



Operations Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 1:00 PM  
Valley Sanitary District Board Room  
45-500 Van Buren Street, Indio, CA 92201

Members of the public wanting to participate in the open session of the meeting may do so via the following Zoom registration link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84247805352> Meeting ID: 842 4780 5352. Or by calling 253-215-878. Members of the public wanting to address the Board, either during public comment or for a specific agenda item, or both, are requested to send an email notification no later than 12:30 p.m. on the day of the meeting to the Valley Sanitary District's Clerk of the Board at [hgould@valley-sanitary.org](mailto:hgould@valley-sanitary.org).

Page


**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1. Roll Call
- 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

*This is the time set aside for public comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. Please notify the Secretary in advance of the meeting if you wish to speak on a non-hearing item.*

**3. DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS**

- 3.1. Presentation on Wastewater Sampling 3 - 14  
[3.1 Wastewater Sampling Presentation.pdf](#) 

[3.1 Attachment A - BOD\\_Sampling Powerpoint.pdf](#) 

3.2. Project Update: Reclaimed Water Phase I 15 - 16

[3.2 Reclaimed Water Project - Phase I.pdf](#) 

[3.2 Attachment A - VSD Key Dates.pdf](#) 

3.3. Collections Department Update: Second On-Call Person 17 - 18

[3.3 Collection Department On-Call Update.pdf](#) 

**4. FUTURE MEETING ITEMS**

**5. ADJOURN**

Pursuant to the Brown Act, items may not be added to this agenda unless the Secretary to the Board has at least 72 hours advance notice prior to the time and date posted on this notice.



**Valley Sanitary District  
Operations Committee  
December 7, 2021**

**TO:** Operations Committee  
**FROM:** Anna Bell, Laboratory & Compliance Supervisor  
**SUBJECT:** Presentation on Wastewater Sampling

<input type="checkbox"/> Board Action	<input type="checkbox"/> New Budget Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract Award
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing FY Approved Budget	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session

**Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to provide information regarding wastewater sampling. A PowerPoint presentation will be provided.

**Strategic Plan Compliance**

This item complies with VSD Strategic Plan Objective 4: Increase Community Understanding and Support.

**Fiscal Impact**

No Fiscal Impact beyond current approved budgetary items.

**Background**

Wastewater sampling is a major component to the actions of the laboratory, environmental compliance, and operations departments. NPDES and EPA compliance and enforcement regulations are based upon the quality of samples and thus, the sampler. The results of analysis are dependent upon the sample collection to determine type of analysis, sensitivity, and use of the data.

**Recommendation**

No recommendation. Information only.

**Attachments**

Attachment A: PowerPoint presentation

# WASTEWATER SAMPLING

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

December 7, 2021

Anna Bell



# WHY IMPORTANT

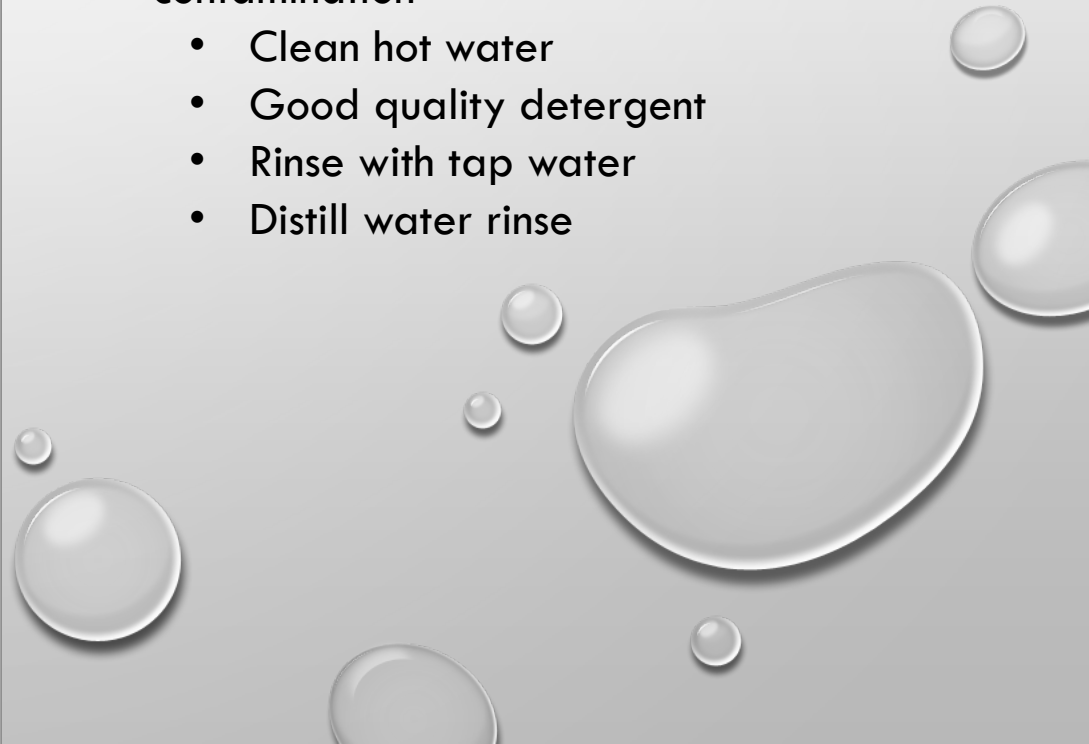
- Result of testing methods are no better than sample on which performed
- Type of analysis dependent upon sample collection
- Samples can deteriorate, be contaminated, or be compromised before analysis
- Way to monitor pollutants and pathogens
- Type and sensitivity of analysis depends on the sample collection and anticipated use of data
- Obtain reliable data to support compliance and enforcement activities





# SAMPLING EQUIPMENT

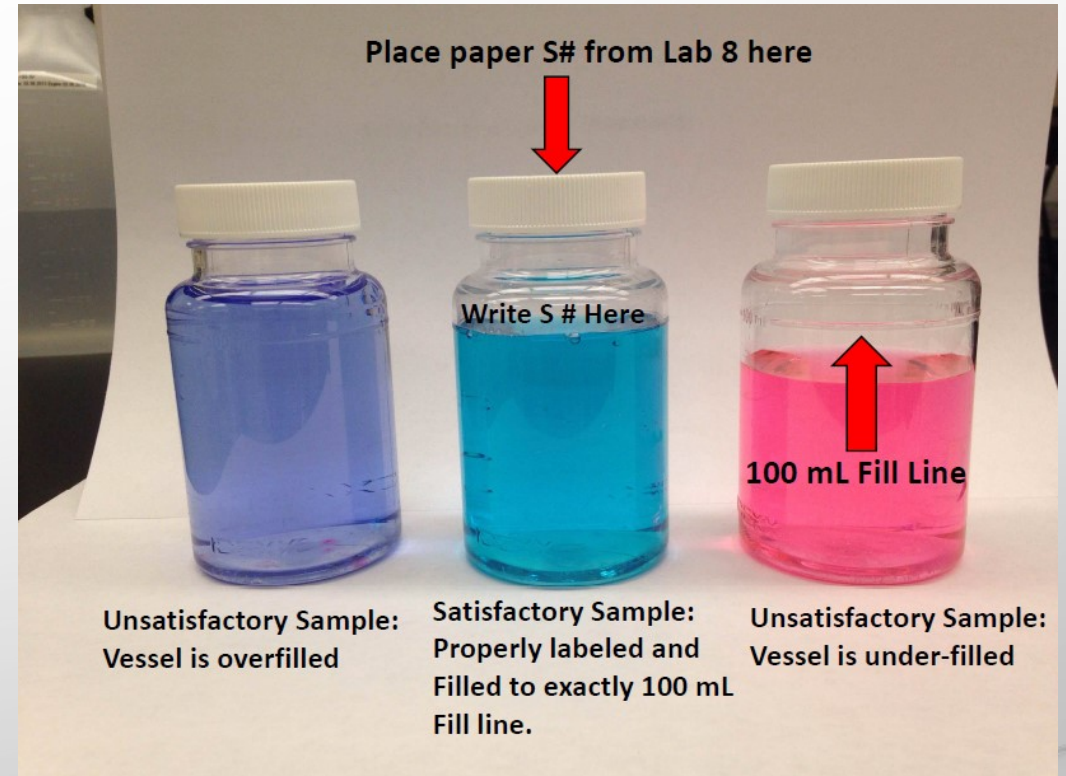
- Materials corrosion resistant – leak proof
- Proper cleaning procedures to reduce contamination
  - Clean hot water
  - Good quality detergent
  - Rinse with tap water
  - Distill water rinse



# SAMPLE COLLECTION

## Considerations

- Bottle Type and Size
  - Larger volume – maybe multiple bottles
    - Most physical and chemical – 1 Liter
- Preservation?
  - Ensure not to displace preservation
  - Ensure composition does not change between collection and testing
- Time – sensitive
- Field and Trip Blanks?
- Transportation – keep cool on ice
  - Deliver to labs between 4 – 10°C (req.)
- Representative of sampling site
- Hazards – PPE Considerations
- Equipment Needs
- Documentation – bottle labels, Chains-of-custody (COC), etc

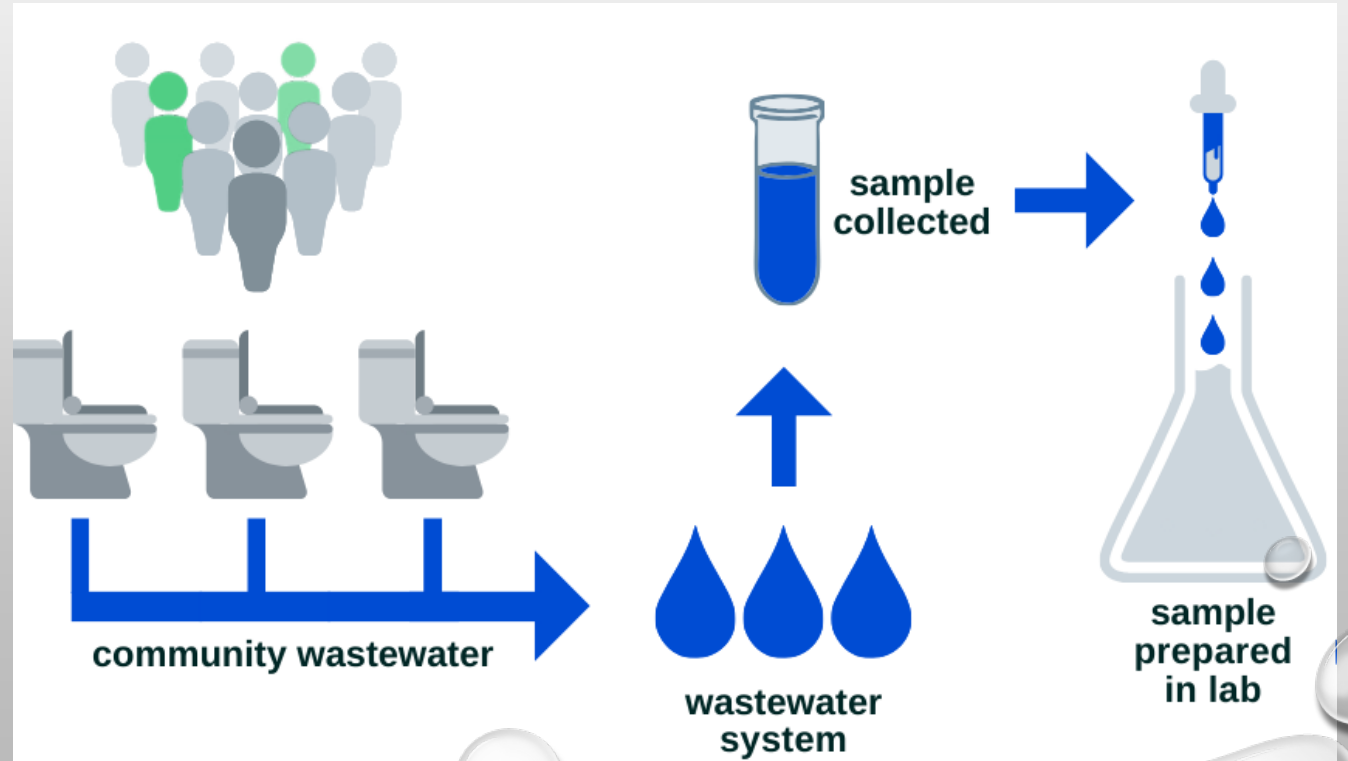


# SAMPLE TYPES

Grab Samples

Composite Samples

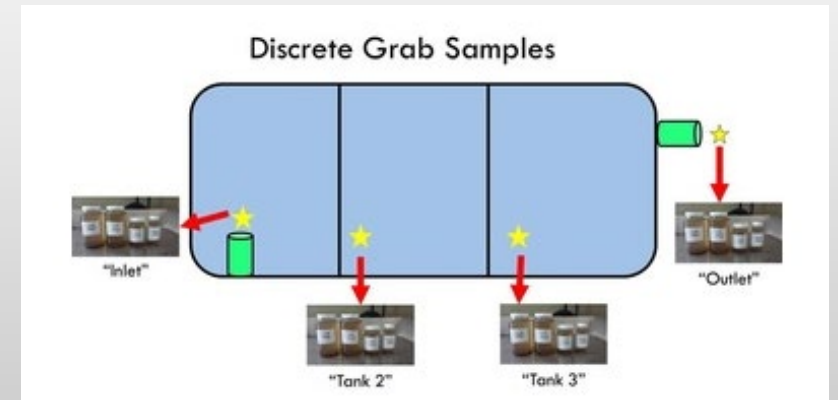
Representative Samples





# DISCRETE (GRAB) SAMPLES

- One sample - single point
- Specific time
  - Typically, when near avg daily flow rate
- Limitations
  - Snapshot
  - Not representative of entire flow
- Benefit
  - Change quickly when removed from flow
    - Ph, dissolved oxygen (DO), residual chlorine
  - Immediate results





# COMPOSITE SAMPLES

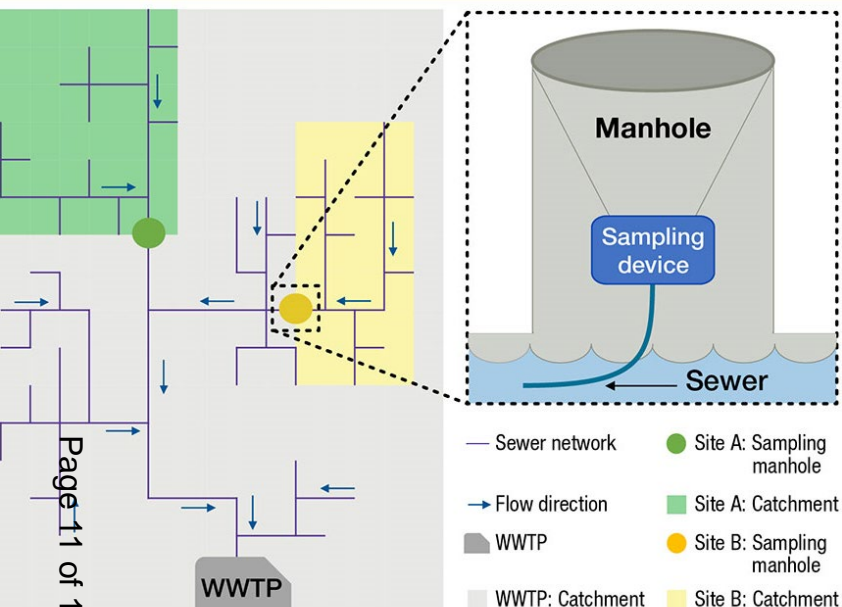
- Mixture of several grab samples
- Regular intervals (every 20mins in 24hrs = 72 samples)
- Representative over longer period of time
- Benefits
  - Changes in flow & characteristics
  - Overall picture of effects
- Limitation
  - Characteristic change during storage
  - Change during combining samples





# REPRESENTATIVE SAMPLES

- Ensure samples representative of waters
  - ? Depth of water site
  - ? Velocity of water site
  - Access to locations – safety of staff
- Is it defined location?
  - (GIS coordinates)

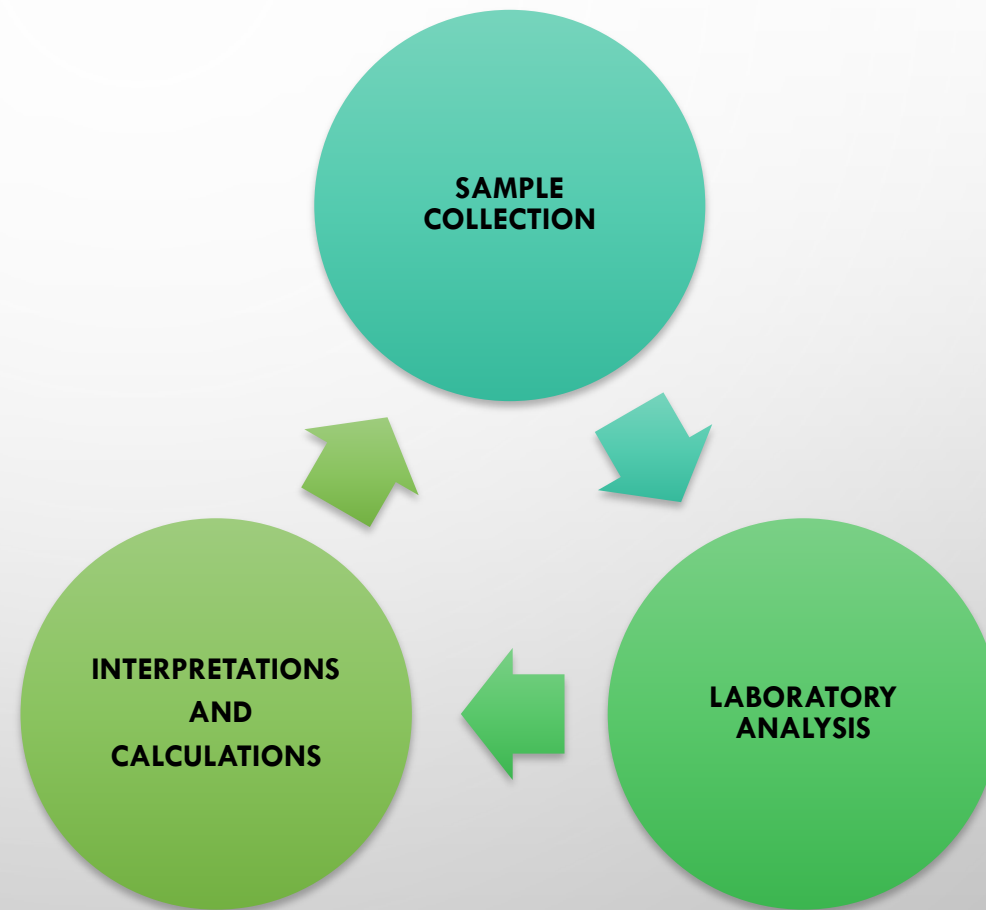


# SAMPLES IN THE LABORATORY

- Documentation **\*CRITICAL\***
- Field observations
  - Water temperature
  - Weather conditions
  - Water levels
  - Collection conditions
- Chain-of-custody
- Storage / preservations



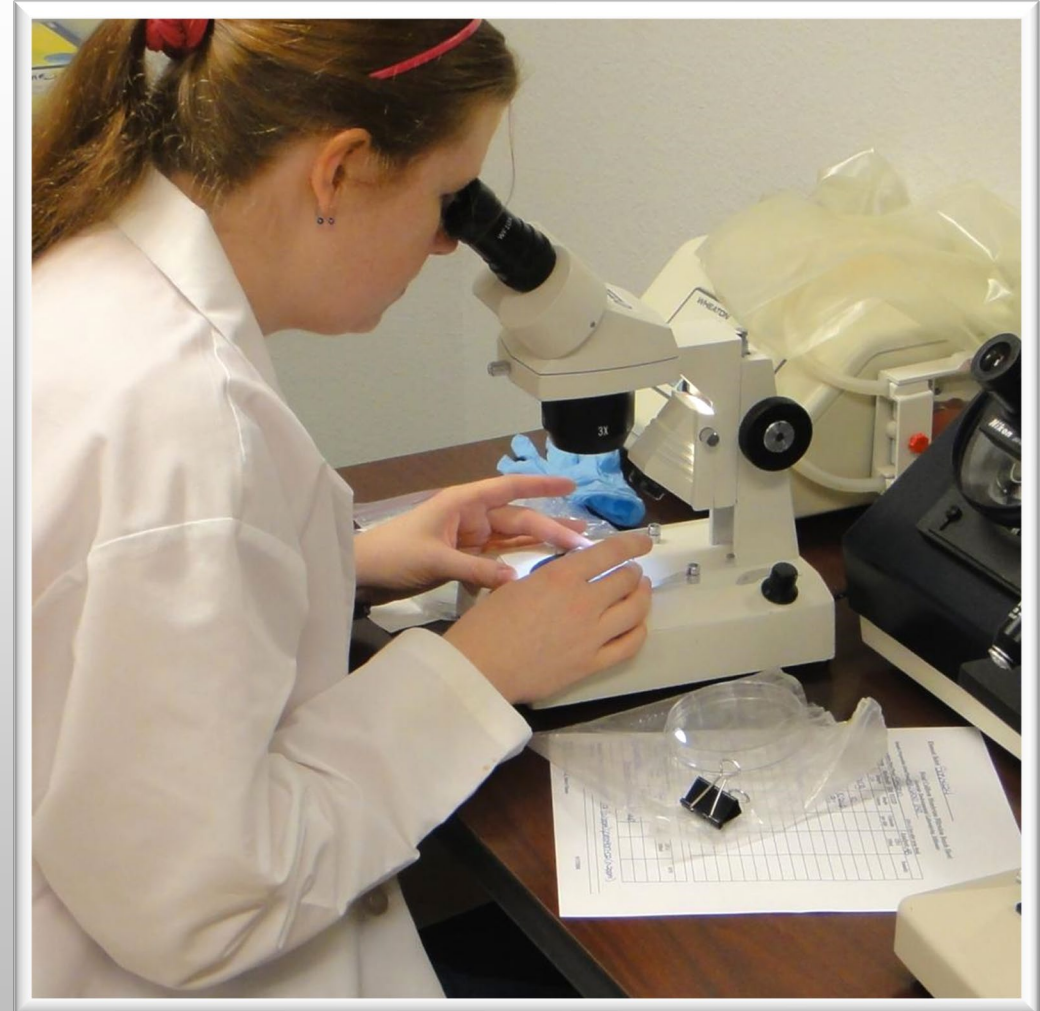
# SUCCESSFUL TESTING



# QUESTIONS ?

Valley sanitary district

Laboratory staff





**Valley Sanitary District  
Operations Committee  
December 7, 2021**

**TO:** Operations Committee  
**FROM:** Ron Buchwald, Engineering Services Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Project Update: Reclaimed Water Project – Phase I

<input type="checkbox"/> Board Action	<input type="checkbox"/> New Budget Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract Award
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing FY Approved Budget	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session

**Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to provide a project update and information regarding VSD’s Reclaimed Water Project Phase I. This project will be renamed Recycled Water Project Phase 1 going forward.

**Strategic Plan Compliance**

This item complies with VSD Strategic Plan Objective 3: Excellent Facilities.

**Fiscal Impact**

The current fiscal impact of this project is \$2.2 million which will produce 60% design plans. In fiscal year 2021/22, Staff will request from the Board the authorization to award the completion of design and construction of the project estimated to be about \$61 million.

**Background**

The Reclaimed Water Project Phase I is the initial project of three phases that will allow VSD to be able to produce reclaimed water. This project will replace and improve some treatment structures and provide redundancy for other treatment structures so that we can eventually decommission the ponds (Phase II) which will provide the needed area to construct additional treatment systems to be able to produce reclaimed water (Phase III). Phase I is expected to be completed by early 2025. The Design Build team is quickly approaching the 60% design milestone anticipated to occur in January 2022. At this point in the design, the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) will be developed and negotiated. Once approved by the Board, the construction phase will begin.

**Recommendation**

No recommendation. Information only.

**Attachments**

Attachment A - Key dates and milestones chart.

# VSD's Plant Expansion Project– Phase 1 || Key Dates for VSD

	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR
Technical/ Scope	Potholing at VSD	Potholing at VSD	VSD 8 week - 60% design review Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup> to Feb. 4 <sup>th</sup> Kick-off Meeting- Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup>		Design Review Feb. 8 <sup>th</sup> Final Planning Feb. 15 <sup>th</sup>	VSD Review of Report complete Mar. 11 <sup>th</sup>	
Legal		reengage on contract	Draft structure of Amendment	Finalize Structure of Amendment	Draft Amendment for review	Finalize Contract Amendment	Post 4217 Public Hearing Notice – 2 weeks before BM
Financing	Connect Jeanette & Mike	Information exchange		Review funding scenarios	Review funding scenarios	VSD select funding option	Financing Resolution-Board
Committee Meetings			Ron update Operations	Present: Budget & Finance	Present: Operations	Budget & Finance - Bank of A.	Present: Operations
Board of Directors			Work on 4217 findings	Finalize 4217 language		Present: Information Item	Board Approval- Amendment and financing

Blue = in person meetings





**Valley Sanitary District  
Operations Committee  
December 7, 2021**

**TO:** Operations Committee  
**FROM:** Ron Buchwald, Engineering Services Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Collections Department Update: Having a Second Person On-Call

<input type="checkbox"/> Board Action	<input type="checkbox"/> New Budget Approval	<input type="checkbox"/> Contract Award
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Board Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Existing FY Approved Budget	<input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session

**Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to provide a Collections Department update on adding a second person to the On-Call schedule and justifying the extra expense to the budget.

**Strategic Plan Compliance**

This item complies with VSD Strategic Plan Objective 1: Fully staffed with a highly trained and motivated team.

**Fiscal Impact**

The current fiscal impact of adding a second person to the on-call schedule is about \$15,000 for nine months of this fiscal year. This additional cost will be part of the mid-year budget review.

**Background**

The district has had a single Collection System worker on standby for many years. This has been a successful arrangement; however, there have been many instances where work was deferred on the weekend until the following weekday when a second employee was available to help with the emergency issue. This most often happens on holiday weekends. The most recent incident was Labor Day weekend.

The following is the benefits of having a second person available as a backup on-call person:

- During holidays is when its most difficult to contact back up personnel when needed. Having a second person on stand-by makes it less stressful when there is a need for another person.
- Response times decrease when there’s another person on-call. Eliminates the need to call multiple people to find out who’s available to respond.

- Responding to sanitary sewer overflows; recovery of a spill requires the usage of a vactor truck. Operating the vactor truck is a 2-man operation under current regulation and policy.
- Clogged up pumps that require to be pulled; to pull pumps out of the wet well safely would require two operators. One operating the crane while the other has eyes on the pump being lifted and communicating with the crane operator. Once pulled, they need to lay the pump on its side to access the impeller to remove the rags. Then re-install the pump back into place.
- Traffic control set ups for any scenarios (vactor set-up, vacuum spills, accessing manholes, etc.) that require work out on corridor streets.
- If the main person on-call has a personal emergency that requires him to attend to. Back up on-call guy is available to take the lead and respond to call outs.

As stated previously, the need for back up has been minimal; either by deferring the work or by fortunately being able to find a back up who is available by chance to help. Back up personnel are not required to report if they are not on-call. Available staff have personal events to attend too. By having a second person on-call as a back up relieves staff and the district of this concern.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the additional standby assignment be approved as part of the mid-year budget review.

### **Attachments**

None.