

# MAIN *the* HVLCSD line

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

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## FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCTOBER 9 – 15

HVLCSD is joining the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) in commemorating the 100th anniversary of Fire Prevention Week. Since 1922, the NFPA has sponsored the public observance of Fire Prevention Week.

It is important for everyone to plan and practice a home fire escape. Important safety information and educational resources can be found at [www.FPW.org](http://www.FPW.org).

Does your family have an escape plan? Are your smoke alarms in good working order?

***“Fire won’t wait,  
plan your escape”***

THE MISSION OF THE HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT IS TO PROVIDE, MAINTAIN AND PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY’S WATER.

### VISION STATEMENT

HIDDEN VALLEY LAKE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT IS WIDELY RECOGNIZED AS A LEADING RURAL WATER PURVEYOR AND INNOVATIVE WATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

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## WELCOME!

Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District has some exciting updates and news to share with you! We continue to provide a concise report of the important news and events and how they affect your water and wastewater systems. As always, if you have questions about items in this newsletter, please email them to Penny Cuadras, Administrative Services Manager, at [pcuadras@hvllcsd.org](mailto:pcuadras@hvllcsd.org). We will respond to your inquiries as soon as we possibly can. In the meantime, we urge you to familiarize yourself with our website, [hvllcsd.org](http://hvllcsd.org). Our website contains a lot of helpful information.

We encourage you to check it out!

## DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS

### FINANCIALS

Having successfully adopted a balanced budget, the month of July marks the beginning of a new fiscal year for the District and the closing of the old one. Once closed, the District’s annual financials are subject to an outside audit. This year being no exception, the District contracted with Smith & Newell to conduct the financial audit in early September. With weeks to prepare, staff was able to ensure the on-site field days for the auditors went smoothly. With a history of favorable findings, we look forward to the results of this most recent audit. Stay tuned for those results at [www.hvllcsd.org](http://www.hvllcsd.org)

### DROUGHT

Despite some wonderful (albeit brief) rain showers in our region this summer, Hidden Valley Lake and all of California continues to be in a historic drought. The District is committed to ensuring that water is being used in the most efficient way possible. The District’s well recharge rate (or “bounce back effect”) is still at or above 100%. The rate compares the level to which the well refills within a specified time after pumping water out for an equal amount of time. As a monthly check, we pump our four wells for 30 minutes.

### STAFFING

We are pleased to report that our Board of Directors has unanimously voted to renew the General Manager, Mr. Dennis White’s, multi-year contract. Since 2002, Mr. White has served this District in a capacity that has steadily increased in responsibility. As he looks upon this third decade with Hidden Valley, he sees “A strong future with increased resilience, growth, and continued stewardship of our precious resource, water.”

The CivicSpark Fellowship is entering its fifth year here at Hidden Valley Lake CSD, and staff couldn’t be more excited. Year after year, this sponsorship has produced phenomenal returns in capacity, innovation, and just generally getting stuff done. This year will be no exception, as our Fellow will be focused on all things water, including supply, reliability, and quality.

## PROJECTS & FUNDING

The District’s six key projects (I&I, FLASHES, SCADA, Unit 9 Tank, Water Mains, and AMI) are all in various stages of development. Staff has been working diligently to move these projects forward. ▶

In fact, efforts to secure funding from state and federal sources has been underway for quite some time. In this issue, we offer you some background on how your water/wastewater agency has been working hard to build resilience in these systems.


### **Federal Funding: A Primer**

Public utility agencies, like Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District (HVLCSO, CSD for short) sometimes can apply for federal funding to help build resilience and mitigate against disasters. As a state agency, separate and distinct from the homeowner's association, CSD can submit applications for this type of funding. Two programs in particular, the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) and the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC), fund projects, as their title implies, for mitigation and resilience. If you are wondering what "mitigation" and "resilience" actually means, the good news is that they have similar definitions: both programs look to fund projects that protect against damage from natural events.

For example, one effect of extreme and extended drought is wildfire. A water storage tank replacement project would mitigate against the risk of drought and wildfire. First, the new tank will be built out of non-combustible material—drought & fire resilience. Second, the size of this new tank will meet today's water demands that includes providing enough water to help our fire-fighters should the need arise—fire mitigation. The CSD staff is working hard to make these types of beneficial projects happen with the help of HMGP and BRIC. While this funding often materializes in the wake of a devastating disaster, we are thankful for the opportunity to protect the essential services of water and wastewater.

### **ACTIVE PROJECTS**

#### **AMI**

- Are you a Smart Meter customer? Would you like to find out? If your CSD account number starts with a 01, 02, 06, 07, 08, 09 or 10 chances are you have a smart meter! Congratulations! Follow this link to more information, and tutorials on setting up the  EyeOnWater app. [www.hvlcsd.org/eye-on-water](http://www.hvlcsd.org/eye-on-water)

#### **I&I**

- Usually located under or adjacent to streets, the underground sewer system winds through most of the community. On

some occasions, however, the lines traverse across land not streets in what is called a utility easement. One such easement exists connecting North Shore Court to East Ridge View Drive. In the next few weeks, repairs will be made to this sewer line. Sealing or replacing these leaky pipes lead to a more efficient treatment process that is more cost effective and safer for everyone. Together with the state's Department of Water Resources, CSD is pleased to bring you continued improvements to the underground sewer system.

#### **SCADA**

- As mentioned in previous newsletters, CSD has adopted a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Master Plan. This document, sometimes considered a "blueprint" for future projects, is already serving its purpose. A new network security project is underway which will have new and improved measures to keep this data and operations secure.

#### **UNIT 9 TANK**

- CSD has secured funding through HMGP to help make this project happen. With a 25% local match required by this federal program, this is a great way to supersize a project! Design development will continue into the new year, at which time, we hope to be ready for construction.

#### **WATER MAINS**

- For the potable water to get to where it needs to go, such as to your household, a lot of things have to happen just right. The source water, the treatment of the water, the pumping of the water, the storage of the water, and the conveyance of the water are all key elements to this delivery. Extending

31 miles throughout this community of three square miles, the conveyance, or water mainlines is one of those key elements. CSD has been working with engineering firms to improve our aging mainline replacement program. This project will ultimately offset the cost of service of drinking water delivery. The purchase of leak detection equipment is slated for this fiscal year.

#### **FLASHES**

- We are really excited about the prospects of Inflation Reduction Act of 2022. Language in this bill could help move the FLASHES project forward. The Firemain Linked Auxiliary Supply Hydraulic Energy Storages (FLASHES) project provides a practical application of the energy resilience that is highlighted in the Inflation Reduction Act. Closed Loop Pumped Hydro/Storage creates energy from falling water and has some astounding additional benefits for our community's resilience. Staff continues to pursue funding opportunities to move this project forward.

## spotlight



The Inflation Reduction Act was signed into law by President Biden on August 16, 2022. Did you know our US Congressman Mike Thompson held a press conference at CSD to announce the passing of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022? Did you know Representative Thompson, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, penned most of the language in this bill when it was originally called the GREEN Act of 2021? It is a great comfort to know Rep. Thompson supports us, and fights for positive change for the rural communities. More information about this historic bill, and a link to the broadcast can be found here: <https://mikethompson.house.gov/newsroom/press-releases/thompson-lake-county-leaders-hold-press-conference-on-historic-climate>