

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2014

Out Valley Project Update

The pace is fast and furious as the District prepares to get an early start on the 2014 construction season.

Pre-Construction meetings are being held with our contractors and representatives from the United States Forest Service, Amador County, Volcano Telephone, Cal Trans, RCI Engineering and Exponential Engineering to work out all the scheduling details. Q&D Construction, our Underground contractor, has begun mobilizing at the Bear River Reservoir staging area. Equipment is being brought up, materials stock piled for easy access and pipe laid along the route.

The plan is to begin at the far end of the reservoir and work across the dam to the resort. This should take approximately 3 weeks. Then the construction will continue up Bear River Road, to Highway 88.

Construction within the Highway 88 corridor will result in traffic delays of up to 20 minutes throughout the summer. Completion of the Underground portion of the project is scheduled for August.

Meetings are being held regularly to work out the final details of the Overhead portion of the project. The plan is to concentrate at first on the 115 kV overhead line which runs from Salt Springs to KM Green. The 34 kV portion will begin in August with an overall completion scheduled for September.

On March 8, 2014 the Board selected Wilson Construction to complete the Sub-Station portion of the project. Wilson Construction is also the Overhead contractor, so this will work well with coordination, mobilization, etc.

There are two Sub-Stations to be constructed, one at where the Overhead line changes from 115 kV to 34 kV (KM Green) and the second at the end of the line at the Kirkwood Powerhouse (KM Blue). The Sub-Station work is planned to be completed in September. Please let us know of any comments or questions you might have.



Michael Sharp presenting Sean Kennedy with the Employee of the Quarter 2014

Meadow System Trail Update

Last year the District's Planning Committee initiated a project to improve the trail in the Kirkwood Meadow. The vision for the effort involved creating a summer experience in the Kirkwood Meadow that parallels the winter experience with the cross country trail system. Members of the Committee reached out to Vail, who owns the meadow, the Kirkwood Community Association, and Kirkwood Capital Partners to solicit their input and financial support for the project. The proposed trail would roughly follow the trail that exists in the meadow today with a recognition that the pathway not be on private property. The concept for the project suggested using community volunteers to construct the trail once a qualified trail contractor had established a plan and any surveys and permits had been completed.

The concept is being presented to various community groups and government entities to gather input and support.

A portion of the proposed trail is on KMPUD property. This summer we hope to complete the permitting process to develop that trail segment with our trail contractor in order to demonstrate to the community members, stakeholders, county representatives and others what the trail would be like, how it would be constructed, how wide it might be, etc., in order to build consensus around the effort. More information about the proposed project will be available at the Kirkwood Volunteer Fire Department's Barbeque on the afternoon of Saturday, July 5.

Wine Tasting BBQ Plans

Known as the premier summer event by homeowners in the valley, the Kirkwood Volunteer Fireman's Barbeque will take place on the afternoon of Saturday, July 5 beginning at 3:30 pm. As in past years, plans call for a delicious barbeque coupled with corn on the cob and a selection of sides and salads plus tasty desserts. It will include beer and wine tasting, live music provided by Out of Bounds, activities for kids as well as a silent and live auction. Attending the barbeque is a great way to begin your Kirkwood summer, support the fire department and to catch up with friends and neighbors you haven't seen since the lifts stopped turning.

With the drought facing California, this year the objective is to raise funds for a wood chipper to be used to clear downed wood on properties in Kirkwood in support of the defensible space initiative, thereby promoting fire safety and protecting homes and property in the Kirkwood Valley. If you would like to donate items for the live and silent auction, we are looking for framed artwork, handmade items such as quilts or pottery, gift certificates for anything from a meal, a golf outing, a boat trip on the lake or the bay, gift baskets, tickets to sporting events, lodging accommodations at properties worldwide and destination packages that include lodging, a dining certificate and some entertainment or cultural experience. The generosity of the community was greatly appreciated last year and allowed the fire department to purchase a thermal imaging camera to utilize in rescues and firefighting operations.

Registration for this event will begin in May; we will accept credit cards or personal checks. Advance reservations are appreciated and will be discounted.

We look forward to seeing you on the Village Plaza on the afternoon of Saturday, July 5!

Remote Water Meter Upgrade

The water meter upgrade project has begun! District staff has started the installation of the new remote read water meters, with 130 new meters installed as of the end of March. Water meters have been changed out at Lost Cabin, Sentinels West, The Sentinels, Thimblewood, Cornice Court, Glove Rock, as well as the hot water meters at Meadowstone.

If your water meter has been changed out, you can log in to your online account at www.kmpud.com and monitor your hourly water usage.

All new water meters read in 1 cubic foot increments. District staff is continuing to replace meters, with the immediate focus on changing out meters in the indoor condos. Once the indoor meter change-outs are complete and the snow begins to melt, staff will put the focus on single family homes. The meter replacement project is estimated to be complete prior to July 1st.

Kirkwood Community to maintain ISO Classification of 4!

In the January 2014 District Newsletter we reported the Kirkwood Volunteer Fire Department was recently inspected by the Insurance Service Office (ISO) to determine the current level of fire protection available for the Kirkwood community. This inspection looks at all the areas of the fire department response including fire alarm and communication systems, engine companies, training, vehicles, equipment and available water supply.

The results of this inspection showed we were in jeopardy of losing our current Class 4 rating and that it would be changed to a Class 5 rating in December 2014 unless we made some changes.

Because the ISO rating plays an important role in the underwriting process for insurance companies to write property insurance policies, the lower rating of Class 5 would have increased the property insurance premiums within the Kirkwood community.

Through a lot of work by the members of the fire department along with administrative support from District staff and the Field Representative from ISO, we are pleased to announce we have made the necessary improvements to maintain our Class 4 rating.

We feel very fortunate to maintain this rating and as you can see from the table below, a Class 4 rating is excellent for a small volunteer fire department.



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