

# Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District

## Planning Committee

### REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Committee of the Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District has called a Regular Meeting of the Committee to be held on **Friday, September 11, 2020 at 2:00 P.M.** at the Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District Community Services Building, 33540 Loop Road, Kirkwood, California 95646.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING COVID-19 AND TELECONFERENCED MEETINGS:**

Based on mandates by the Governor and the Alpine County Health Officer to shelter in place and the guidance from the CDC, to minimize the spread of coronavirus, please note the following changes to the District's ordinary meeting procedures:

- The District offices are not open to the public at this time.
- The meeting will be conducted via video and teleconference.
- All members of the public seeking to observe and/or to address the Committee may participate in the meeting telephonically or online, as described below.

#### **HOW TO PARTICIPATE / OBSERVE THE MEETING:**

**Telephone:** Call Zoom at (669) 900-6833 and enter Meeting ID# **827 3682 0898** followed by the pound (#) key.

**Computer:** Follow this link to join the meeting automatically: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82736820898>

**Mobile:** Open the Zoom mobile app on a smartphone and enter Meeting ID# **827 3682 0898**

#### **ACCESSIBILITY INFORMATION:**

Committee meetings are accessible to people with disabilities and others who need assistance. Individuals who need special assistance or a disability-related modification or accommodation (including auxiliary aids or services) to observe and/or participate in this meeting and access meeting-related materials should contact Jessica Gillies, Clerk of the Board, at least 48-hours before the meeting at (209) 258-4444 or [jgillies@kmpud.com](mailto:jgillies@kmpud.com) Advanced notification will enable the District to swiftly resolve such requests and ensure accessibility.

The Agenda for this Regular Meeting is:

- 1) **WWTP Public Health Testing.** Discussion & possible action. **Pgs. 3-4**
- 2) **Connection Fee Review Process.** Discussion & possible action. **Pg. 5**
- 3) **Irrigation Incentive Program.** Update. **Pg. 6**
- 4) **Voluntary Utility Funding.** Update.
- 5) **COVID-19 Contingencies.** Update.
- 6) **Future Topics**
- 7) Next Meeting/Staff Recommendation: October 9, 2020 2:00 PM.

Dated: September 4, 2020

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Kirkwood Meadows PUD

The Kirkwood Meadows Public Utility District is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a disabled person and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact the District at (209) 258-4444, by email to [igillies@kmpud.com](mailto:igillies@kmpud.com). Requests must be made as early as possible, and at least two business days before the meeting.

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY  
AUGUST 18, 2020**

**ITEM 3**

**SUBJECT**

SEWERSHED SURVEILLANCE FOR COVID-19

**DISCUSSION**

Researchers around the world are investigating the potential to monitor for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, in the sewershed (e.g., wastewater and sludge) to inform COVID-19 epidemiology and response actions. Sewershed surveillance has been used before to investigate the epidemiology of other pathogens such as the polio virus. Currently, researchers around the world are identifying and addressing research needs to improve methods for sewershed surveillance for COVID-19 to respond to the current COVID-19 pandemic and plan for future outbreaks. This includes developing methods to accurately and reliably monitor for SARS-CoV-2 in complex matrixes like wastewater, linking concentrations of SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater and settled solids to prevalence of COVID-19 cases in the population. This effort will aid in establishing trends or changes in rates of infection, identifying hotspots and tracking impacts of medical and social interventions, and making decisions on when to implement or release social interventions, as well as conducting risk assessments. While the state of the science is rapidly progressing, a number of data gaps still need be addressed before some of these objectives can be achieved.

In April 2020, the Water Research Foundation hosted a Virtual International Water Research Summit on Environmental Surveillance of COVID-19 Indicators in Sewersheds that brought together researchers, utilities, and industry experts to share their expertise, discuss best practices, and identify research needs. The Water Research Foundation has initiated a suite of research projects to address these critical research needs to improve the efficacy of sewershed surveillance to inform COVID-19 epidemiology and decision-making.

The State Water Board is collaborating with academic and industry scientists and experts, including the Water Research Foundation on projects to: develop a model that links concentrations of SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater influent and settled solids to prevalence of infection in the population; and develop reliable, repeatable analytical methods to quantify pathogens in raw wastewater, including SARS-CoV-2. Data from these studies are not yet available but will be emerging over the next months to year.

As data continues to emerge and the state of the science progresses, in order to successfully utilize sewer-based surveillance for COVID-19, we must utilize a collaborative approach to connect wastewater utilities, researchers, laboratories, public health officials, state and federal agencies (e.g., State Water Board, California Department of Public Health, Center for Disease Control, U.S. EPA), and other government decision makers in order to make informed decisions based on sound science.

**POLICY ISSUE**

None.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

**REGIONAL BOARD IMPACT**

None.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

No action needed - informational item.

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# STAFF REPORT

## Connection Fee Study

**Background:**

In May 2014, Ordinance 14-02 was adopted by the District Board which revised Connection Fees for Water, Wastewater, Propane, and Electricity. The Planning Committee has indicated an interest in revisiting these fees to ensure they are equitable, appropriate, and do not hinder development and thus economic development of Kirkwood.

**Connection Fee Study:**

There are three over-arching methods of considering connection fees, Buy-In, Incremental, and a Hybrid.

Buy-In is used when there is enough capacity in the existing system to serve all current and future connections. When unimproved lots wish to connect, that they simply “Buy-In” for their proportionate share of the system capacity to serve their project. The cost of the connection is based on the value of the existing system.

Incremental is used when the existing system is at capacity and therefore new capacity needs to be built in order to serve new connections. When unimproved lots wish to connect, they pay for the “incremental” cost of expanding the existing system. The cost of the connection is based on the cost of expanding the system and is often derived from the Capital Budget.

Hybrid is a combination of the Buy-In and Incremental types, meaning that some capacity exists to serve the project, but additional capital improvements are necessary to fully serve the project.

Additionally, Community Facilities District 98-01 (or Mello Roos, to which it is often referred) was an assessment for improvements to the Wastewater system and the connection fees for participants versus non-participants varies.

Currently, none of systems are constructed to handle ultimate build-out of Kirkwood, thus all Connection Fee analyses would fall into a hybrid scenario. Per the District’s rate consultant, a Hybrid Connection Fee study would be approximately \$13,000 per utility analyzed.

**Recommendation:**

The Finance Committee is contemplating recommending an Electric Rate Study to be completed by July 2021 and a Connection Fee Study could be incorporated should the Board so desire.

However, no Connection Fee study was budgeted for Water, Wastewater, or Propane so the Planning Committee will need to determine if they wish to recommend these studies at this time to the Board.

**Prepared By:**

Erik M. Christeson

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# STAFF REPORT

## Irrigation Incentive Program

**Background:**

During adoption of the 2020 Water/Wastewater 218 Rate Study, the Board indicated a desire to investigate options for an Irrigation Incentive Program.

**Connection Fee Study:**

Per District Counsel, “in order to encourage water conservation, the District may establish and fund a rebate program to incentivize more efficient irrigation systems or lower water use.”

Types of Programs:

Many examples of these types of programs are available from other water districts, some examples include:

<http://www.cityofsacramento.org/Utilities/Water/Conservation/Residents/Residential-Rebates>

<https://www.ebmud.com/water/conservation-and-rebates/rebates/>

<https://zone7water.com/conservation-rebates/rebate-programs>

<https://www.watersmartsd.org/residential/incentives/>

<https://stpud.us/waterconsv/rebates-and-services/>

The simplest, and recommended type of program, per District Counsel, would be one that operates as “a rebate paid to the customer after the customer purchases and installs the improvement and provides proof of same to the District. Some agencies requires before and after inspections to confirm the work.”

The program should be made available to both existing and new irrigation customers.

Necessary Board Findings:

Such a program should be adopted by the Board, through a resolution or a motion adopting a program and stating an allowable reason (e.g. water efficiency, water conservation).

Funding Sources:

Water rates may be used, but per District Counsel, “if the program is to be funded through rates, there also would need to be an amendment to the recent study.”

Property taxes may also be used.

**Prepared By:**

Erik M. Christeson