters to the Planning Commission since there was not sufficient time for the BMC to respond prior to the commission meeting. Given the time constraints, staff worked with Director Ochylski, the District's representative on and chair of the BMC, and President Cesena to draft a letter to the Planning Commission (attached). Staff will be taking the water supply issue as presented in the LOCP to the Utility Advisory Committee in July for their input and it is anticipated that staff will provide additional input to the County.

Attachment

June 26, 2020



Ms. Kylie Hensley
Department of Planning and Building
County of San Luis Obispo
976 Osos Street, Room 300
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Dear Ms. Hensley,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the planning efforts underway for the community of Los Osos. The Los Osos Community Services District (CSD) is keenly aware of the amount time and energy the County's staff has given to this project and are appreciative of the effort. The CSD's comments are focused on the water issues and the references to the Basin Plan in the draft Los Osos Community Plan and incorporated by reference in the draft Growth Management Ordinance and Resource Summary Report.

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Since the finalization of the Los Osos Basin Plan (Plan) and the approval by the court as part of the integrated Stipulated Judgement in 2015, the three water purveyors in Los Osos have been actively implementing the programs described in the Plan. The results have been encouraging but the CSD is recommending that a very cautious and measured approach be taken when planning for new development to proceed. There are four metrics in the Plan (see attached table from the Basin Plan) to assist the water purveyors in measuring the effectiveness of the programs and projects. The 2019 data indicates the groundwater basin's health is improving but the CSD believes more time may be needed to be fully confident in the results. That said, it is important to understand that the intent of the metrics and the underlying objectives of the Plan are to stabilize and improve the sustainability of the water supply existing residents and businesses in Los Osos.

The CSD's other concern moving forward is there is no funding mechanism or fee structure in place that would assure new development pays it fair share of the costs to supply and deliver water to that development. To date, existing customers have borne the cost of the Basin Plan projects and administrative overhead through their rates and charges. A basin-wide AB 1600 fee study needs to be completed before any new connections can be considered by the CSD.

In summary, the CSD is requesting a cautious and measured approach to approving any new development in the CSD's service area. The variables that can impact the groundwater basin health have been analyzed extensively but it will take additional time to confirm if the trends are sustainable. The follow up concern is the fiscal impact to existing customer which will need to be addressed in front moving forward.

Thank you for your consideration of the information provided in this correspondence. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ron Munds
General Manager
Los Osos Community Services District

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Table ES-2. LOBP Metric Summary

Metric	LOBP Goal	Calculated Value from 2018 Data	Recommended Actions in Addition to LOBP Programs
Basin Yield Metric	80 or less	69	Implement additional conservation measures to reduce indoor and outdoor demands (See Section 10.3.2)
Water Level Metric	8 feet above mean sea level or higher	1.8 feet above mean sea level	Implement additional conservation measures to reduce indoor and outdoor demands (See Section 10.3.2)
Chloride Metric	100 mg/L or lower	162 mg/L	Implement additional conservation measures to reduce indoor and outdoor demands (See Section 10.3.2)
Nitrate Metric	10 mg/L or lower	22 mg/L (NO ₃ -N)	None recommended