

CSD Celebrates 25th Anniversary

In June of 1982, the registered voters residing at Rancho Murieta (there were approximately 400 homes at that time) voted to form a Community Services District (CSD) and to elect five Directors. The first meeting of the new Board was held in July of 1982.

Formation of a new public agency did not happen overnight; a lot of planning and financing were necessary to make it happen. In the early 1970s, the Operating Engineers Trust Fund (PTF), under the leadership of Dale Marr, searched for a site to use for training heavy equipment operators, and to gain some practical experience. Ray Henderson, who had been the

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Project Manager of the newly created community of Cameron Park, was hired to become the Project Manager at Rancho Murieta. Several parcels along the Cosumnes River were purchased by PTF, and later with some additional acreage,

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New Pedestrian Bridge Is Open

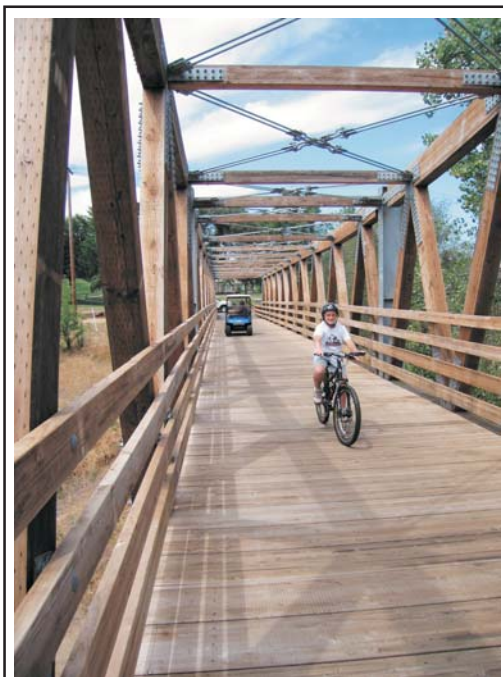
Just in time for the summer recreation season and 4th of July activities, the eagerly anticipated pedestrian bridge connecting Murieta North and

South is open to pedestrians, bicyclists, and golf carts. The beautiful bridge constructed by resident Randy Jenco's Viking Construction, was built with funds from the developers of the south properties.

The public tennis courts, located at Riverview Park, can be accessed from the north via Bridge House Lane off de la Cruz Drive. Stonehouse and Clementia Parks, as well as the gazebo and lakes, can be accessed from the south via the trail system adjacent to Riverview Park.

Security will provide patrol of the bridge and parks and, of course, respond to calls for service. No fishing, climbing, or rope swings will be permitted. There are no current plans for bridge lighting, although low level lighting may be considered for safety purposes.

Security representatives are quite pleased with the addition of the bridge so residents can visit their friends without having to drive on Jackson Road. Residents are reminded that the golf course is private and access is restricted to members.



Golf carts and bicyclists use new bridge across the Cosumnes River.

CSD Anniversary (continued)

3,500 acres were assembled. After setting up their school, the Training Center built the roads, airport, golf course, club house, dug the reservoirs, and built the dams.

Henderson had worked with El Dorado Irrigation District (EID) in Placerville as the provider of water and wastewater services for Cameron Park; he hired former EID Manager Harry Dunlop to become the local Manager for the newly formed homeowners' association, Rancho Murieta Association (RMA). Henderson and Dunlop negotiated a memorandum of understanding with EID to provide water and sewer services at Rancho Murieta.

EID served a large area, primarily in El Dorado County; hookup fees and monthly service charges for homes and businesses at Rancho Murieta were paid to EID, with no assurance that these fees would necessarily be for the benefit of Rancho Murieta. In fact, there was concern that customers at Rancho Murieta would become liable for EID's district-wide indebtedness. Property tax revenues were also going out of the county to EID.

With this background, RMA's Directors and Manager contracted with Sacramento County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) to conduct a feasibility study to ascertain whether Rancho Murieta could support a community services district to provide municipal services within Rancho Murieta.

RMA supported this concept

and advanced the election costs. The 1982 election resulted in voter approval for CSD to provide:

- Police protection/security services
- Road construction & maintenance
- Landscape maintenance
- Drainage construction & maintenance
- Public recreation
- Street lighting.

Subsequently, the voters authorized the CSD to provide all municipal services authorized in the California Government Code, as well as some special services authorized by the legislature.

Although the voters approved all of these municipal services, CSD focused on the primary services of water and sewer. After several months of negotiations, the CSD

detached from EID and exercised its authority to provide water and sewer services in October of 1983. With ratepayer income for these services, the CSD repaid RMA the election costs they had expended and property tax revenue was redirected from EID to CSD to help offset some of the administrative costs.

As a fundamental step in the development of Rancho Murieta, in 1975, the State Water Resources Control Board issued a permit to divert water from the Cosumnes River into reservoir storage. The initial permit for 6,368 acre feet annually, states that 3,900 acre feet can be put into storage for municipal, recreational, industrial, and irrigation purposes. The original permit anticipated build out to be completed by December 1990; upon application by CSD, the State has recently approved an extension to December 1, 2020.

As noted earlier, the voters had approved latent authority for the CSD to provide drainage and flood control service. In 1983, the CSD de-annexed from Sacramento County's Metropolitan Storm Drainage Maintenance District (Metro) which provided service principally to Unit No. 1 and Murieta Village and began providing drainage services. After public hearings in 1988, the District adopted a Storm Drainage and Flood Control Master Plan, which continues to provide guidance as homes and businesses are constructed.

A primary attraction to homeowners in rural Sacramento County was Security. From the start, RMA



Construction for the 3 million gallon concrete water storage tank east of Rancho Murieta in 1989.

CSD Anniversary (continued)

was responsible for security, but in early 1984, PTF refused to pay RMA's charges for security. When no satisfactory resolution could be reached, RMA requested CSD to become the provider of security services, utilizing the CSD's ability to enact ordinances requiring that customers pay for the service and to place delinquencies on the tax rolls for collection. In July of 1984, the CSD hired staff as public employees – many of the RMA security employees became CSD security employees. (Chief Remson is one of those employees.)

In late 1985, PTF sold its undeveloped property to Jack Anderson, who shortly thereafter, requested public financing to construct a new water plant and to acquire existing facilities which had not been dedicated to the public but were still owned by the developer. After months of negotiations, Improvement District No. 1 was formed, bonds were sold, encumbering all of the properties still owned by the developer. CSD obtained the water rights, facilities, and easements for public utilities which had never been drawn and recorded.

In 1988, property south of the river was sold to a new developer, Winncrest Homes. The first maps indicated that the only property not planned for development was the golf course. As a result, the CSD exercised its latent powers regarding parks and developed a Parks Master Plan. Since the CSD's powers do not include land use planning or approval, the CSD worked with Sacramento County in providing this master plan to meet the community's park needs. With

the intervention of the CSD, the Murieta South developers changed their plans to provide open space and parks.

Parks Agreements were negotiated, and all owners of undeveloped

properties became signatory to the Parks Agreements. Park fees are paid into the Parks Fund and the Committee (two representatives from RMA, two developer representatives, and one from CSD) controls the expenditure of the park funds.

One of the conditions of approval relating to the development of the south properties was a river crossing for residents to freely move between the north and south residential properties. When the housing count reached the agreed number, the south developers signed a funding agreement to construct the bridge. In the fall of 2004, the CSD acted as the lead agency in approving a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Bridge. In the fall of 2005, the CSD pursued ownership of the underlying land at the bridge site, which resulted in deeds, easements and agreements between the CSD, RMA, RMCC, PTF and various



Marion Cravens, CSD General Manager, and Rosella Wegener, widow of Director Jack Wegener at dedication of water plant in 1992.

landowners. Construction of the bridge was completed in December, 2006. CSD owns the bridge and Security provides patrol; RMA maintains the bridge and the trail system connecting to the bridge.

In November of 2005, CSD contracted with California Waste Recovery Systems to collect residential garbage, recycling, and green waste services, which were previously provided by Sacramento County. Enhanced collection services, such as bulky waste removal up to four times per year per household and bagged leaf collection, have been successful.

In addition, this year the CSD contracted with a licensed contractor for household hazardous waste removal, including electronic waste. This service received an enthusiastic welcome, so CSD will continue to provide this service.

A great deal has been accomplished in the last 25 years. Congratulations, CSD!

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Is A Success



Murietans respond to waste collection.

Apparently there was a huge pent-up demand for collection of household hazardous waste (HHW) and E-waste. Since this had not been done before, CSD staff consulted with Romic Environmental Technologies, Inc. which estimated there might be

150 vehicles delivering HHW. Rancho Murietans responded by arriving in 395 vehicles, including 56 cars which brought items for those needing assistance. The original hours of collection were posted from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., but those hours were ex-

tended to accommodate residents who continued to arrive.

Romic staff was overwhelmed with the response – many people brought car/golf cart batteries, propane tanks, paint and many cabinet style television sets and computer monitors. The original estimate called for one very large truck to take the material to the transfer station in West Sacramento and then on to the Bay Area Saturday evening. The response was so great that it took staff, working Saturday and Sunday, to collect and load the material into four large truckloads.

Although residents waited up to 1-1/2 hours, Romic staff were amazed at how polite and cheerful residents were.

Responding to an obvious need, CSD plans to continue to provide household hazardous waste and electronic collection in the future.

Wastewater Facility Expansion Report

As required by the Central Valley Regional Water Control Board's Cease and Desist Order, the CSD will submit by July 30, 2007 a Wastewater Facility Expansion and Financing Plan to accommodate full buildout or development through 2019, whichever comes first.

HydroScience Engineers, Inc. recently conducted three Board workshops to evaluate wastewater disposal alternatives and a financing plan. The Board confirmed their intent to continue the current "pay as you go" policy for new

development which requires developers to either build and contribute to the District new facilities or make contributions for the CSD to build and own the facilities.

Onsite storage requirements for buildout were identified as well as facilities to dispose of recycled water beyond what the Country Club can use.

One of the disposal sites involves a spray field on neighboring ranch land. Sacramento County has recently declared drought conditions. Stan Van

Vleck has applied for an emergency use permit for temporary irrigation to help maintain his pasture. Supervisor Don Nottoli is assisting in getting the use permit. If successful, piping can be installed in early August, upon approval by the Regional Board. Using this spray field will help deplete the carry-over storage problem which has plagued the District since 2003.

Further upgrades needed for the existing wastewater facilities include headworks/metering and disinfection, either by chlorine contact or ultraviolet.

Irrigation Season Is Upon Us

The mild, low-rainfall winter is long gone and summer is in full swing. That means lawns and gardens rely on irrigation to provide lovely green grass, trees, and flowers.

There can be a negative side to keeping our landscapes beautiful. Pollutants from lawns and gardens, such as fertilizer, pesticides, herbicides, and sediment, can wash into drains and flow through

drainage channels to detention basins and ultimately to the river.

It is important to monitor sprinkler heads and drip systems to be sure they are effective. Over-irrigation, which results in water flowing down the streets, is not only a waste of money, but is a waste of our most precious resource.

Here are some suggestions for irrigation in this quarter:

Month	Spray Systems	Drip Systems
July	4 to 5x/week, 3 to 5 min., 2 to 3 start times.	3 to 4x/week. Soak the root zone.
August	4 to 5x/week, 3 to 5 min., 2 to 3 start times.	3 to 4x/week. Soak the root zone.
September	3 to 4x/week, 3 to 5 min., 2 to 3 start times.	3x/week. Soak the root zone.

By “cycling” your irrigation timer to turn on for the suggested number of minutes an hour apart, you reduce runoff and gain deeper watering and healthier root growth.

Note: In September, watering

needs to be dropped about 30% even if the temperature is hotter: the days are shorter, so evaporation decreases and plants begin to go into a dormant phase where they need less water.

Reminders From Security

The **Safety Center** is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Volunteers in Partnership with the Sheriff (VIPS) are available to take crime reports. Contact them directly at 354-8509. If you are interested in serving your community, applications for VIPS can be picked up at the Safety Center and both the North and South Gates.

Vacation Checks. If you plan to be out of town on vacation, stop by either the North or South gate to notify Security of the dates you

will be gone. Patrol will be happy to provide extra attention to your property in your absence.

Call in your guests. It is important that you notify the Gate Officer if you expect service personnel or guests at your home in order to avoid delays and traffic congestion. North Gate: 354-3742 - South Gate: 354-3743. All telephone calls to both the North and South Gates are recorded for training and verification purposes. The beep you hear indicates your call is being recorded.

New Rates In Effect July 1, 2007

New charges for CSD services go into effect July 1, the start of the fiscal year. Changes include increases for water, sewer, drainage, and solid waste. Security rates remain unchanged. The combined monthly CSD bill for all services will rise from \$104 to \$114; in Murieta Village the average rate will go from \$68 to \$77.

The primary reasons for rate increases relate to salary and benefit costs for the 35 employees, plus increased power, facility maintenance, chemical and laboratory costs.

The District will receive full property tax revenues which had been reduced the past two years to help balance the state budget. The new rates will provide contributions to reserves, which had been held in abeyance the past few years.

4th of July Celebration

- Guest passes can be picked up at the Rancho Murieta Association Administration Building. Each owner can receive 5 passes for free; additional passes are \$5 each.
- Holiday activities will conclude with the annual fireworks display.
- “Safe and Sane” fireworks are permitted only on private property *NOT* in parks or common area.
- Off-duty Sheriff Deputies will be on hand to assist security officers.
- Exiting from the community after the fireworks will be via Murieta Parkway and Escuela Drive. Please be patient and follow the directions of the volunteers to safely exit.

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Are You Recycling?

What do you do with the endless supply of junk mail? Toss it in the trash? Would you believe your junk mail can make a difference? Yes, we NEED your junk mail – we need it in your green recycle container.

In order to reduce the amount of solid waste going into landfills, the Solid Waste Management and Resource Recovery Act of 1972 was enacted. Each county was required to develop a long-term solid waste management plan. Currently, the mandate is to reduce diversion to the landfill by 50%.

In many areas, old landfills were leaking and contaminating ground water. Kiefer Landfill, the Sacramento County landfill located just west of Rancho Murieta near the

Cosumnes River, was filling rapidly. California's soaring economy greatly increases waste generation and concerted efforts to reduce solid waste going into the landfill are needed. New sites for solid waste are very expensive and subject to serious environmental review.

For the past year and a half, California Waste Recovery Systems has provided solid waste collection for Rancho Murieta. In a recent report, Cal-Waste noted that in 2006 the local recycle ratio was just over 46%. Sacramento County in general is meeting the 50% goal, but we are falling a bit short at Rancho Murieta. Surely, we have enough junk mail, catalogs, magazines, glass jars, bottles,

plastic bottles and cans to increase our recyclables and to take them out of the trash and keep them from going into the landfill. Yard and garden waste is also below the diversion amount we should be putting in the gray containers.

If you don't have these green and gray containers, you may receive them from Cal-Waste at no charge. The monthly charges are based on the size of the garbage can. If you want to reduce your monthly charges, put more into your recycle containers and less in your garbage container.

