



North Tahoe Public Utility District
PO Box 139
Tahoe Vista, CA 96148



North Tahoe Public Utility District Quarterly Newsletter—Winter

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En Español Llamar, (530) 546-4212

DISTRICT EXCEEDS GOALS FOR 2008 WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT



SPECIAL POINTS

OF INTEREST:

- Fundraising begins for new Playground Equipment at the North Tahoe Regional Park.
- New Water Storage for Kings Beach and Tahoe Vista.
- New name for the North Tahoe Event Center.
- Pancakes for Playgrounds, Annual Pancake Breakfast on March 7, 2009.

The North Tahoe Public Utility District included within this year's adopted budget \$1.3 million dollars for water main line replacement. The District prioritized replacement based on historical repairs of leaks. Funding for the District projects was provided by the recently implemented replacement fee. The projects have resulted in the installation of 6,665 feet of water line for the 2008 construction season which exceeded the goal of replacing 4,800 feet per

replacement of water mains in this area based on the reduced costs of the Cutthroat project. The Project included installation of 680 feet of 6" water main, 11 water services, and one fire hydrant in Laurel Drive; 1,410 feet of 8" water main, 19 water services, and two fire hydrants in Fawn Lane; and 150 feet of 8" water main in Stag Drive. The amount for the project including change orders was \$455,068 and was completed on time and within budget.

year by more than 38%.

The 2008 Water Main Replacement Project installed approximately 2,800 feet of water main on Cutthroat Avenue from Wolf Street to Fox Street, reconnected existing services, installed new services, replaced existing fire hydrants, and installed new, mid-block fire hydrants. New fire hydrants and water services were installed and older hydrants were replaced on Speckled Avenue, from Wolf Street to Chipmunk Street. An additional 270 feet of water main replacement was added on Wolf Street, from Speckled Avenue to Cutthroat Avenue, due to lower than estimated bids. The budgeted amount for this project was \$1.329 million dollars. The District received excellent bids and was able to increase the scope of work based on the \$850,000 bid. The project was completed on time and under budget.



The **Sunset Pines (Park Lane) Project** was constructed by the owner/developer to replace an aging above ground water main, improve fire flow, and create a looped system connecting the water main in Beaver Street to the main in Park Lane. The 780 feet of water main between Park Lane and Beaver Street were constructed by the developer and included five water services and one fire hydrant. The owner/developer was responsible for all costs including District time to review and inspect the project. The water main is in service now, but the remaining work will be completed during the summer of 2009.

On **Aluna Avenue** the owner/developer installed 400 feet of 6" water main and one water service to the parcel and one new fire hydrant near the intersection of Agatam Avenue. This resulted in the system in this area now being looped which will provide more reliable water service and fire protection in the entire area. The owner/developer was responsible for the project costs, as well as District time to review and inspect the project.

Sierra Pacific Power Company (SPPCo) installed approximately 175 feet of 8" water main in the public right-of-way in Deer Street north of Speckled to provide better fire protection to SPPCo's generator facility. Most of the new water main and the two fire hydrants were installed on SPPCo's property. The owner was responsible for the project costs, as well as District time to review and inspect the project.

The District was able to take advantage of a cost sharing opportunity with the Placer County **Tahoe Marina Estates Erosion Control Project**. The District planned to replace the water mains in Laurel and Fawn Drive as part of this erosion control project. Additionally, the District was eligible for 2/3 project reimbursement through a U.S. Forest Service Grant. In addition, the grant to the District was also able to expand the

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F.O.G. CORNER Fats, Oils, and Grease Got Grease? Can It!



The District's "Can the Grease" Campaign continues; which aims to reduce the amount of grease that goes into the sewer system. You may pick up your **FREE** container at the North Tahoe Public Utility District Administrative offices. The reusable containers are for disposal of household cooking oil and grease. Do your part to help reduce the chance of sewer spills into the environment caused by grease clogged lines and Can Your Grease, don't put it down the drain!

NORTH TAHOE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS

The District offices are open Monday—Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

District offices are closed on Monday, February 16 in observance of President's Day; Monday, May 23 for Memorial Day; Friday, July 3rd for Independence Day; Monday, September 7 for Labor Day; Wednesday, November 11th for Veteran's Day; Thursday and Friday, November 26th and 27th for Thanksgiving; Thursday and Friday, December 24th and 25th for Christmas Day; and Thursday, December 31st for New Year's Eve.

The North Tahoe Public Utility District Quarterly Newsletter is published to keep our customers informed about Sewer, Water and Park related issues and upcoming events. If you have any suggestions, please submit them to the Office of the General Manager.

REPORT LEAKS OR SPILLS:

If you observe a water or sewer leak into the environment, ALWAYS call the District offices immediately at 530.546.4212. We maintain a 24 emergency answering service and have employees on call for these types of emergencies. **DO NOT** send an e-mail or call 911. We will not receive notification immediately.

In the event of a water emergency (leak or broken pipes) on your property, first shut off the water using the owner installed shut off valve. If you have not installed one, or do not know where it is, call a plumber and have it installed or located now, before you have a problem. Once the plumber has determined the problem, it may be necessary to contact the District.

For more information on any of the information contained in this newsletter, please call 530-546-4212 or visit www.ntpud.org

PO Box 139 * 875 National Avenue * Tahoe Vista, CA 96148 * 530.546.4212 * Fax 530.546.2652 * ntpud@ntpud.org * www.ntpud.org

NEW WATER STORAGE FOR KINGS BEACH AND TAHOE VISTA



The District is preparing to expand water storage facilities serving

Kings Beach, Tahoe Vista, Kingswood and Brockway. In total, 1.68 million gallons in increased storage are being planned to increase water availability for fire suppression, improve efficiency at the water treatment plant and improve

operational management of the water system.

The District recently purchased land on the north side of Highway 267 with a site suitable for a proposed 1.4 million gallon tank to serve this area, more than doubling existing storage. The Kingswood subdivisions are currently served by a 120,000 gallon storage tank which will be replaced with a 500,000 gallon tank. Applications are being made to the US Forest Service for a special use permit to

place the smaller tank on land adjacent to the Kingswood Subdivision. The Projects were included in the District's 2007 Capital Improvement Program with a budget of \$4.8 million. The source of funding for this project is the System Replacement Fee component of customer's water bills which will be used to repay Certificates of Participation expected to be issued to finance the project. The new storage is expected go on line in the summer of 2010.

FUNDRAISING BEGINS FOR NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AT THE NORTH TAHOE REGIONAL PARK

Locals, vacationers and second home owners are excited for the prospect of a new playground at the North Tahoe Regional Park. The existing playground equipment had to be removed as it did not meet current safety guidelines and no funds were available to replace the slides, swing sets and other equipment that had to be removed.

The District Parks Department is seriously underfunded and the current and future budget does not allow for capital improvements without grant funding. Although there are several projects that need attention, replacing the play equipment is a priority for the Commission. "Budget cuts are all too familiar in today's economy; however, it is so important to not let this be our children's problem," said Commissioner Lydia Carter who is volunteering a significant amount of time writing grants and searching out funding opportunities for the playground. Providing opportunity for a healthy, active lifestyle is the first

step towards keeping kids on a path to good physical and mental health. Equally important is to be able to provide this opportunity to all income levels and physical abilities. A Community Park is the obvious location. "Kids shouldn't be the ones who suffer because of budget cuts, they had playground equipment at the park once and it our responsibility to do whatever it takes to see that it is replaced," said Commissioner Carter.

Members of the Commission have been working with playground sales representatives to plan a state of the art, ADA compliant playground with a 3-level octagon Mega-tower which will attach to the existing green and yellow play equipment, three new swing set structures, spring riders, all new safety compliant fall material and paths to connect each of the areas. The District will grade the new play areas but the project needs \$120,000 of additional funds to purchase and install the equipment.



Proposed Playground Structure

Coming to this year's Pancake Breakfast is a great way to show your support for this project and to learn more about it. If you wish to help out further, please contact Kathy Long at 530.546.7249 or klong@ntpud.org with donations for the pancake breakfast raffle or simple letters of support. Tax deductible financial contributions for the playground project can be made through the Friends of the Park Fund. For more information, go to www.ntpud.org/friendsofthepark.

PANCAKES FOR PLAYGROUNDS

Mark your calendars for the Annual Pancake Breakfast and Community Expo, March 7, 2009 at the North Tahoe Event Center from 8:30- 10:30 am. Join your neighbors for delicious pancakes, strawberries, sausage and the fixins' at this wonderful SnowFest! tradition. Get fueled up and enjoy the lake view before the Kings Beach SnowFest! Parade. Enjoy coffee and orange juice while learning about community organizations and ways to get involved at the Community Expo. We are pleased to announce that Nevada Energy (formerly Sierra Pacific Power) has agreed to be a Title Event Sponsor.

This year, the theme of the breakfast is "Pancakes for Playgrounds" with proceeds going to purchase new playground equipment for the North Tahoe Regional Park. The Playground fundraising is being done through the new Friends of the Park Fund which was

created in July 2008. The new playground being proposed will have separate play areas for children age ranges 0-5 and 5-12. This will replace play equipment in the North Tahoe Regional Park that was removed due to non-compliance with current state safety guidelines. In addition to the famous pancakes, a raffle for great prizes including ski lift tickets and gift certificates will be held to raise additional funds

The District's Youth Trust Fund, which provides scholarships to youth in the community to participate in recreational opportunities, has been the beneficiary in past years, but due to the urgency of replacing the playground equipment the Commission opted to put the proceeds to the playground and to raise community awareness of this project. In 2008, local participants in the **Adventure-Risk-Challenge Summer Literacy & Leadership Program (ARC)** were

provided scholarships to participate in a 2 day rock climbing trip.

The cost of admission will be \$7 for adults and \$3 for children. The District will also be collecting non perishable food items to donate to Project MANA.

To participate in the Community Expo or make a donation to the Pancake Breakfast, please contact Pam Lefrancois at 530-546-4212. Information on how to make a tax deductible donation to the Friends of the Park Fund for new playground equipment can be found at <http://www.ntpud.org/friendsofthepark> or contact the Truckee Tahoe Community Foundation at 530-587-1776.



NAME CHANGE FOR THE NORTH TAHOE EVENT CENTER

After more than two decades as the North Tahoe Community Conference Center, the Kings Beach facility's name has changed to the North Tahoe Event Center.

The change has been made to highlight its potential for many uses as part of the Center's new marketing strategy. The updated marketing plan, which includes a new logo, updated marketing collateral and new Web site, is funded by a grant from the North Lake Tahoe Resort Association.

"We chose the new name because we

want the event center to encompass all events, not just conferences," said Lane Lewis, board president of the North Tahoe Public Utility District. "The North Tahoe Event Center's capacity for many functions makes it a perfect place with a beautiful view for any occasion."

When discussing a new name and logo, district officials felt the original name was too long and not descriptive of all the event center offers. Also, they agreed the center's existing marketing collateral and Web site need an update.

"The investment in a new name, logo and Web site is important because it will help better position the event center in the modern market," Lewis said.

With the change, the District aims to target groups looking for an affordable, attractive and professional setting at a tourist destination. In addition to hosting meetings and conferences, the facility also accommodates weddings, parties, community events, recreation classes, educational seminars, job fairs, art displays, recitals, Quinceañera celebrations and more.

The North Tahoe Event Center offers options for indoor and outdoor gatherings year-round. Both large and small events are welcome. To learn more, visit www.laketahoeconference.com. The new Web site for the event center will launch in the next month.

Reminder: On-Line Bill Payment Available

Many customers are enjoying the ease of the District's Online Account Services. This is a free, secure and fast way to access up-to-date billing, payment and water use history, in addition to paying or even prepaying online from the comfort of your home or anywhere you have internet access. Register at www.ntpud.org. Click on the "Online Account Services" button and register using your email address and the customer information from your North Tahoe Public Utility District bill. If you have any questions, or if you have any difficulty working with the Online Account Services, please contact us at (530) 546-4212.



Water Conservation Tips—A few ideas to help save water.

Repair minor leaks in pipes, hoses, and bathroom fixtures, especially toilets. One drip per second wastes more than 2,400 gallons per year. A toilet leak that goes unnoticed can waste 7,500 gallons each month. Run dishwasher and washing machine only when full. Don't let water run while rinsing. Stopper the sink instead of using running water.

