

THE Waterline

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE MPWD • WINTER 2016-17

ABOUT MPWD

MID-PENINSULA WATER DISTRICT

A Green Business

3 Dairy Lane
Belmont, CA 94002
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www.midpeninsulawater.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Al Stuebing
President

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Vice President

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Director

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Director

Matthew P. Zucca
Director

The Board of Directors meets every fourth Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at 3 Dairy Lane, Belmont.

OFFICERS

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General Manager

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Rene Ramirez
Operations Manager

Joan L. Cassman
District Counsel

Joubin Pakpour
District Engineer

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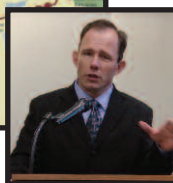
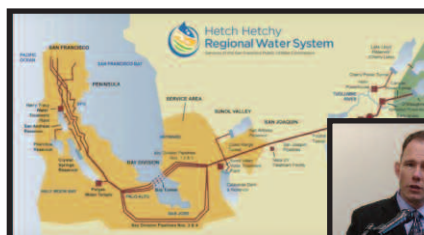
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MPWD's First Annual "State of the District" Address

Co-hosted by



District customers were invited to the MPWD's First Annual "State of the District" Address on April 27, 2016. Hosted at the District office, MPWD officials and staff members were on hand to share MPWD's fiscal update, the history of the San Francisco



Matt Zucca, MPWD President, moderates the SOTD.

Regional Water System and Hetch Hetchy reservoir, as well as an overview of its operational and capital progress. An open house followed with MPWD demonstrations, displays, and information on valuable rebate programs.

To watch the State of the District Address, please go to MidPeninsulaWater.org/SOTD. ■

MPWD Goes 2-for-2 on Earth Day 2016



Mid-Peninsula Water District (MPWD) renewed its commitment to celebrating Earth Day this year by going back-to-back in its participation in local community events. Not only did MPWD participate in its 5th year at the City of Belmont Earth Day on April 23, but also in the inaugural San Carlos Earth Day Event on April 30. Both events were geared for the entire community promoting environmental issues and sustainability through interactive activities, vendor displays, and recycling drop-off stations. ■



MPWD staff volunteered at the Belmont Earth Day (left) and San Carlos Earth Day (right) by answering questions from customers and promoting water conservation.

MPWD Vehicle Fleet Seeing Green



If you have been out driving around Belmont and San Carlos in recent months, you may have noticed some new additions to the MPWD vehicle fleet. What you may not have noticed is how green these new vehicles are under the hood!

As a certified Bay Area Green Business, MPWD is dedicated to employing more fuel-efficient and environmentally-friendly vehicles as older models are retired. MPWD currently uses three hybrid vehicles for staff that feature gas mileage ratings between 40-58 mpg. Two of these vehicles are plug-ins.

Even the larger service vehicles are being replaced with smaller and fuel-efficient models, including two one-ton trucks (gas and diesel) that were replaced with half-ton F-150s with EcoBoost engines, which not only more than doubles fuel mileage, but reduces particulate emissions. Another fleet truck used for engineering techs was replaced with a Ford Transit, also featuring an EcoBoost engine.

As existing fleet vehicles are retired in the future, MPWD will continue to opt in favor of the best fuel-efficient or all-electric options available at the time. MPWD is committed to providing clean and sustainable water to customers for generations to



come, and is equally committed to protecting our environment and achieving greater sustainability one step at a time.

So, the next time you see us out on the road, wave hello and take a look at MPWD working hard at providing clean, safe water, and doing its part for the environment.

For more information about the environmental values of Bay Area Green Businesses, please visit www.greenbiz.ca.gov. ■

DID YOU KNOW? Above ground storage tanks ensure that water pressure is fairly constant and water volumes are sufficient to fight fires, even if the electricity that runs the water pumps is off!

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

As committed stewards of your water rate dollars, and to ensure you safe and reliable water delivery, MPWD budgets money specifically to enhance water service and to replace or rehabilitate aged water infrastructure.




For 2016, the highest infrastructure priority for MPWD was placed on the replacement of the water main under Alameda de las Pulgas Avenue due to the number of water leaks that occurred over the past five years and the pipe's age. Pre-construction meetings were held in spring 2016 to address road closure, safety, and water service concerns from the public, the City of Belmont, SamTrans, and local government agencies. By mid-June, the

first of three phases of construction commenced. The 50-work day timeframe was selected to further minimize impact on traffic during summer break for local schools, with added sensitivity to nature of traffic on Alameda and its importance to the north-south commuters in the region.



As of August 18, 2016 installation of the new water main along Alameda de las Pulgas was complete and successfully passed pressure tests, with additional work to pave the roadways completed before local schools went back into session. The pipeline is designed to have a useful life of at least 75 years and represents the beginning of many capital improvements for MPWD over the next five years. ■

MPWD Teams Up with Local Scout on Sustainable Garden

 In May of 2015, the MPWD was approached by local scout Thomas Kish with a proposed community “Demonstration Garden” concept to meet the requirements of his Eagle Leadership Service Award. The objective of the project was to “plan, organize, lead, and manage a team of volunteers in serving the needs of a local religious, educational or non-profit and commercial in nature institution.” Kish chose to design and implement a drought-tolerant landscape across from the MPWD offices to demonstrate for MPWD customers the use of water-efficient, native plants in a sustainable garden. Kish is pictured below with friends and family members that volunteered during the project.

Preliminary work began in the fall of 2015 and included plant research, execution of a site plan drawing, volunteer coordination, budget estimations, fundraising, and creation of a work schedule that outlined three work stages. Stage one included site preparation – debris clean-up, trim and removal

of existing trees/bushes/plants, surface leveling, raising of the required soil bed, and installation of a weed block product. This stage was completed in March of 2016. Stage two set in motion the installation of oleanders, wax leaf privets, yellow wave flax, society garlic, and lavender plants. This stage was completed in mid-April of 2016. Two weeks later, stage three was

completed, which saw the installation of a drip irrigation and recycled rain-water, and the addition of mulch and plant labels so visitors can identify varieties for use in their own yards. MPWD hopes to enter Kish’s drought-tolerant garden in the “Going Native Garden Tour” showcase for 2017. ■



Commitment to Quality Reaps Its Own Rewards

MPWD takes pride in its long-standing commitment to providing customers with safe, reliable, high-quality water. We are honored to be recognized this past year for that commitment and the tireless efforts of our staff.

In August, the APWA Silicon Valley Chapter presented its Award for Project of the Year (Utilities/Less than \$2 Million Division) to the Mid-Peninsula Water District for the Buckland Tanks Replacement Project. This award was established to promote excellence in public works projects by recognizing the partnership between the managing agency, the consultant/architect/engineer team, and the contractor, who all work together to successfully complete public works projects. For more details about the Buckland Tanks Replacement Project and a time-lapse video, please visit MidPeninsulaWater.org/buckland.



In November, during their annual conference in Anaheim, ACWA/JPIA presented their President’s Special Recognition Award to MPWD’s General Manager, Tammy Rudock, on behalf of MPWD. It was awarded for achieving a low ratio of paid claims and case reserves to deposit premiums in the liability program between 2012 and 2015. ■



Celebrating an Employee Service Anniversary

Tava Mataele has recently celebrated his ten year anniversary at MPWD. Tava is a Maintenance Technician who you'll see throughout the District walking or riding the Segway while reading water meters. Tava is also part of the maintenance crew that repairs water mains, installs service lines, replaces fire hydrants, and maintains the pipes that deliver water to our customers. Tava enjoys working at MPWD because "we have a great team, caring management, and hard working, friendly co-workers who have helped me for the last ten years."



When he's not working, Tava likes to spend as much time with his wife and children as he can, as well as volunteering with their church group. Tava's ten year anniversary at the MPWD is not the only one being celebrated; he is blessed to be married to his beautiful wife of ten years! Tava feels "very thankful to also have his lovely children in his life." ■

WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2017?

- Updated website and online bill pay portal
- Spring landscape workshops
- 2017 Capital Improvement Program updates
- Release of home water use reports
- Debut of new billing system



IMPROVED BILLING STATEMENTS!

- Easier-to-read format
- New account numbers
- New usage charts

COMING
SOON



Conservation Corner



When the Rain is On ✓
Turn the Sprinklers Off ✗

During wet and cooler weather,
TURN OFF your irrigation system
and let nature do the watering for you.