

# Occidental County Sanitation District

## Past Milestones and Steps Toward Solutions

**1951**

The first Occidental Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) began operation.

**1969**

Facility upgraded to a package style plant at the lift station.

**1973-84**

System managers abandon the package plant and move the treatment to the Druids cemetery site.

**1977-84**

Graham's Pond begins to be used as a storage pond

**1995**

Operation of the District changes hands from Sonoma County Public Works to the Sonoma County Water Agency.

**1999**

Draft EIR evaluates a pipeline to the Russian River County Sanitation District (RRCSD), dismissed based on opposition; or a leach field above Camp Meeker, dismissed based on permitting requirements.

**2002**

Draft EIR evaluates a joint Occidental and Camp Meeker solution with tertiary treatment at the current facility site. Dismissed based on cost.

**2006**

EIR evaluates a combined Occidental and Camp Meeker solution with a pipeline to the RRCSD. Dismissed based on community opposition and cost.

**2008**

The District installs a new sewer trunk main, reducing stormwater inflow into the collection system by more than 40 percent.

**2008-09**

Water Use Efficiency Program launches and offers direct installs for high efficiency fixtures.

**February 2013**

Regional Board issues a Cease and Desist Order (CDO) to end storage of recycled water in Graham's Pond by 2018. Regional Board requires 60% design plans for storage and disposal project to address 2013 CDO.

**June 2013**

Scoping meeting for the construction of a new pond on the Loades' property. Based on landowner opposition the Water Agency decided not to move forward with project.

**October 2013**

Community meeting to discuss 2018 compliance mandates, constraints and next steps. Discussion to

identify possible storage and irrigation locations.

**December 2013**

Request for Information (RFI) sent to explore low-cost options to rebuild or upgrade the existing plant. Storage and reuse feasibility in Harrison Grade Road area evaluated

**2013-14**

District offers to replace poor-performing laterals to reduce inflow to the WWTP.

**March 2014**

Community meeting to provide an update on the responses to the RFI and to discuss treatment options.

**April 2014**

Harrison Grade residents express interest for recycled water representing irrigable acreage and 8 acre-feet of storage.

**September 2014**

Community meeting to discuss a potential agricultural irrigation project and timeline.

**Fall 2014**

Information on conservation programs for composting toilets and low flow fixtures hand delivered to rate payers.

**January 2015**

Scoping meeting for Initial Study for California Environmental Quality Act environmental analysis and documentation for agricultural irrigation project.

**2015-16**

Scoping meeting is held for Initial Study for California Environmental Quality Act environmental analysis and documentation of agricultural irrigation project.

**2016**

Further cost analysis determines that plant upgrades and construction of a pipeline make the agricultural irrigation project too expensive for district.

**December 2016**

First trucking project proposed to transport untreated wastewater to Russian River County Sanitation District (RRCSD) lift station in Guerneville.

**February 2017**

Trucking proposal to RRCSD public hearing, proposed project subsequently eliminated.

**June 2017**

Trucking proposed to Airport-Larkfield-Wikiup Sanitation Zone treatment plant. LWSZ. Scoping meeting held.

**2018**

North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board requires compliance with CDO.