

North Davis Meadows Water Project Update

May 2022

What's New:

1. The County contacted the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water to apply for a waiver from the water main separation requirements in the California Waterworks Standards, which is a codebook for water projects. Vertical separation or distance is needed between potable and non-potable fluid pipelines underground, and there are several places within the project area where the standard separation cannot be achieved due to congestion of pipelines in those areas. Thus, a waiver was needed, which the County received approval for back in November after the November CSA meeting.
2. The environmental package of the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) funding application was approved in early January. In December, the SWRCB staff liaison for the project informed the County that there was an additional requirement for the finalization of the environmental package. He asked that the County complete a worksheet titled, *Comprehensive Response to Climate Change*. The purpose of the worksheet is for the applicant (the County) to identify how the proposed facility is vulnerable to the effects of climate change and the impacts the facility may have on the climate. This document is new within the last 1-2 years – so, it was neither included in the original application nor was it initially required for the original application. The County completed the worksheet, and the environmental package was approved.
3. The SWRCB project liaison informed County staff that SWRCB staff was proposing changes to the intended use plan, which could negatively impact the funding for the project. The intended use plans (or IUPs) specify the rules and processes that the state water staff must follow when allocating funds from the 2021 Budget Act. The SWRCB solicited public comment on the draft changes to the IUP, and the County (both the County Administrator and County Supervisor Saylor) sent in letters to the SWRCB, requesting that the application be reviewed under the current (or original) IUP for the 2021 Budget Act. The revised IUP was adopted in mid-March, and ultimately, the State agreed to the County's request and added a footnote indicating that the SWRCB's Division of Financial Assistance has the discretion to approve grant funding consistent with the original 2021-22 IUP for projects with complete applications prior to amendment adoption. The application for the proposed project was deemed complete prior to this amendment adoption.
4. The City of Davis required the completion of two studies in preparation for the connection of the NDM Community to the City of Davis Water System - Integration Assessment and Hydraulic Modeling. The studies were completed in March.

5. The Davis City Council approved a resolution authorizing the City Manager to charge water connection fees associated with a 1-inch meter rather than a 1.5-inch water meter.

Next Steps:

1. West Yost will have the 100% Plans, Specifications, and Estimates for the water consolidation project completed in late May.
2. The County is working with SWRCB to obtain grant funding for the project.
3. A CSA meeting will be scheduled during the month of July, so the community will have a chance to receive and discuss further information and ask questions and discuss information.