



Major Mare Island Water and Sewer Improvements

City of Vallejo - Vallejo Flood & Wastewater District Project will Bore Under Mare Island Strait

Vallejo, CA -- In mid-August, a key project to improve reliable water and sewer services, and support economic development on Mare Island, will break ground. Known as the Mare Island Sewer and Water Main Replacement Project, the estimated \$16 million project is anticipated to last until February 1, 2019.

Overview

Currently, sewer and drinking water pipes serve Mare Island residents and businesses through lines located underneath the Mare Island Causeway and a second location farther down the Strait. The new project will use a boring technique to pull the new pipelines through two borings underneath the Mare Island Strait 95 feet north of the bridge and 75 feet below the river bed. The project will increase capacity for Mare Island, and includes conduits for VallejoNet fiber optics and a recycled water main for future potential projects.

The existing 18-inch force main is a critical component of the District's sanitary sewer collection and discharge system on Mare Island. It was built in 1974 and is in poor condition, with no ready access for monitoring and maintenance. The replacement sewer force main will be tunneled deep beneath the Mare Island Strait using horizontal directional drilling (HDD), and then will continue via an open trench through River Park. It will then cross the Mare Island Causeway to Harbor Way, where it will connect to an existing sewer line under Mare Island Way.

The City's drinking water mains that serve Mare Island are also nearing the end of their useful lives. The 20-inch line farther down the strait will no longer be used. This project adds new dual 18-inch drinking water mains and fiber optic conduits contained in a single tunnel that is separate from the tunnel containing the sewer and recycled water pipes. The City will continue to use the existing 14-inch water pipe under the bridge. The tunnels for the water and sewer pipes will be about 15 feet apart.

Funding

The project is estimated to cost slightly under \$16 million. Both the City and the District will contribute more than \$7 million each, and a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will contribute \$1.2 million.

Anticipated Noise, Traffic and Park Impacts

- Between September and early February, work hours will vary from 8 hours a day/5 days a week to 12 hours a day/6 days a week except as noted below.
- When the new pipe is pulled through the borings, work will occur around the clock for two days per bore. During those brief times, bright lights and generator noise will be evident.
- River Park will remain open during construction. The parking lot at Hichborn may have less parking spaces available than usual. There will be lots of equipment in the park staging area; it will be fenced off and secured. Park paths will be accessible, although some may have detours during construction.
- Later in the project there will be traffic lane closures on Mare Island Way, Harbor Way, and the Mare Island Causeway. There are no full street closures anticipated.

Residents and business owners with questions about the project should contact Ed O'Brien at 707-654-9622. Questions about park access should be addressed to the Greater Vallejo Recreation District at 707-648-4600.

UPDATE 11/27/18

The direction drilling contractor for the project at River Park is scheduled to work 24 hours a day from Thursday, November 29 through Friday, December 21. Most of the night work will take place on the Mare Island side and will involve enlarging the bore hole. The contractor requires a 2-person crew on the Vallejo side to support the operation. Work on the Vallejo side will include an excavator to secure the boring rod and to manage additional rods that are pushed through the hole from the Mare Island side. The backup alarm on the excavator will be disabled to reduce noise, and the area will be fenced off to ensure safety. The excavator will run at low speed or idle. When the reamer tool gets close to the Vallejo side, the mud that leaves the hole will be pumped into a truck and transported to the Mare Island side. The contractor will install a sound barrier at the end of the work zone and point work lights away from public areas. The 24-hour a day direction drilling operation is critical to complete the project by the end of January 2019.