



General Manager's Corner



Sergio Ramirez
General Manager

If 2025 felt like a flash, it was, at least here at West Bay Sanitary District. Our Admin, Engineering, Maintenance, and Water Quality teams have been busy upgrading systems and replacing infrastructure. In 2023, the District completed its 10-year Master Plan, and staff have been busy bringing the plan to life. This past year, the District replaced approximately 1.5 miles of pipeline and eliminated many high-frequency pipeline schedules. In addition, the District's in-house construction crew completed one hundred fifty-seven (157) spot repairs using traditional open-trench and trenchless pipeline point repairs.

The District also entered into its third Operation and Maintenance interagency agreement with the City of East Palo Alto to help operate and maintain the City's wastewater collection system. The agreement requires the District to hydro-clean and video-inspect the entire system to identify needed repairs and minimize sewer overflows. In just twelve months, District staff have cleaned the

City's entire wastewater collection system and have completed 80% of the pipeline video inspections. Just as West Bay does for its system, repairs are routed to engineering to prioritize the repairs and implement full pipeline replacement projects.

At this time last year, the District was beginning construction on the new Bayfront Recycled Water Facility behind Bedwell Bayfront Park. The new facility will bring recycled water to the Menlo Park and Atherton area and eventually to the Menlo Park Government Center, Burgess Park, as well as the Willow Village project. The District broke ground

by demolishing the decommissioned Menlo Park Sanitary District treatment plant, which was constructed in the 1940s and retired in the early 1980s. Demolishing the old facility made way to constructing the one million gallons per day reclamation water facility and distribution system. The new facility will take raw wastewater and convert it to Title XXII clean and clear reusable water for irrigation, cooling towers, commercial, and multi-family toilet flushing.

Another notable project was the installation of a vertical and horizontal ecotone levee system to protect the Bayfront Recycled Water Facility and the District's twenty-acre Flow Equalization and Resource Recovery Facility. The project received a \$4.7 million grant from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation and created natural upland habitat protection. The project raised the levee elevation to fifteen feet, four feet above the FEMA eleven-foot flood elevation. West Bay was recognized for this project by receiving the 2025 Project of the Year Award from the American Public Works Association (APWA).

In 2026, the District will work with local jurisdictions to address the rapidly growing Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) industry and permitting process. Unfortunately, just as in many other agencies across the state, several ADUs have been constructed without the benefit of the local sanitary district's review and the ADUs' impact on the wastewater system. The District will seek to rectify the permitting process and make sure previously installed ADUs are carefully accounted for and are permitted appropriately.

For more information on ADU permitting, reclaimed water, and other projects, please visit our website at WestBaySanitary.org. Thank you, and we look forward to another great year!

WEST BAY SANITARY DISTRICT HONORED WITH THE 2025 PROJECT OF THE YEAR AWARD

West Bay Sanitary District is proud to announce that it has received the **2025 Project of the Year Award** from the **American Public Works Association (APWA) Silicon Valley Chapter** in the **Sustainable/Green category**. The award ceremony was held in May 2025, where project partners, including Freyer & Laureta, Inc., were also acknowledged for their contributions.



A major part of this project included improvements to the Flow Equalization and Resource Recovery Facility. This facility plays an important role during heavy rain by managing stormwater and wastewater, preventing system overloads and protecting the surrounding environment.

The Levee Improvement Project was supported by a \$4 million grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). This funding made it possible for the District to strengthen essential infrastructure while protecting nearby wetlands and wildlife habitat.



Project of the Year Award

LET'S TALK NUMBERS – AND WELCOME OUR NEW FINANCE MANAGER.

We are excited to welcome **Vivian Chu**, our new **Finance Manager**, to the West Bay Sanitary District team! Vivian is a Certified Public Accountant with over 20 years of specialized experience in governmental accounting and finance. Throughout her career, Vivian has served multiple Bay Area cities, providing expertise in financial reporting, budget development, audit preparation, and compliance with GASB standards. Known for a strong command of public sector accounting practices, Vivian has played a key role in improving financial transparency, strengthening internal controls, and supporting long-term fiscal sustainability for local governments. We are pleased to have her!



Vivian Chu

BAYFRONT RECYCLED WATER FACILITY PROJECT

After a year of construction, the Bayfront Recycled Water Facility Project is quickly taking shape. The project will feature a state-of-the-art recycled water facility, a distribution pipeline, and an influent wastewater pumping station. The concrete bioreactor structure walls are now up, and interior work is set to begin soon. Construction is also underway on the Advanced Treatment and Headworks buildings. In addition, construction has begun on the two recycled water storage tanks. The total project cost is \$66 million, which includes a \$5 million grant. The remaining funding will be collected through recycled water connection fees paid by recycled water customers and redevelopment.

25 YEARS OF SERVICE AND COUNTING

This year, we recognized Jed Beyer for 25 years of dedicated service to the West Bay Sanitary District. A Menlo Park native, Jed, joined the District in 2000 and has worked across various areas of wastewater collections and environmental compliance. Over the years, he advanced into the role of Water Quality Manager, where he oversees industrial and commercial wastewater programs, recycled water operations, environmental reporting, and the District's Safety and Health Program.



Jed Beyer

Jed's technical knowledge and experience have played an important role in supporting regulatory compliance and protecting local waterways. We appreciate his long-term commitment and the steady contribution he has made to the District's operations.

Congratulations, Jed, on 25 years of service!

PLAN REVIEW HIGHLIGHTS

At West Bay Sanitary District, we are committed to providing excellent sewer services to all property owners we serve. This is done through reviewing plans thoroughly before a house, multifamily, office, or commercial building is set for occupancy. To prevent sewage spills, backflows, and increased sewer maintenance from happening, we make it a point to review these plan sets to the best of our ability so that in the end the District and most importantly, the citizens and property owners are all satisfied with how the sanitary sewer system operates.

Here are some examples of current projects being reviewed for sanitary sewer service by the District.

1) Moxy Hotel is located at 3723 Haven Avenue in Menlo Park; this project is a 163-room hotel and consists of two stories of podium parking. The project will include a coffee shop, hotel rooms, and other lounge areas which could include an outdoor rooftop garden. The building and outdoor rooftop garden could be supplied with recycled water by the District.



Moxy Hotel

2) SRI Parkline located along 333 Ravenswood Avenue in Menlo Park, the old SRI research campus is being redeveloped into a space filled with various residences such as town homes, commercial offices, and other open space amenities. This could be another opportunity to serve the community with the District's recycled water.



SRI Parkline

CAPITAL PROJECTS PROGRESS REPORTS

For the Point Repair Project 3A, our contractor, Casey Construction, has started work in the Olive Easement area. Crews are installing approximately 250 feet of new 8-inch PVC sewer pipe, along with a new manhole that will help improve access and maintenance. This will help make future maintenance easier and improve the overall reliability of the sewer system.

They've also begun work on Elena Ave. and Park Ave. in Atherton. That portion of the project includes replacing some of the older terracotta clay sewer pipelines with new 12-inch, 10-inch, and 8-inch PVC pipelines. These updates are part of our ongoing effort to improve aging infrastructure and help prevent issues before they occur. West Bay Sanitary District aims to replace approximately \$5 to \$10 million of pipeline infrastructure each year.