



CITY OF  
ROLLING HILLS ESTATES

**CITY MANAGER'S CORNER**

February 17, 2017

**CAL-WATER PIPELINE PROJECT**

For the past ten years or so, California Water Company has been working on a new pipeline project to improve reliability and provide redundancy for emergency water needs throughout the Peninsula. A major portion of the project, which calls for installation of two new pipelines, will run through Rolling Hills Estates from the pump station on Montecillo Drive at the east end of town all the way to Crenshaw Boulevard and up the hill from there through the County area and into Rancho Palos Verdes.

Critical portions of the project are planned to be constructed in the public right-of-way of Palos Verdes Drive North, commencing at Montecillo Drive and heading westbound toward Dapplegray Elementary School. From there, plans for the alignment currently contemplate going through the Dapplegray School site down to the Little League fields, then along bridle trails adjacent to the South Coast Botanic Garden and out to Crenshaw. Of course, this alignment will require approval from the School Board as it crosses school property. As the pipelines run up the hill, a pumping station is planned to be constructed on the west side of Crenshaw in order to get the water all the way to the top to Cal-Water's reservoir on Crest Road.

The planned alignment through Palos Verdes Drive North will involve rerouting traffic at times during daytime construction. This will be limited to off-peak travel times, and may involve the use of flagmen to send traffic through the construction zone in platoons.

Cal-Water has stressed the importance of this project to maintain reliability of water service on the Peninsula given that their delivery system is in excess of sixty years old and nearing the end of its useful life. The new pipelines are for potable water only, delivering service to all properties currently being served. No additional service capacity or recycled water lines are proposed.

The pipeline project is expected to commence in 2018 and be completed in 2019. An environmental review document is currently under development. While the project involves working with multiple jurisdictions, RHE has taken the lead on project review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). As lead agency, the RHE City Council will ultimately be the body to certify the final environmental document.

Cal-Water has provided information about this project to the RHE City Council in public meetings on several occasions, the last of which was January 24, 2017. No action has been taken by the City Council at this time. Formal review of the environmental review document by both the Planning Commission and City Council may take place as early as this summer. Notice of all such meetings will be posted and published and the community will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide input.

For more information on this project, please visit our website as information becomes available at [RollingHillsEstatesCa.gov](http://RollingHillsEstatesCa.gov) or contact the City's Planning Department at (310) 377-1577.