



THE ENDEAVOR

A PUBLICATION OF THE STEGE SANITARY DISTRICT OF CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

VOLUME XXIX NUMBER 1

SERVING EL CERRITO, KENSINGTON, AND RICHMOND ANNEX

Summer 2023

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Juliet Christian-Smith
President

Paul Gilbert-Snyder
Vice President

Tessa Beach
Director

Dwight Merrill
Director

Beatrice O'Keefe
Director

DISTRICT MANAGER/ ENGINEER

Rex Delizo, P.E.

MISSION STATEMENT

To protect public health and the environment for the communities we serve through planning and operation of a safe, efficient, and economical wastewater collection system.

INSIDE

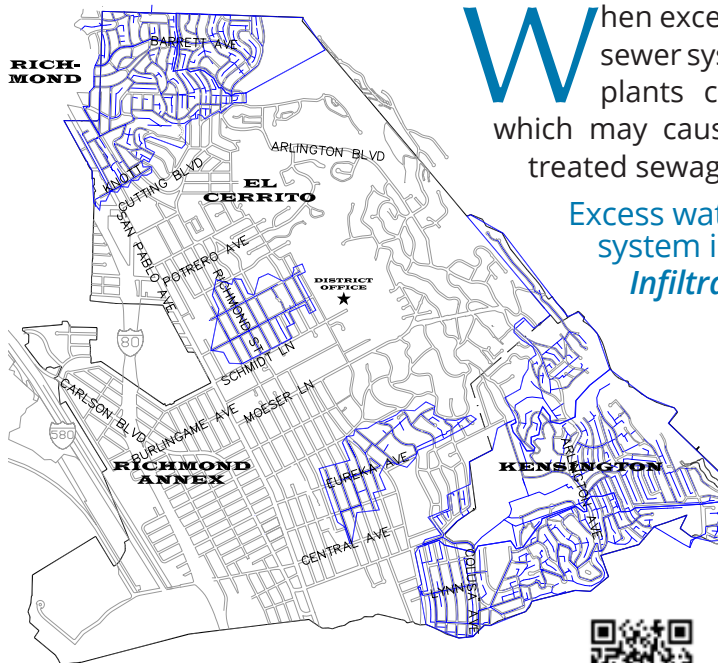
- Project Updates 2
- 2023-2024 Budget..... 2
- Think Before You Flush.. 3
- What the District Does and Does Not Do 3
- Helpful Reminders 3
- Sewer Problems?
Call Us First..... 4
- Spotlight on Service
Board Meetings Are Back
In Person..... 4



INTEREST-FREE PSL REPLACEMENT LOAN PROGRAM

Replace your cracked Private Sewer Lateral (PSL) with an interest-free loan from Stege Sanitary District*
www.stegesan.org for more information

Help Protect the Bay



When excess water enters the sanitary sewer system, wastewater treatment plants can become overwhelmed, which may cause untreated and partially-treated sewage to spill into the Bay.

Excess water can enter the sewer system in two ways:
Infiltration and Inflow.

In **Infiltration**, groundwater seeps into sewer pipes through holes, cracks, joint failures, and faulty connections in the pipes, including private sewer laterals.

In **Inflow**, stormwater rapidly flows into sewers via illegally connected roof downspouts, sump pumps, and area drains.

Certain areas of the District may be particularly prone to infiltration. These are shown in blue on the map. Replacing any leaking lateral helps protect the Bay; replacing laterals in these areas is especially helpful. Take advantage of our no-interest PSL Loan Program. The Bay will thank you! ☺

*This program is only available to current property owners who wish to voluntarily replace their sewer lateral. It excludes sewer lateral replacement that is already required by EBMUD.



Scan this code to see a detailed map.

Project Updates

Canon Drive Pump Station

Replacement of the District's two pressurized sewer pipes along Canon Drive was completed ahead of schedule and under budget. Now the District is drawing up plans to rehabilitate the pump station on Canon Drive, which was built in 1962 and has undergone only minor updates since then. It now needs significant upgrades to bring it up to modern standards of safety and reliability. Construction is slated to begin later this year. 💰



San Pablo Avenue Improvement Plan

The first stage of sewer upgrades to San Pablo Avenue is complete. A special impact fee to pay for required sewer upgrades in the improvement area has been assessed to the area developers. Existing District ratepayers will not see any increase in their sewer charges because of this work. 💰

Standard Sewer Rehabilitation

The District continues to replace aging clay pipes (some of which are 100 years old) with High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) pipes. The new HDPE pipes are better able to withstand earth movement and repel tree root intrusions. More than 12,000 feet of pipe is replaced each year. 💰

DRAFT Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget

REVENUE

Sewer Operation Fund

Non Operating Income:	
Interest	15,000
Miscellaneous	21,000
Operating Income:	
Permit & Inspection Fees	12,000
Sewer Service Charges	3,443,000
Contracted Services	33,000
Subtotal	3,524,000

Capital Fund

Non-Operating Income:	
Interest	5,000
Operating Income:	
Property Tax	500,000
Capital Service Charges	4,290,000
Connection Fees	50,000
San Pablo Ave. Impact Fee	50,000
Subtotal	4,895,000

TOTAL REVENUE 8,419,000

EXPENSES

Operating Expenses:

Maintenance/Engineering	2,300,897
Pump Stations	40,020
Contracted Repairs	72,000
General & Administration	1,057,744

Subtotal

Operating Expenses 3,470,661

Capital Expenses

Capital Equipment	785,000
Debt Repayment -SRF Loan	43,900
Sewer Rehabilitation	4,884,400

Subtotal Capital Expenses 5,713,300

Other Expenses

Transfer from Capital Fund	-
Retiree Medical Fund	-

TOTAL EXPENSES 9,183,961

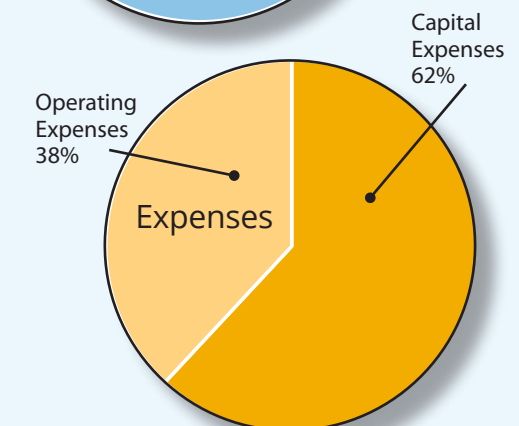
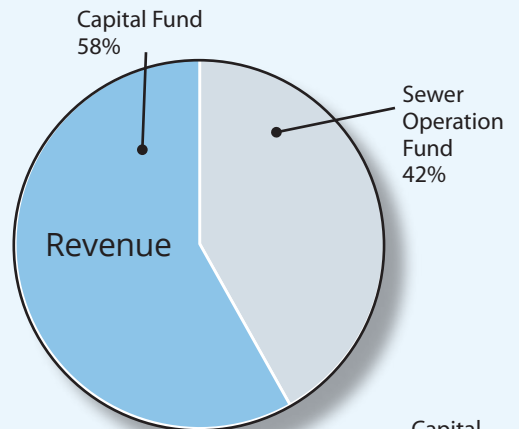
Transfer to/(from) Reserves

Revenue	8,419,000
Expenses	9,183,961

Subtotal (764,961)

TRANSFER


TO/(FROM) RESERVES (764,961)



The District adheres to an investment policy for reserve funds that complies with state statutes and stipulates safety, liquidity, and yields as the order of investment objectives. All currently invested funds are with the State Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF).



Think Before You Flush

Flushing anything other than pee, poo, or toilet paper can cause a sewer blockage, either in the sewer main or in your home plumbing. Toilet paper is designed to dissolve in water; “flushable” personal hygiene wipes **will not**. Even facial tissues will not dissolve and can cause problems. 

What Stege Sanitary District Does and Does Not Do

DOES collect and transport wastewater to EBMUD treatment plant

DOES maintain sanitary sewer lines

DOES issue permits for sewer connections and lateral repair

DOES inspect new sewer connections and lateral repair

DOES operate sewer pump stations

DOES plan for sewer improvements

DOES oversee cost of operation and capital improvements

DOES NOT treat wastewater at the treatment plant (EBMUD does)

DOES NOT maintain storm drains (Your city or county does)

DOES NOT issue permits required by cities or county for street work (Your city or county does)

DOES NOT issue certificates of compliance for private sewer laterals (Visit eastbaypsl.com)

DOES NOT provide water service (EBMUD does)


DOES NOT operate the El Cerrito Recycling Center (City of El Cerrito does)




Helpful Reminders




4th of July Celebration

Join the City of El Cerrito in celebrating Independence Day at beautiful Cerrito Vista Park with live entertainment, great food, arts & crafts, games & rides, and face painting. While there, be sure to visit the District booth, where you will be able to ask questions of Board members, view maps, learn about backflow prevention devices, and pick up useful pamphlets, and past newsletters. 


Keep FOG out of Drains

Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) solidify when poured down the drain, causing clogs and blockages in plumbing. Never pour FOG down the drain. 

Plumbing Contractors

For a list of plumbing contractors registered to work on private sewer laterals in the District, visit www.stege-san.org. Stege recommends getting at least three bids before starting work. 

Properly Dispose of Unwanted Medications

Don't flush medications flush down the toilet. Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to remove these substances, which may be harmful to the environment. Unwanted medications may be brought to the El Cerrito Recycling Center (7501 Schmidt Lane). Call (510) 215-4350 before coming. 





STEGE SANITARY DISTRICT
7500 Schmidt Lane
El Cerrito, CA 94530-0537 (510) 524-4667

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
OAKLAND, CA
Permit No. 544

To Contact Us: 24/7 Phone: (510) 524-4667 Email: staff@stegasan.org Web: www.stegasan.org Twitter: @StegeSan

Sewer Problems? Call Us First!



Slow drains? Water or sewage backing up into your home? The problem might be a clog in your lateral—the private sewer line that runs from your home to the public sewer main—or the problem might be in the sewer main itself. **Call us before you call a plumber.** The District maintains a 24/7 emergency hotline that is always answered by a person, not a recording. The number is (510) 524-4667. If necessary, we will send out a crew to inspect and let you know if you need a plumber. The inspection is free and we try to respond within one hour of your call. 💰

Spotlight on Service

BOARD MEETINGS ARE BACK IN PERSON

The Stege Sanitary District Board of Directors meets once or twice monthly on a Thursday at 7:00 pm to discuss the business of the District. The public is invited to attend.

Meetings are back in person, but will also be

remotely accessible. The agenda for upcoming meetings can be found on www.stegasan.org. Information on how to attend a virtual meeting and leave public comment is also listed on www.stegasan.org. 💰