



News from EMWD

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For Immediate Release

\$2 million grant to help Enchanted Heights

Perris, CA (October 2, 2007)—Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) has received word from the State Water Resources Control Board that they have made the “A” list and can expect to be awarded a grant of \$2 million, which will be used for the Enchanted Heights area of west Perris. Funds will be used to rebuild the existing Diana Sewage Lift Station, and help to extend the gravity sewer lines for some residences.

According to Ronald W. Sullivan, EMWD board Vice President, “some of the funds could also be used as seed money to qualify for additional grants or to form an assessment district for an overall sewer system for that area.” Recent cost estimates are in excess of \$6 million for a total system.

Residential development of the Enchanted Heights area dates back to 1929 when the subdivision was created with lots varying from 6,000 square feet up to approximately one-half acre. Existing dwellings in the area are within the service area of either EMWD or the City of Perris. Approximately 100 dwellings within this project have wastewater collection service, with the balance of over 400 households relying on septic systems.

“The county, city of Perris and EMWD have all been working in partnership,” said Marion Ashley, Riverside County supervisor, “and I appreciate that we have each been able to lend support to solve this problem for the residents of Enchanted Heights.”

Given Riverside County Public Department of Health restrictions on lot sizes, the use of septic systems by the majority of the existing dwellings is a substandard wastewater disposal method. “Considering the large project costs, EMWD felt we should take a proactive approach to this issue and could justify pursuing grant funding from the State Water Resources Control Board,” said Sullivan. Perris Mayor Daryl Busch said, “I’m happy the city is working with EMWD on infrastructure in this area, and am pleased EMWD was able to qualify for some grant funds for this much needed project.”

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EMWD is the freshwater, wastewater service and recycled water provider to a 555-square mile area from Moreno Valley southward along the I-215 corridor to Temecula and eastward to Hemet and San Jacinto. Approximately 660,000 people live and work in this area. In addition to its own water customers, EMWD supplements water to eight local water agencies and municipalities that have their own water departments. EMWD operates four water reclamation facilities and treats some 45 million gallons of wastewater daily. More information can be found at EMWD’s web site www.emwd.org.