

# **County of Monterey**

Government Center - Board Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 2nd Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901



## **Meeting Agenda - Final**

**Tuesday, November 7, 2023**

**10:30 AM**

**Join via Zoom at <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747> or in person at the  
address listed above**

### **Pajaro County Sanitation District**

*Chair Director Luis A. Alejo - District 1*

*Vice Chair Director Glenn Church - District 2*

*Director Chris Lopez - District 3*

*Director Wendy Root Askew - District 4*

*Director Mary L. Adams - District 5*

## Participation in meetings

While the Board chambers remain open, members of the public may participate in Board meetings in 2 ways:

1. You may attend the meeting in person; or,
2. You may observe the live stream of the Board of Supervisors meetings at <https://monterey.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>, <http://www.mgtvonline.com/>, [www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV](http://www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV) or <https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/>

If you choose not to attend the Board of Supervisors meeting but desire to make general public comment, or comment on a specific item on the agenda, you may do so in 2 ways:

a. submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Monday prior to the Board meeting. Please submit your comment to the Clerk of the Board at [cob@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:cob@co.monterey.ca.us). In an effort to assist the Clerk in identifying the agenda item relating to your public comment please indicate in the Subject Line, the meeting body (i.e. Board of Supervisors Agenda) and item number (i.e. Item No. 10). Your comment will be placed into the record at the Board meeting.

b. you may participate through ZOOM. For ZOOM participation please join by computer audio at: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747>

OR to participate by phone call any of these numbers below:

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)  
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)  
+1 253 215 8782 US  
+1 301 715 8592 US

Enter this Meeting ID number: 224397747 when prompted. Please note there is no Participant Code, you will just hit # again after the recording prompts you.

You will be placed in the meeting as an attendee; when you are ready to make a public comment if joined by computer audio please Raise your Hand; and by phone please push \*9 on your keypad.

## Participación en reuniones

Mientras las cámaras de la Junta permanezcan abiertas, los miembros del público pueden participar en las reuniones de la Junta de 2 maneras:

1. Podrá asistir personalmente a la reunión; o,
2. Puede observar la transmisión en vivo de las reuniones de la Junta de Supervisores en <https://monterey.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>, <http://www.mgtvonline.com/>, [www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV](http://www.youtube.com/c/MontereyCountyTV) o <https://www.facebook.com/MontereyCoInfo/>

Si elige no asistir a la reunión de la Junta de Supervisores pero desea hacer comentarios del público en general o comentar un tema específico de la agenda, puede hacerlo de 2 maneras:

a. envíe su comentario por correo electrónico antes de las 5:00 p.m. el lunes anterior a la reunión de la Junta. Envíe su comentario al Secretario de la Junta a [cob@co.monterey.ca.us](mailto:cob@co.monterey.ca.us). En un esfuerzo por ayudar al secretario a identificar el tema de la agenda relacionado con su comentario público, indique en la línea de asunto el cuerpo de la reunión (es decir, la agenda de la Junta de Supervisores) y el número de artículo (es decir, el artículo n.º 10). Su comentario se colocará en el registro en la reunión de la Junta.

b. puedes participar a través de ZOOM. Para participar en ZOOM, únase por audio de computadora en: <https://montereycty.zoom.us/j/224397747>

O para participar por teléfono llame a cualquiera de estos números a continuación:

+1 669 900 6833 EE. UU. (San José)  
+1 346 248 7799 EE. UU. (Houston)  
+1 312 626 6799 EE. UU. (Chicago)  
+1 929 205 6099 EE. UU. (Nueva York)  
+1 253 215 8782 EE. UU.  
+1 301 715 8592 EE. UU.

Ingrese este número de ID de reunión: 224397747 cuando se le solicite. Tenga en cuenta que no hay un código de participante, simplemente presione # nuevamente después de que la grabación lo solicite.

Se le colocará en la reunión como asistente; cuando esté listo para hacer un comentario público si se une al audio de la computadora, levante la mano; y por teléfono, presione \*9 en su teclado.

**NOTE: All agenda titles related to numbered agenda items are live web links. Click on the title to be directed to the corresponding Board Report.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS: Members of the public may address comments to the Board concerning each agenda item. The timing of public comment shall be at the discretion of the Chair.**

### **10:30 A.M. - Call to Order**

#### **Roll Call**

#### **Additions and Corrections by Clerk**

The Clerk of the Board will announce agenda corrections and proposed additions, which may be acted on by the Board as provided in Sections 54954.2 of the California Government Code.

#### **General Public Comments**

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons to address the Board on any matter not on this agenda but under the jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors. Board members may respond briefly to the statement made or questions posed. They may ask a question for clarification; make a referral to staff for factual information or request staff to report back to the Board at a future meeting.

#### **Consent Calendar**

1. Acting as the Board of Directors of the Pajaro County Sanitation District, adopt a Resolution to:
  - a. Approve submittal of a Financial Assistance grant application to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Service for possible funding of restoration and repairs to the Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) Wastewater System for damages resulting from winter storm events which began in Calendar Year 2022;
  - b. Authorize the Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP), or designee, to act as agent for the County of Monterey/PCSD in processing all documentation to secure these funds and to sign and file the application on behalf of the County of Monterey/PCSD; and
  - c. Direct PWFP staff to return to the Board of Supervisors for approval prior to acceptance of any grant award(s).

**Attachments:**     [Board Report](#)  
                             [Attachment A - Resolution USDA Grant Application](#)

#### **Roll Call**

#### **Read Out from Closed Session**

### **Adjournment**





# County of Monterey

## Item No.1

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: PCSD RES 23-003

November 07, 2023

Introduced: 10/27/2023

Current Status: Agenda Ready

Version: 1

Matter Type: PCSD Resolution

Acting as the Board of Directors of the Pajaro County Sanitation District, adopt a Resolution to:

- a. Approve submittal of a Financial Assistance grant application to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Service for possible funding of restoration and repairs to the Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) Wastewater System for damages resulting from winter storm events which began in Calendar Year 2022;
- b. Authorize the Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP), or designee, to act as agent for the County of Monterey/PCSD in processing all documentation to secure these funds and to sign and file the application on behalf of the County of Monterey/PCSD; and
- c. Direct PWFP staff to return to the Board of Supervisors for approval prior to acceptance of any grant award(s).

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Acting as the Board of Directors of the Pajaro County Sanitation District, it is recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve a Resolution to:

- a. Approve submittal of a Financial Assistance grant application to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Service for possible funding of restoration and repairs to the Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) Wastewater System for damages resulting from winter storm events which began in Calendar Year 2022;
- b. Authorize the Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP), or designee, to act as agent for the County of Monterey/PCSD in processing all documentation to secure these funds and to sign and file the application on behalf of the County of Monterey/PCSD; and
- c. Direct PWFP staff to return to the Board of Supervisors for approval prior to acceptance of any grant award(s).

#### GRANT BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Service recently announced a funding opportunity through their Calendar Year (CY) 2022 Disaster Water Grants Program. The Agency will have at least \$247,250,000 in grant funding nationwide through the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023. Grant funds will be made available to qualified, rural applicants to pay for expenses (restoration, repair, or rebuilding) related to water infrastructure systems damaged by events that occurred during CY 2022 (and which resulted in a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration). Water infrastructure systems, as defined by the grant, include all water resource infrastructure, including wastewater, drinking water, storm drainage, and solid waste facilities.

Applications are being accepted on a continual basis, beginning on August 21, 2023 - and will continue until funds are exhausted. Projects located in a Disadvantaged or Distressed Community will

receive bonus points in the rankings process. There are no cost sharing or matching requirements associated with this grant.

#### PAJARO COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT - Wastewater System Overview

The Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) is a dependent Special District. The PCSD Wastewater System is County-owned System is located within the jurisdictional boundaries of the PCSD in the northern unincorporated area of the County of Monterey. The system includes a wastewater collection system of approximately 16.5 miles of gravity sewer pipe, six (6) pump stations, and 2.4 miles of force sewer main. There are approximately 1,047 sewer connections and 1,768 billing units.

The PCSD Wastewater System is a collection system only and does not provide wastewater treatment. Instead, collected sewage is pumped to the City of Watsonville (City) wastewater treatment plant (plant). Under an agreement with the city, the plant accepts and treats PCSD sewage. The PCSD is charged for its share of the plant's costs based on its fraction of the total wastewater received by the plant and the quality of the received wastewater.

#### PRIMARY PROPOSED PROJECT

##### RELOCATE or REPLACE PAJARO FORCE MAIN

The County of Monterey operates and maintains the PCSD Wastewater System. The PCSD is a dependent special district which provides wastewater service to the Pajaro, Las Lomas, and Bay Farms communities. The final lift station pumps sewage from the Pajaro wastewater collection system to the Watsonville Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) through a sewer line consisting of 11,600 ft of 16-inch asbestos cement force main. This line has had significant damage during past storm events (e.g., 2017) and during this past winter as well.

During this past winter, the County responded to multiple leaks and a wholesale rupture of the force main due to a series of events which began on December 27th, 2022. It is unknown exactly when the leaks started to happen but were a result of increasing groundwater in the area (associated with flow in the Pajaro River). PWFP had crews fixing the breaks by January 17th. Subsequently, because of continuing storms and a break in the Pajaro levee, the force main was completely severed at the Highway 1 undercrossing.

PWFP repaired numerous leaks/breaks in the force main along the route. This entire force main has been compromised likely primarily due the age of the infrastructure. The County recently completed a temporary repair of the portion of the force main that was severed during the March storm. There were also spot repairs at approximately 10 other locations along the line between January and March.

To prevent the release of wastewater and infiltration of groundwater into the wastewater conveyance system, as well as to minimize the potential for future force main breaks, the County must replace the entire reach of force main. Due to the upcoming project with the Pajaro River Flood Management Agency (PRFMA) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), there is a high likelihood that PRFMA and USACE will require the County/PCSD to completely relocate the sewer main outside the levee zone.

A consulting engineering firm is assisting the County/PCSD with both emergency designs and a feasibility study to relocate or completely replace the force main. They have provided the County with several alternatives. The cost of this 'primary' project is estimated to be \$5.4 million; however, there may be additional costs yet to be identified.

#### ADDITIONAL PROPOSED PROJECT

##### INTERNAL SYSTEM REPAIRS

Staff believes that there may have been other internal system damages within the PCSD Wastewater collection system sustained because of the storms which began in Calendar Year 2022. In addition, there are system repairs and upgrades necessary to address needed maintenance and maintain compliance with discharge requirements under an operating permit issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Additional repairs being proposed under the grant will include upgrades to the Pajaro Lift Station as well as spot repairs at approximately 25 locations within the Las Lomas area that are failing.

The estimated costs for those repairs are \$4.1 Million.

If both proposed projects are determined to be eligible for inclusion, the total amount of funding requested will be \$9.4 million.

#### NEXT STEPS

##### Prepare and Submit Grant for Consideration by USDA (ASAP)

Time is of the essence, as this is a nationally competitive process and grant proposals are processed in the order received. The proposed project is within a rural area as defined in the grant solicitation (population of not more than 35,000 inhabitants), and local USDA staff have indicated their belief that the project is eligible for this specific Grant. County staff time and associated consultant costs to prepare the application will be covered by the PCSD budget (estimated at approximately \$35,000); however, if successful, neither the PCSD nor County will be required to provide a cost-sharing match for actual project funding.

##### Bring the Grant to the Board for Formal Action/Approval

Should the proposed Force Main relocation/replacement and/or other internal system repairs projects be selected to receive USDA grant funding, staff will be bringing an item back to the Capital Improvement Committee, Budget Committee, and Board of Supervisors to accept the grant award and to add the project(s) to the Capital Improvement Plan and Annual Work Program.

##### Concurrently Investigate other Grant Possibilities

There are other substantial near- and long- term improvements needed for the PCSD Wastewater System. The costs are significant. Staff and retained consulting engineers will also be investigating other possible grant options for further potential investment in the system.

#### OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

If the Grant is awarded, the work will need to be coordinated with numerous other essential partners, including the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Monterey County Water Resources Agency,



the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, and the City of Watsonville. Close coordination and involvement with them will be necessary. Intergovernmental Agreements may eventually be required. The design and environmental review work to be completed if the USDA Grant is successful will help inform discussions with all entities.

FINANCING:

Should the grant be awarded, PWFP will initially use a portion of the funds for the design and environmental review work needed to finalize the project parameters. This application will be for a 100% grant for the project (including design, right-of way, and construction activities) to support the Pajaro community through the PCSD. PWFP staff believe that there will not be a matching County contribution necessary for work under this grant.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

The Project will construct a sustainable, physical infrastructure that improves the quality of life for County residents and visitors. The recommended action supports the following Board of Supervisors' Strategic Initiatives:

- ☒ Economic Development
- ☐ Administration
- ☐ Health & Human Services
- ☒ Infrastructure
- ☒ Public Safety

Prepared by: Benny J Young, Management Specialist

Reviewed by: Tom Moss, Senior Water Resources Hydrologist

Enrique Saavedra, PE, Chief of Public Works

Lindsay Lerable, Assistant Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks

Approved by: Randell Ishii, MS, PE, TE, PTOE, Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks

The following attachment is on file with the Clerk of the Board:

Attachment A - Resolution USDA Grant Application



# County of Monterey

**Item No.**

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

**Legistar File Number: PCSD RES 23-003**

**November 07, 2023**

**Introduced:** 10/27/2023

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** PCSD Resolution

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### GRANT BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Service recently announced a funding opportunity through their Calendar Year (CY) 2022 Disaster Water Grants Program. The Agency will have at least \$247,250,000 in grant funding nationwide through the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023. Grant funds will be made available to qualified, rural applicants to pay for expenses (restoration, repair, or rebuilding) related to water infrastructure systems damaged by events that occurred during CY 2022 (and which resulted in a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration). Water infrastructure systems, as defined by the grant, include all water resource infrastructure, including wastewater, drinking water, storm drainage, and solid waste facilities.

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Prepared by: Benny J Young, Management Specialist

Reviewed by: Tom Moss, Senior Water Resources Hydrologist

Enrique Saavedra, PE, Chief of Public Works

Lindsay Lerable, Assistant Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks

Approved by: Randell Ishii, MS, PE, TE, PTOE, Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks

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The following attachment is on file with the Clerk of the Board:

Attachment A - Resolution USDA Grant Application

*Before the Board of Supervisors in and for the  
County of Monterey, State of California*

**Resolution No.:** \_\_\_\_\_

Acting as the Board of Directors of the Pajaro County Sanitation District, adopt a Resolution:

- a. Authorizing the submittal of a Financial Assistance Application to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Service for possible funding of restoration and repairs to the Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) Wastewater System for damages resulting from winter storm events which began in Calendar Year 2022; and )
- b. Authorizing the Director of Public Works, Facilities, and Parks (PWFP), or designee, to act as agent for the County of Monterey/PCSD in processing all documentation to secure these funds and to sign and file the application on behalf of the County of Monterey/PCSD. )
- c. Direct PWFP staff to return to the Board of Supervisors for approval prior to acceptance of any grant award(s) )

**WHEREAS** the County of Monterey, Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) is the owner and operator of the PCSD Wastewater System, approximately 23 miles northwest of Salinas, California; and

**WHEREAS** the PCSD Wastewater System consists of a wastewater collection system within the communities of Pajaro, Las Lomas, and Bay Farms; and

**WHEREAS** the PCSD Wastewater System collects and then transports wastewater to the Watsonville Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) for disposal and treatment (located adjacent to the Pajaro River, approximately 2 miles west of the community of Pajaro); and

**WHEREAS** the PCSD Wastewater System sustained substantial damages as a result of winter storms which began in late Calendar Year 2022 and continued through the first quarter of 2023; and

**WHEREAS** the two-mile-long transmission line (force main) which conveys collected wastewater from the PCSD system to the regional WWTP in Watsonville sustained multiple leaks and a wholesale rupture due to the series of storm events which began on December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022; and

**WHEREAS** to prevent the release of wastewater and infiltration of groundwater into the wastewater conveyance system, as well as to minimize the potential for future force main breaks, the County of Monterey/PCSD must replace the entire reach of force main; and

**WHEREAS** there were other internal collection and pumping system damages within the Pajaro CSD Wastewater collection system sustained because of the storms which began in Calendar Year 2022; and

**WHEREAS** the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Service recently

announced a funding opportunity through their Calendar Year (CY) 2022 Disaster Water Grants Program, which may be available to assist the County of Monterey/PCSD with the costs of the needed repairs, including all related design, environmental work, land acquisition, and construction; and

**WHEREAS** neither the County of Monterey nor the PCSD have funds available to pursue the needed wastewater system repairs without financial assistance; and the County of Monterey wishes to apply for financial assistance from the USDA through their CY 2022 Disaster Water Grants Program to assist with all the costs for needed repairs.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey hereby authorizes and hereby determines that:

1. The Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks or his/her designee (the “Authorized Representative”) is authorized and directed to sign and file, for and on behalf of Monterey County, a financial assistance application for a grant from the USDA for funding the costs associated with planning, design, environmental review, and construction of restoration and repairs to the Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) Wastewater System for damages resulting from winter storm events which began in Calendar Year 2022; and
2. This Authorized Representative is designated to provide the assurances, certifications, and commitments required for the financial assistance application, including executing a financial assistance agreement from the USDA and any amendments or changes thereto; and
3. This Authorized Representative is designated to represent the County of Monterey/PCSD in carrying out the County’s responsibilities under the financial assistance agreement, including certifying disbursement requests on behalf of the County and compliance with applicable state and federal laws.
4. The Director of Public Works, Facilities, and Parks is authorized and directed to submit this Resolution and any corresponding or necessary supporting materials to the USDA.
5. Staff is directed to return to the Board of Supervisors for approval prior to acceptance of any grant award(s).

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** on this 14th day of November 2023 by roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

I, Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, State of California, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an original resolution of said Board of Supervisors duly made and entered in the minutes thereof of Minute Book \_\_\_, for the meeting on November 14, 2023.

Dated:

Valerie Ralph, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
County of Monterey, State of California

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy



# County of Monterey

**Item No.**

## Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

**Legistar File Number: PCSD RES 23-003**

**November 07, 2023**

**Introduced:** 10/27/2023

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

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Acting as the Board of Directors of the Pajaro County Sanitation District, adopt a Resolution to:

- Approve submittal of a Financial Assistance grant application to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Service for possible funding of restoration and repairs to the Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) Wastewater System for damages resulting from winter storm events which began in Calendar Year 2022;
- Authorize the Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP), or designee, to act as agent for the County of Monterey/PCSD in processing all documentation to secure these funds and to sign and file the application on behalf of the County of Monterey/PCSD; and
- Direct PWFP staff to return to the Board of Supervisors for approval prior to acceptance of any grant award(s).

### RECOMMENDATION:

Acting as the Board of Directors of the Pajaro County Sanitation District, it is recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve a Resolution to:

- Approve submittal of a Financial Assistance grant application to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Service for possible funding of restoration and repairs to the Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) Wastewater System for damages resulting from winter storm events which began in Calendar Year 2022;
- Authorize the Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks (PWFP), or designee, to act as agent for the County of Monterey/PCSD in processing all documentation to secure these funds and to sign and file the application on behalf of the County of Monterey/PCSD; and
- Direct PWFP staff to return to the Board of Supervisors for approval prior to acceptance of any grant award(s).

### GRANT BACKGROUND SUMMARY:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Service recently announced a funding opportunity through their Calendar Year (CY) 2022 Disaster Water Grants Program. The Agency will have at least \$247,250,000 in grant funding nationwide through the Disaster Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2023. Grant funds will be made available to qualified, rural applicants to pay for expenses (restoration, repair, or rebuilding) related to water infrastructure systems damaged by events that occurred during CY 2022 (and which resulted in a Presidential Major Disaster Declaration). Water infrastructure systems, as defined by the grant, include all water resource infrastructure, including wastewater, drinking water, storm drainage, and solid waste facilities.

Applications are being accepted on a continual basis, beginning on August 21, 2023 - and will continue until funds are exhausted. Projects located in a Disadvantaged or Distressed Community will receive bonus points in the rankings process. There are no cost sharing or



matching requirements associated with this grant.

#### PAJARO COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT - Wastewater System Overview

The Pajaro County Sanitation District (PCSD) is a dependent Special District. The PCSD Wastewater System is County-owned System is located within the jurisdictional boundaries of the PCSD in the northern unincorporated area of the County of Monterey. The system includes a wastewater collection system of approximately 16.5 miles of gravity sewer pipe, six (6) pump stations, and 2.4 miles of force sewer main. There are approximately 1,047 sewer connections and 1,768 billing units.

The PCSD Wastewater System is a collection system only and does not provide wastewater treatment. Instead, collected sewage is pumped to the City of Watsonville (City) wastewater treatment plant (plant). Under an agreement with the city, the plant accepts and treats PCSD sewage. The PCSD is charged for its share of the plant's costs based on its fraction of the total wastewater received by the plant and the quality of the received wastewater.

#### PRIMARY PROPOSED PROJECT

##### RELOCATE or REPLACE PAJARO FORCE MAIN

The County of Monterey operates and maintains the PCSD Wastewater System. The PCSD is a dependent special district which provides wastewater service to the Pajaro, Las Lomas, and Bay Farms communities. The final lift station pumps sewage from the Pajaro wastewater collection system to the Watsonville Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) through a sewer line consisting of 11,600 ft of 16-inch asbestos cement force main. This line has had significant damage during past storm events (e.g., 2017) and during this past winter as well.

During this past winter, the County responded to multiple leaks and a wholesale rupture of the force main due to a series of events which began on December 27th, 2022. It is unknown exactly when the leaks started to happen but were a result of increasing groundwater in the area (associated with flow in the Pajaro River). PWFP had crews fixing the breaks by January 17th. Subsequently, because of continuing storms and a break in the Pajaro levee, the force main was completely severed at the Highway 1 undercrossing.

PWFP repaired numerous leaks/breaks in the force main along the route. This entire force main has been compromised likely primarily due the age of the infrastructure. The County recently completed a temporary repair of the portion of the force main that was severed during the March storm. There were also spot repairs at approximately 10 other locations along the line between January and March.

To prevent the release of wastewater and infiltration of groundwater into the wastewater conveyance system, as well as to minimize the potential for future force main breaks, the County must replace the entire reach of force main. Due to the upcoming project with the Pajaro River Flood Management Agency (PRFMA) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), there is a high likelihood that PRFMA and USACE will require the County/PCSD to completely relocate the sewer main outside the levee zone.

A consulting engineering firm is assisting the County/PCSD with both emergency designs and a feasibility study to relocate or completely replace the force main. They have provided the

County with several alternatives. The cost of this 'primary' project is estimated to be \$5.4 million; however, there may be additional costs yet to be identified.

#### ADDITIONAL PROPOSED PROJECT INTERNAL SYSTEM REPAIRS

Staff believes that there may have been other internal system damages within the PCSD Wastewater collection system sustained because of the storms which began in Calendar Year 2022. In addition, there are system repairs and upgrades necessary to address needed maintenance and maintain compliance with discharge requirements under an operating permit issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Additional repairs being proposed under the grant will include upgrades to the Pajaro Lift Station as well as spot repairs at approximately 25 locations within the Las Lomas area that are failing.

The estimated costs for those repairs are \$4.1 Million.

If both proposed projects are determined to be eligible for inclusion, the total amount of funding requested will be \$9.4 million.

#### NEXT STEPS

##### Prepare and Submit Grant for Consideration by USDA (ASAP)

Time is of the essence, as this is a nationally competitive process and grant proposals are processed in the order received. The proposed project is within a rural area as defined in the grant solicitation (population of not more than 35,000 inhabitants), and local USDA staff have indicated their belief that the project is eligible for this specific Grant. County staff time and associated consultant costs to prepare the application will be covered by the PCSD budget (estimated at approximately \$35,000); however, if successful, neither the PCSD nor County will be required to provide a cost-sharing match for actual project funding.

##### Bring the Grant to the Board for Formal Action/Approval

Should the proposed Force Main relocation/replacement and/or other internal system repairs projects be selected to receive USDA grant funding, staff will be bringing an item back to the Capital Improvement Committee, Budget Committee, and Board of Supervisors to accept the grant award and to add the project(s) to the Capital Improvement Plan and Annual Work Program.

##### Concurrently Investigate other Grant Possibilities

There are other substantial near- and long- term improvements needed for the PCSD Wastewater System. The costs are significant. Staff and retained consulting engineers will also be investigating other possible grant options for further potential investment in the system.

#### OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

If the Grant is awarded, the work will need to be coordinated with numerous other essential partners, including the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Monterey County Water Resources Agency, the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency, and the City of Watsonville. Close coordination and involvement with them will be necessary. Intergovernmental Agreements may eventually be required. The design and environmental review work to be

completed if the USDA Grant is successful will help inform discussions with all entities.

FINANCING:

Should the grant be awarded, PWFP will initially use a portion of the funds for the design and environmental review work needed to finalize the project parameters. This application will be for a 100% grant for the project (including design, right-of way, and construction activities) to support the Pajaro community through the PCSD. PWFP staff believe that there will not be a matching County contribution necessary for work under this grant.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

The Project will construct a sustainable, physical infrastructure that improves the quality of life for County residents and visitors. The recommended action supports the following Board of Supervisors' Strategic Initiatives:

- ☒ Economic Development
- ☐ Administration
- ☐ Health & Human Services
- ☒ Infrastructure
- ☒ Public Safety

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Approved by: Randell Ishii, MS, PE, TE, PTOE, Director of Public Works, Facilities and Parks

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The following attachment is on file with the Clerk of the Board:

Attachment A - Resolution USDA Grant Application