

IS YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CURRENT?

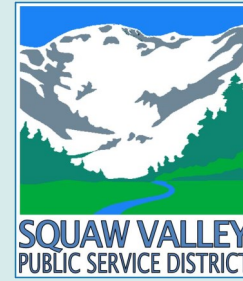
It is very important for the District to have your current mailing address, phone number and email address on file in order for us to contact you if we become aware of an emergency at your residence. This information is confidential and will not leave our office.

If you would like to provide us with your updated information, please visit our website at www.svpsd.org and select the "CONTACT US" tab at the top of the homepage!



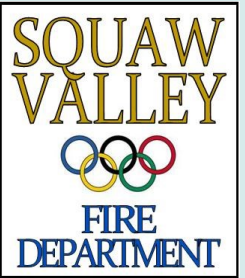
Board of Directors Meetings

Regularly scheduled meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. at 305 Squaw Valley Road, Olympic Valley, California.



SUMMER NEWSLETTER

2019



Risk-Based Approach to Sewer Master Planning

The Squaw Valley Public Service District (District) provides sewer collection services to more than 1,000 customers in Olympic Valley. Staff is in the process of updating the Sewer Master Plan (SMP) to ensure continued regulatory compliance throughout its 19.5 miles of sewer mains, 8.5 miles of sewer laterals, and 435 sewer manholes. The SMP is a comprehensive study of the District's collection system and will guide future sewer utility decisions. Completion of the SMP, expected in late 2019, will represent a major milestone for the District. The plan will:

- Update the 1994 Sewer Master Plan, including general planning information and growth projections;
- Incorporate recent sewer system analyses such as the comprehensive condition assessment of pipes and manholes;
- Assemble all previously separate studies prepared for the collection system over the past 20 years;
- Develop a comprehensive Capital Improvement Plan and Capital Replacement Plan through a risk-based approach to project prioritization.

The District, like many utilities throughout the United States, is faced with the threat of aging infrastructure and increased sanitary sewer overflows (SSO). To be proactive in addressing these issues, the SMP update will include a well-established risk-based approach to prioritize and

schedule capacity improvement and asset replacement projects. Using this approach, the SMP update is designed to:

- Maintain regulatory compliance by reducing the risk of SSOs;
- Reduce the amount of inflow and infiltration to the collection system;
- Ensure collection system capacity and maintain a high level of service; and
- Meet the need for sustainable renewal of collection system assets.

The basis of risk-based prioritization for asset renewal is categorization of the likelihood, and the potential consequence, of asset failure. Likelihood of failure is determined by evaluating the condition, age, capacity, and work history of each asset. Failure of the sewage collection system would result in un-treated sewage discharge, and thus the environmental and public health impacts of any failure will be evaluated.

The overall risk rating will be determined by combining both the consequence of failure with the probability of failure. Based on this risk rating, the District will be able to identify the most pressing capital replacement projects and prioritize the expenditure of capital funds.

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Squaw Valley Public Service District is proud to supply safe, reliable and healthy water that meets or exceeds State and Federal public health standards for drinking water. Annually, the District publishes a water quality report titled "Consumer Confidence Report" (CCR) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The purpose of the CCR is to raise customers' awareness of the quality of their drinking water, where it comes from, what it takes to deliver water to their homes, and the importance of protecting drinking water sources.

In recent years the District has mailed its customers a printed copy of the CCR to comply with the SDWA. The California Department of Public Health has expanded its interpretation of the SDWA to allow for electronic delivery of the CCR. To view our 2018 Consumer Confidence Report and learn more about your drinking water, please visit the following URL: <https://www.svpsd.org/sites/default/files/2018CCR.pdf>

If you would like a paper copy of the 2018 CCR mailed to your mailing address or would like to speak with someone about the report, please call (530) 583-4692 x207.



In Olympic Valley, chances to preserve large amounts of open space for our community come once in a generation. In the last few months, the Squaw Valley Public Service District (SVPSD) has explored an open space preservation opportunity in the heart of the valley. The SVPSD has been working in collaboration with our community and the Truckee Donner Land Trust to acquire the 30-acre Poulsen Property in the east end of the meadow, now referred to as the Olympic Meadow Preserve.

The community feedback we received over the course of a series of public meetings and a thorough outreach process helped formulate a detailed plan for acquiring the Olympic Meadow Preserve. If acquired, this open space would be made available for community use and could never be developed into condominiums.

In order to protect the Olympic Meadow Preserve, the elected SVPSD Board of Directors voted to place a special tax of \$284 per year for residential parcels on the November 5, 2019 ballot. This rate would be in place for 30 years, include a two percent annual escalator and authorize bonds payable from the tax for acquisition and improvement of the Olympic Meadow Preserve. Once acquisition bonds are paid off, the rate would be reduced to only fund ongoing operational costs and maintenance.

All registered voters in Olympic Valley are eligible to participate in this election. Additional information will be available from the Placer County Elections Office in the coming months. Their website can be accessed at www.placerelections.com.



Photo by Peter Tye

Additional Information About Open Space in the Olympic Meadow

Funding the acquisition, restoration and readying for property for public access will require funding from a special tax assessment, grants and private fundraising.

- Special Tax Assessment: If approved by two-thirds of those voting, this measure would be paid for by property owners in Olympic Valley, including commercial properties and the ski resort.
- Grant monies: Placer County is considering award of \$1,000,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax funds to the acquisition of the project. TDLT and SVPSD have also applied for other grant monies, however the likelihood of success of the grants is unknown at this time.
- Fundraising: The Land Trust has committed to raising \$1,000,000 to complete this project. Any fundraising which is over-and-above this target would reduce costs for property owners, which would increase probability of voter approval of the special tax measure.

Based on community feedback, the SVPSD plan for acquiring the Olympic Meadow Preserve is focused on the following priorities. First, the Olympic Meadow preserve must be permanently protected from private development. We also need to protect Squaw Creek, the surrounding watershed and sensitive ecological areas within the preserve. To make sure our community can enjoy this open space, our plan includes creating trails for walking and hiking, as well as providing amenities for low-impact community access, like picnic tables and restrooms. If the Olympic Meadow Preserve is acquired, the SVPSD will undertake a comprehensive master planning process with the community in 2020 to determine specific programming and design of the open space, including potential programs and facilities for community and public benefit.

None of the funding from the open space funding measure could ever be taken by the State or Placer County. Funds could only be used for expenses related to the Olympic Meadow Preserve as designated in the voter-approved resolution.

To learn more about the Olympic Meadow Preserve and the measure that was placed on the November 5, 2019 ballot, please visit www.svpsd.org/olympic-meadow-property-acquisition. To request more information, please contact OMPinfo@svpsd.org or (530) 583-4692.

Thank you for being a cherished member of our Olympic Valley community.

Fire and Safety Notes

Summer 2019

FIRE DEPARTMENT STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to Firefighter-Paramedics Mike Wright, Keith Erickson and Scott Halterman on completing their first year as full time Firefighter-Paramedics with SVFD this summer! They are a great addition to our strong crew.

PANCAKES!

The **Squaw Valley Firefighters Association** was proud to host another Pancake Breakfast for the Squaw Valley Property Owners Association, Memorial Day Weekend community clean-up day. The SVPOA clean-up day has been a Squaw Valley tradition since the 1960's. Despite the long, wet spring, the weather broke for the pancake breakfast and mostly sunny morning skies delighted both those who spent their day picking up trash and some who spent the morning taking a few last runs on the mountain. If you've never participated in the cleanup day or eaten breakfast at the fire station, we recommend both activities. The hearty breakfast can be rationalized with community service and roadside exertion, and you'll have a chance to see old friends and make new ones. It's always the same day - the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend at 8:00am. It is FREE, and is hosted by the SVFD Firefighters' Association!

HOMEOWNER RESOURCES

Many homeowners in Squaw Valley have been having a hard time getting or holding on to homeowners insurance. We are not alone in this challenge! We encourage you to do your defensible space, and to use a local broker.

Remind your State Legislatures and State Insurance Commissioner that this continues to be a problem. California has a program that guarantees property insurance. It's called the **California FAIR Program**: <https://www.cfpnet.com/>

Having trouble with Homeowners Insurance? See our website (<https://www.svpsd.org/svfd/fire>) for information on "Your SVFD"! Also click for a form letter addressed to your insurance agent.

Lastly, see our updated **Emergency Preparedness and Evacuation Guide**.

Preparing for Wildland Season

After a bountiful winter and wet spring, California is bracing for fire season. Fuel conditions on the western slope of the Sierra are already dry - the grasses are turning brown in the foothills and the coastal hills are approaching that characteristic golden color as of the first week of June. The beautiful lush spring growth will not last through the long hot summer months.

Here in Squaw Valley, we're gearing up for the summer routine of defensible space inspections. We have had a very ambitious and successful program for over two decades, thanks to a very knowledgeable, concerned and conscientious community. Please be particularly careful this summer - get that vegetation cut early and make sure to maintain those neatly cut grasses as summer progresses. Remember that we're happy to come out to do an on-site consultation so that you cut everything that needs to be cut and not much more.

Defensible space is about helping homes to 'stand alone' during a fire situation when resources are limited. We've seen again and again where homes with adequate defensible space survive a fire moving through a residential area where homes with less preparation are lost. Often the difference comes down to a few simple things: fire resistant construction, the absence of a continuous source of flammable vegetation between wildland and the home, closed attic and subfloor vents, and a roof free of leaves and pine needles. Firefighters - given enough time and a home that stands a reasonable chance of surviving - will take the opportunity to do more preparation in advance of an approaching fire front, but that time and opportunity is not always available.

Our annual push for defensible space is an opportunity to remind our neighbors and friends of the factors that can make a difference in helping their home survive when others will not. Please let us know what we can do to help you prepare your home for the upcoming fire season.

Emergency Notification

We continue to encourage everyone to sign up for **Nixle** and **Placer Alert** to get up to date emergency notifications for our area.

The **Nixle Community Information Service** allows us to deliver emergency messages to subscribed residents instantly via cell phone text message and/or email. Text 96146 to 888777 to sign up or visit www.nixle.com for more information or to register for the service. **PLACER ALERT** notification system alerts residents about emergency events and other important public safety information. This system enables us to provide you with critical information quickly in a variety of situations, such as severe weather, unexpected road closures, missing persons and evacuations of buildings or neighborhoods. To sign up visit www.placeralert.org

Talking to a 911 Operator

It's pretty likely that at some point, all of us will need to call 911, either to report an emergency that we're involved in or one that we've observed happening to someone else. The people who work in 911 dispatch centers are very skilled at drawing out the information they need to be able to dispatch resources to the location at which they're needed, but there are a couple of things to keep in mind when calling 911. If you call on a landline phone, the dispatcher can see the location where the call originates on an "enhanced 911" system, which we have in this area. Even if you are unable to speak, they can send someone to your address to investigate. Calling on a cell phone provides the dispatcher with less information, but a location can eventually be determined. So, given a choice, *call on a landline phone* when possible. Give the dispatch center the nature of the emergency right away, because this determines how they route the call: "I need the police", "I need an ambulance", "There's a fire" all would be helpful opening statements. The more information you can provide about where you are, the better. Then allow them to ask their scripted questions and answer as accurately and completely as you can. Be calm and be patient; help is coming!

PurpleAir Quality Monitoring

The District was approached by the Placer County Air Pollution Control District (PCAPCD) to be a monitoring location for their PurpleAir air monitoring program. PurpleAir is a low-cost air quality monitor that provides real time air quality reporting. The sensor is about the size of a coffee cup, the device itself is situated in an outdoor housing, which has two laser particle counters, a small computer and a Wi-Fi chip that picks up the Wi-Fi signal from a router.

Olympic Valley was chosen as a location for two of these devices because of the mountainous topography and the lack of PurpleAir devices in the surrounding region. A second PurpleAir device was also installed at Creekside Charter School. While the device will be installed at the District, PCAPCD will run the program, and handle all reporting.

The website <https://www.purpleair.com> will show the current air quality rating, as well as the reads from the prior week.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) started dispersing PurpleAir devices in northern California after the Mendocino Complex and Carr Fires took place. Monitoring locations were determined by reviewing PCAPCD's historical pollution patterns and probabilities for exposure to wildfire smoke.

Remembering Carl Gustafson



Longtime Squaw Valley Resident and SVPSD Board Member Carl Gustafson passed away on February 22, 2019. Carl lived in the Valley since 1963, and was an avid skier, hiker and climber. He was a strong advocate for the environment, and he especially loved and fought for the Squaw Valley Creek and Meadow. Carl was an integral part of this valley's culture, and he will be greatly missed.

SVPSD Welcomes new Board Secretary

Kathy Obayashi-Bartsch



Kathy worked at the District for just under 7 years as the Board Secretary. Kathy came to the District with a wealth of prior government experience and knowledge. With her hard work and dedication to her position, Kathy was instrumental in keeping meetings organized and efficient, and was diligent in recording the meeting minutes. Because of Kathy's hard work, the District was twice awarded the "Transparency Certificate of Excellence" by the Special District Leadership Foundation. When Kathy wasn't at work, she could be found running the trails in Squaw Valley and around Donner Lake. Kathy and her husband, Bill, moved to Colorado, where they plan on skiing as much as possible, and now that she has all the free time in the world, we know she will continue to get her daily runs in. Thank you, Kathy, for all you did for the District and the community!

Jessica Asher



Jessica Asher joined the SVPSD team in late November and has been a great addition! She graduated from the University of Vermont, and moved out to the Tahoe region shortly after. Her background is in civil engineering, and in her previous career, Jessica designed green infrastructure focusing on stormwater and water resource management.

She has been an integral part of organizing meetings and outreach regarding the Olympic Meadows Property acquisition (see pg. 1 for more info), and we are very lucky to have her! If you see Jessica at any of the upcoming meetings, please help us in welcoming her to the District. Jessica lives in Tahoe City with her husband, Tyler, and their goldendoodle, Sandy. When she isn't working, she enjoys skiing, sailing, cooking and practicing yoga.

Newly Appointed Board Member: Victoria Mercer



Dr. Victoria Mercer was appointed to the District's Board of Directors in March 2019 to fill a seat vacated by the passing of Director Carl Gustafson. She is a home-owner, full-time valley resident, and small business owner. She and her husband David Mercer raise their two children, McKinley and Stella, beloved dog Sully, and two cats in the Valley.

As a child raised in a remote area of British Columbia, Canada, Mercer quickly learned the essential value of collaboration and connection in maintaining a strong community in a geographically remote area. Later her family moved to Victoria, BC where she went on to earn an undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Victoria.

Mercer left life at sea level when she married her husband, David, a life-long Tahoe local, in 2000. After moving to Squaw Valley in 2003, she went on to complete a master's and doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Nevada, Reno. Since then she has developed her private practice as a licensed clinical psychologist, working hard to provide quality empirically supported mental health services to our community. As her children grew she began to engage more in volunteer work serving as a Board Member on the Excellence in Education Foundation.

What Mercer loves most about Tahoe is her ability to spend so much time outdoors- with her family, friends, by herself, in summer, winter, and everything in-between! She believes time spent in nature allows her to feel grounded and healthy. She also enjoys cooking, traveling, and spending time with the good friends who have become her extended family.

Dr. Mercer hopes to continue Carl's legacy at the District. She is committed to working hard to protect our valley resources, while helping to identify and serve the needs of her community.