



City of San Juan Bautista

The “City of History”

Office of the City Manager

P.O. Box 1420, 311 Second Street

San Juan Bautista CA 95045

(831) 623-4661 x 14 **C (831) 594-6322**

PRESS RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

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GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY FO THE CITY’S SANITARY SEWER FORCEMAIN TO HOLLISTER PROJECT

On August 3, 2023, the City’s Sanitary Sewer Force Main to Hollister project (“Force Main”), was awarded to Specialty Construction and today September 29, 2023, the Force Main initiated construction. This project was selected by the City Council in the fall of 2020 to end its history of violations that occur by discharging too much sodium and chloride into No-Name Creek. When completed in the summer of 2024, it will be capable of sending all of the City domestic wastewater to the Hollister Treatment Plant per the 40-year Agreement, executed in June 2023. The old City Plant will be decommissioned.

Since 2019, Stantec Consulting Services Inc. has helped the City negotiate with regulators, select the Force Main project, design and permit the project between 2021-2023, and it was publicly bid this past summer. During that time the City negotiated a fine of more than \$900,000 in a settlement agreement with the Regional Water Quality Control Board, that allowed the City to apply \$700,000 of the fine to the project costs. However, the bids received were \$2 million more than the estimated cost of \$18 million.

To finance this project, the City was successful raising \$4 million in grants; \$1 million from EPA with Congressman Panetta’s support, and \$3 million from the State with support from Senator Caballero and Assemblymember Rivas. After receiving these awards, the Rural United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) committed a \$4 million grant and \$10 million low interest loan. San Juan Bautista water customers agreed to a rate increase to pay this debt service. When the bid came in \$2 million too high, the USDA responded with another \$2 million commitment to complete the Force Main’s \$20 million financing. The City is grateful for the support from these State and Federal agencies without which the project could not be built.



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The project would never had begun without the commitment from the City's partner the City of Hollister. The City extends its gratitude to the City of Hollister for agreeing to receive and treat its domestic wastewater.

The project will begin construction as materials are delivered at 1300 3rd Street in San Juan Bautista. It will cross the Rancho Vista neighborhood, and then travel north on San Juan Highway, east on Prescott Road, then travel south along San Justo Road to the Hollister Treatment Plant. The City is grateful for the support of the County, that will contribute \$4 million and repave all the County roads used for the 7-mile pipeline.

Attached are a few photos and there more if needed.





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Please contact City Hall at (831) 623-4661 if you have specific questions or concerns. Updates are being posted on the web site at www.san-juan-bautista.ca.us