

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** October 21, 2020  
**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Tom Hennig, General Manager  
**Subject:** Potential Reorganization/Renegotiation of the 1988 Agreement Related to the CIA Ditch

---

### **HISTORY**

In January 1988, the Cosumnes Irrigation Association (CIA) and Rancho Murieta CSD (District) signed an agreement to share the management and costs for the CIA Ditch. This agreement is attached to this memorandum. This agreement governs the maintenance and use of the CIA Ditch.

The CIA Ditch (Ditch) is 4.4 miles long, of which 2.5 miles is within the District jurisdiction. It begins at the Granlees Dam and runs along side the Cosumnes river until it reaches the Yellow Bridge. At the bridge, the Ditch turns North, it goes under then alongside the Jackson Highway to the large diversion box behind the soon to open Starbucks. At that point, the Ditch can divert a portion or all of the water into Laguna Joaquin or through a syphon under Murieta Drive to the basin behind the Fire Station. From that point, water in the Ditch travels to the Equestrian Center and then to the ranches to the West. The Ditch water is eventually used to irrigate various types of farmlands. During the rainy season the Ditch returns water to the Cosumnes River.

Over the past thirty-two years, the maintenance of the Ditch has primarily been the responsibility of the District. The agreement is designed to control the use of the Ditch and to provide a mechanism for payment for the delivery of the water and the ongoing maintenance of the system. Included in the agreement is the option to reevaluate the agreement and cost allocation every five years. As of today, the reevaluation option has not been exercised. The Board has determined the need to evaluate the District's fiscal and logistical position with this agreement.

### **SUMMARY**

This discussion will establish a framework for moving forward with a potential change to the 1988 agreement. Once the CIA and District have developed a plan, we will return to the Improvements Committee with a recommended strategy. Proposed changes to the District's relationship with the CIA Ditch will need to be finalized by March 2021, and will take effect on July 1, 2021. The Carol Anderson Ward Trust, and Carol Anderson Ward has indicated through her representative that the members look forward to developing a plan that works for RMCS D.