

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

TO: CHAIR AND BOARD MEMBERS
FROM: ANDREW ALLEN, SUPERVISING ENGINEER, WATER
ENGINEERING SERVICES
SUBJECT: UPDATE TO 2018 WATER AND SEWER STANDARDS AND
SPECIFICATIONS

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by Santa Rosa Water and the City Attorney's Office that the Board of Public Utilities, by resolution, approve updates to the Water Distribution System Design Standards, the Water Distribution System Construction Standard Specifications, and the Sanitary Sewer System Construction Standard Specifications, removing the restricted use of J M Manufacturing or JM Eagle pipe.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Santa Rosa Water was a participant in U.S. et al., ex rel. Hendrix v. J M Manufacturing Co., Inc., et al., Case No. EDCV 06 0055 GW (C.D. of CA) ("Action"). Therefore, the Water Department's current Design and Construction Standards include a restriction on the use of PVC pipe manufactured by J M Manufacturing or JM Eagle. On or about May 6, 2025, the City settled the lawsuit, which included a 50-year warranty from the manufacturer for any pipe that was installed during the period of previous concern. The terms of that settlement require the City to remove the restriction on the use of PVC pipe manufactured by J M Manufacturing or JM Eagle. The recommended action amends the Water Department's current Design and Construction Standards to carry out the terms of the settlement.

BACKGROUND

The Water and Sewer Standards and Specifications (Standards) set forth the design policies and construction methods associated with additions and modifications to the public water and sewer systems. The standards set forth the design guidelines and construction procedures that apply to all additions and modifications to the potable water and sewer systems performed under both private development and capital improvement projects. The standards are developed to maintain consistency within the specific utilities and provide a level of predictability to the construction and engineering

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communities that are tasked with modifying or extending the systems. In September 2017, the City Council, via Resolution Number RES-2017-177, approved an update to Santa Rosa Water's Standards update and delegated authority to the Board of Public Utilities to approve future Standards Updates. In October of 2018, Santa Rosa Water's current set of Design and Construction Standards was approved by the Board via Resolution No. 1180.

The City of Santa Rosa was a plaintiff in the Action. Therefore, the Water Department's current Design and Construction Standards include a restriction on the use of PVC pipe manufactured by J M Manufacturing or JM Eagle.

PRIOR BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES REVIEW

In October of 2018, the Board, via Resolution No. 1180, approved Santa Rosa Water's Design and Construction Standards update.

ANALYSIS

The current Water Distribution System Design Standards, Water Distribution System Construction Standard Specifications, and Sanitary Sewer System Construction Standard Specifications include restrictions on the use of PVC pipe manufactured by J M Manufacturing or JM Eagle.

On or about May 6, 2025, the City entered into an agreement to settle the Action, which included a 50-year warranty from the manufacturer for any pipe that was installed during the period of previous concern. The terms of the settlement require the City to remove the restriction on the use of PVC pipe manufactured by J M Manufacturing or JM Eagle. The recommended action updates the Standards to comply with the settlement agreement's requirements.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378, the proposed action is not a "project" subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it does not have a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. In the alternative, the proposed action is exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the project may have a significant effect on the environment.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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None.

NOTIFICATION

None. Normally, Water would notify local engineer and contractor organizations for their review and comment of any proposed changes to Water's Design and Construction Standards. However, here, the settlement agreement requires the changes to the Design and Construction Standards.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Water Distribution System Design Standards Redlined
- Attachment 2 – Water Distribution System Design Standards Clean
- Attachment 3 – Water Distribution System Construction Standard Specifications Redlined
- Attachment 4 - Water Distribution System Construction Standard Specifications Clean
- Attachment 5 – Sanitary Sewer Construction Standard Specifications Redlined
- Attachment 6 - Sanitary Sewer Construction Standard Specifications Clean
- Resolution/Exhibit A

PRESENTER

Andrew Allen, Supervising Engineer