



THE

Water Faucet

JUNE 2021 / THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF



Street Address

2263 Westborough Blvd.
So. San Francisco, CA 94080

24-Hour Phone

650-589-1435

Fax

650-589-5167

Email

WWD@WestboroughWater.org
(email address is NOT case sensitive)

Website

WestboroughWater.org
(website address is NOT case sensitive)

Visit our website for updated information, water conservation tips, rebate forms, and much more!

WWD Board Meetings

The Westborough Water District board meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at the District office. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. and the public is encouraged to attend.

WWD Board of Directors

Tom Chambers
President

Perry H. Bautista
Vice President

David J. Irwin
Karema Al-Arabi
Janet Medina
Directors

WWD Management

Darryl Barrow
General Manager

Patricia Mairena
Assistant General Manager

Westborough Water District's 60th Year Anniversary

The Westborough Water District celebrated its 60th year anniversary this year. Unfortunately, the District decided not to hold a celebration due to the pandemic. We look forward to hosting a celebration for the 65th year anniversary. ■



A Message from General Manager

Darryl Barrow Announcing Retirement After 36 Years with the Westborough Water District

I want to thank the Board of Directors for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this organization. It has been an honor and a privilege to spend my entire 36-year career at the Westborough

Water District (District) and providing the best customer service to the customers. The District has allowed me to grow and continue my education where I was able to obtain a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management. I feel I have made a difference from completing capital improvements, budgeting, emergency preparedness as well as construction of new water storage tank. I have really enjoyed working for the District and will miss the staff and community. I believe that a customer-first philosophy and treating everyone with respect are directly responsible for my success. While many water agencies have implemented tier rates, I always thought this penalized families because they would pay higher rates for the same water everyone else receives. I have met a lot of people over the years and would like to thank every one of you. The pandemic has made me put life in perspective and I plan to spend more time with my family, travel, hunt, fish and continue my passion of training and certifying police dogs.

I appreciate my role in the organization is a critical one and it is important to me to leave the District in good hands. The Board of Directors has decided to promote Assistant General Manager, Patricia Mairena, to General Manager. Patricia has been with the District for more than 33 years and is well qualified to take over the leadership role as General Manager. My last day of employment with the District will be June 30, 2021. ■



2021/2022 Capital Improvement Projects and Future Water Rates

The District has approved two vital Capital Improvement Projects for 2021/2022. The first project is to recoat the exterior of Skyline Tank No. 3 and make seismic foundation improvements. The recoating is critical as the exterior of the tank is beginning to rust and further corrosion could jeopardize the structural integrity of the tank. Seismic improvements are also required to provide more reliability in case of an earthquake. The estimated cost for this project is \$1.3 million.

The second project is to continue with our automated meter replacement program. The new automated meters provide additional information which allows us to better monitor usage and investigate abnormalities.



With one year into the meter replacement program, the District plans to replace the remaining water meters in-house over the next three years. The estimated cost for this project is \$400,000 per year. In order to accomplish these projects, the District has no other choice but to increase water and meter service charges. The rate adjustments are important for maintaining current service levels and completing critical infrastructure and maintenance projects such as the above projects that keep our delivery system running smoothly and efficiently. ■

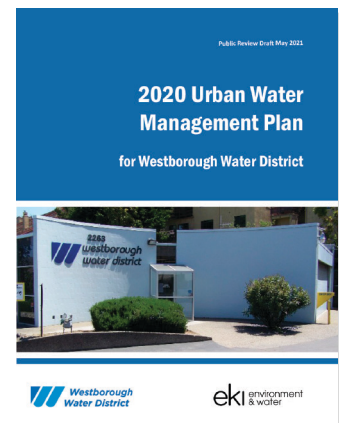
Urban Water Management Plan

The Westborough Water District (WWD) hired a consultant to prepare our 2020 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

The UWMP will be used to determine the overall supply and demand of water for the WWD, identify any possible deficiencies in the water supply for the next 25 years, and prepare mitigation strategies for water shortage.

The SFPUC has a perpetual obligation to WWD's Supply Assurance. The WWD has an Individual Supply Guarantee (ISG) of 1.32 MGD, or 482 million gallons (MG) per year. SFPUC is obligated to provide WWD with up to 100% of WWD's ISG during normal years. The UWMP must be adopted and submitted to the California Department of Water Resources by July 1, 2021. You can view a copy of the District's UWMP on the District's website at [WestboroughWater.org](https://www.westboroughwater.org)

At this time water allocations during drought are in jeopardy. In order to leave more water in the Tuolumne for fish during droughts, the State Water Resources Control Board is mandating reduced draws which models indicate would require 45%-54% cuts in consumption during multi-year droughts. Water agencies are trying to reverse some of these reductions by paying for non-flow measures to improve fish populations. By increasing flows only during the most appropriate time during the fish life cycles, by improving fish habitat along the Tuolumne, and by controlling predators we hope to preserve the salmon in spite of drought/climate change. Currently drought flow reductions would be evenly distributed among all SFPUC water users, although this may change. The State is working on a minimum allocation per person while mandating more extreme cuts for landscaping. This should help Westborough, where our ocean air (and fog!) helps keep our landscape green, reducing our per capita consumption to among the lowest in the Bay Area. ■



Voluntary Water Conservation Request

With the ongoing dry conditions in most of California, the SFPUC has requested customers to voluntarily reduce their irrigation use by 10 percent. After two years of low precipitation, the U.S. Drought Monitor now reports that 95 percent of California is experiencing moderate to exceptional drought conditions. Reservoir and groundwater levels are significantly below average, and despite recent storms, snowpack is below the average level. Dry conditions can threaten water supplies, impair critical habitat, reduce recreational opportunities, and create uncertainty for all water users. Hydrologic conditions since 2020 have been very similar to the drought years of 2014 and 2015.

Your early efforts can help minimize the potential for mandatory drought restrictions. Start planning now for potential water supply shortages later this year and identify practical actions you can take to increase drought resilience, such as increasing water conservation measures and reducing irrigation. We encourage you to conserve water now so that we meet local and state-level needs. Reduce outdoor irrigation, fix all leaks, wash full loads of clothing, and conserve water. ■



Save Money, Save Time! Pay Your WWD Bill Online.

Make a one-time payment or sign up for recurring payments securely using your Visa, Mastercard, or personal check on our website at

WestboroughWater.org/billpay

free of charge! You must have your account number to access it.



Governor Newsom's Revised Plan

Governor Newsom issued an executive order back in March 2020, which restricted water agencies for shutting off water service to customers for non-payment and charging late fees. The order was to protect customers who may be unable to pay for water during the COVID crisis. Governor Newsom plans to lift most COVID restrictions and reopen its economy on June 15, 2021. Customers with outstanding payments may have to pay their outstanding bill and the District may begin charging late fees and resume shutoffs for non-payment. ■



Stay Connected with Customer Connect

WWD's new Customer Connect is designed to provide you with direct, electronic communications in case of a service interruption, emergency, or other urgent information. By signing up for Customer Connect, you will receive District News Flashes by mobile text and/or email. It's easy to sign up and you can unsubscribe at any time! Stay informed, stay connected! Visit WestboroughWater.org/connect for more information. ■





THE Water Faucet

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



- **WWD's 60th Year Anniversary**
- **Darryl Barrow's Retirement as GM**
- **Capital Improvement Projects & Future Water Rates**
- **Urban Water Management Plan**
- **Voluntary Water Conservation Request**
- **Governor Newsom's Revised Plan May Affect You**

Calling in advance is strongly recommended.

The District has a Notary Public on duty that can notarize documents you may have for a fee of \$15 per signature. Feel free to take advantage of this service.

NOTARY PUBLIC

Delivering Quality for You Since 1961

South San Francisco, CA 94083-2747

2263 Westborough Boulevard
P.O. Box 2747



PPSR1 FIRST CLASS
US POSTAGE
PAID
SAN BRUNO, CA
PERMIT NO. 419