



October 16, 2024

**TO:** LOCSD Utilities Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Ron Munds, General Manager  
Margaret Falkner, Utility Systems Manager

**SUBJECT:** **Agenda Item 5 – 10/16/2024 Utilities Advisory Committee**  
Utilities Department Updates for October 2024

### **Utilities Department Updates**

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#### **Growth Management Ordinance Town Hall Meeting**

The Town Hall meeting was held on October 5<sup>th</sup>. There were more than 150 people in attendance. Overall, the meeting went well with fairly detailed information provided.

The introduction of the Growth Management Ordinance, the Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Program funding plan and the Community Plan amendment were introduced at the October 8<sup>th</sup> Board of Supervisors meeting. The HCP funding plan was not passed, which puts the schedule to implement the plan into question. The other items were supported by the Board majority and passed.

#### **Utilities Projects**

##### ***Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System Modernization Project***

The District received three proposals for the project. As of the posting of this report, staff and the District Engineer are reviewing the proposals. More information may be available by the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. The project cost is estimated at \$750,000.

##### ***Groundwater Monitoring Well Project – LA 14 & 16***

The rehabilitation bid package was released on October 4<sup>th</sup>; bids are due November 1<sup>st</sup>. The work should be completed early next year.

##### ***Program C Well Project***

Construction started on the final phase of the project on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Work is continuing at a good pace. More updates should be available for the November UAC meeting. Final start up and commissioning should be completed by spring 2025.

##### ***South Bay Upper Aquifer Well***

For the past five years, the South Bay upper aquifer well has been operated minimally because of the overall cost for treatment and disposal of the brine. Consequently, the amount of water produced from the well has been minimal as can be seen in the Utilities report. Recently, the water crew discovered the nitrate analyzer was having issues, and the well was shut down. It was determined that the analyzer needs to be replaced, which would be a \$20,000 to \$30,000 investment. Based on this problem, coupled with the recent discovery of PFAS above the maximum contaminate level in the well, staff has made the decision to permanently shut the well down. The State Division of Drinking Water has been notified. In the future, the District can reactivate the well if necessary.