

# THE CURRENT FLOW

Spring 2024



NEWS FOR THE VALUED CUSTOMERS OF LAS VIRGENES MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT



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## JPA Takes Next Step in Securing Local Water

**Progressive design-build contract keeps the Pure Water Project on track.**

The JPA awarded a progressive design-build contract valued at over \$21.4 million to complete design and initiate construction of the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes – Triunfo (Pure Water Project). The contract was awarded to a team of engineers and a general contractor that will design and eventually build the new Advanced Water Purification Facility (AWPF) and 14-mile long Reverse Osmosis Concentrate (ROC) Pipeline. The vote was unanimous.

A selection committee was convened to evaluate proposals and select a firm for the JPA Board's consideration. Walsh Construction Company, Brown and Caldwell, and Carollo Engineers were ultimately selected as the preferred team.

The team also consists of several other firms, including RRM Design Group for architectural work associated with the AWPF. Once design efforts are completed

under this contract, final construction cost estimates will be developed and presented to the JPA for consideration before proceeding with a second phase for construction. Currently estimated to cost \$364 million, the project will eventually supply up to 30% of the drinking water for the region.

"This is a significant milestone after years of researching, planning, and outreach to the communities," said Jay Lewitt, chair of the JPA board of directors. The single most important function of any water agency is to provide a clean, resilient, cost-effective water supply to the community. This Project ensures that drought, disasters, and erratic weather patterns that we have recently experienced, have minimal impact to our water supply."

"This is one of the most important projects for our region that will ensure a consistent water supply, while meeting the strict regulatory requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board that inhibit discharges to Malibu Creek," said James Wall, vice-chair of the JPA board of directors. "This new facility will reduce our dependency on increasingly expensive imported water by creating a reliable local water source."



More information about the Pure Water Project can be found by visiting [OurPureH2O.com](http://OurPureH2O.com)



# LVMWD Connects with our Communities



In celebration of Women's History Month and International Women's Day, LVMWD was joined by the Calabasas Chamber of Commerce, the cities of Calabasas, Agoura Hills, Hidden Hills, Westlake Village, and the Lost Hills Sheriff's Station in a Luncheon to Inspire Inclusion. The event, emceed by Lisa Clayden, president of the Calabasas Chamber of Commerce, took place on Voting Day, March 5th, paying homage to women's suffrage 104 years ago, featured an inspiring keynote speech from Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, chair of the L.A. County Board of Supervisors. As the youngest woman to ever be elected to the L.A. County Board of Supervisors, Horvath provided a fresh take on female leadership and served as a poignant moderator for the panel that followed her speech.

The panel featured distinguished community leaders and young professionals including City of Agoura Hills Mayor Pro Tem Penny Sylvester, City of Calabasas Mayor Alicia Weintraub, City of Westlake Village Mayor Pro Tem Kelly Honig, City of Hidden Hills Mayor Eniko Gold, Lost Hills Sheriff's Captain Jennifer Seetoo, Calabasas Chamber of Commerce Coordinator Jaylin Licup, from the Office of Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin Field Representative Skylar Payab, LVMWD's Public Affairs Associate II Riki Clark, and LVMWD's Public Affairs Intern Kayley Norman.

As the panel was comprised of women from many different backgrounds, accomplishments, and life stages, the conversation between the unique voices of our local communities offered a holistic view of women in leadership. Though one conversation will not solve some of the issues that were tackled, we hope that it offered new learnings and inspired new conversations that allow us to open ourselves and our minds to the unique voices of others and work towards an inclusive future.

On March 7th, LVMWD premiered the new documentary, "Flames to the Ocean: A Woolsey Fire Retrospective," at the Regency Theatres in Calabasas Commons. The film commemorates the fifth anniversary of the fire and tells the emotional and inspiring story of the communities ravaged by the fire, and the resilience that led to the region's recovery.

The documentary features host, Mike McNutt, LVMWD Public Affairs and Communications Manager, who sat down with elected officials, public safety officers from the Lost Hills Sheriff's Station & Los Angeles County Fire Departments, and LVMWD staff to reflect upon the impact of those precarious days in November 2018.



"History is fundamental to our understanding of the events and people who shape our lives. I am honored to be part of LVMWD's telling of the firsthand look at the Woolsey fire and its impact on our region," said Illece Buckley Weber, Mayor for the City of Agoura Hills.

The full list of special guests interviewed in the documentary includes: Lost Hills Sheriff's Captain Jennifer Seetoo, Westlake Village City Councilmember Brad Halpern, Calabasas Mayor Alicia Weintraub, Agoura Hills Mayor Illece Buckley Weber, former Hidden Hills Mayor Stuart Siegel, former Malibu Mayor Mikke Pierson, Assistant Fire Chief of the L.A. County Fire Department Drew Smith, former LVMWD Board President Glen Peterson, and both former and current LVMWD staff members David W. Pedersen, John Meredith, and Karen Norman.

The film is streaming now at [LVMWD.com/FlamesToTheOcean](https://www.lvmwd.com/FlamesToTheOcean)



# Pipeline Study to Help Maintain Critical Infrastructure

LVMWD issued a Request for Proposals from experts that will help identify and prioritize the rehabilitation or replacement of aging water pipes throughout the water system. There are 400 miles of potable water pipeline throughout 122 square miles of LVMWD's service area. A high percentage of these pipes were installed in the 1960's and 1970's and have reached or will soon reach their useful life. In recent years, the District has experienced an increasing number of pipeline failures due primarily to corrosion and material degradation.



If not rehabilitated or replaced soon, pipes can develop leaks or large breaks that require emergency repairs. The District aims to proactively maintain, rehabilitate, or replace water pipelines in the most cost-effective manner, while minimizing the number of breaks and leaks that can disrupt service and require costly repairs. A Pipeline Condition Assessment, Rehabilitation, and Replacement Plan will guide future infrastructure projects and determine budget needs. The District will coordinate replacement efforts with cities to ensure that newly paved roadways are not torn up.

A consultant will be selected in the coming months and the study will be completed by early 2025. Pipeline rehabilitations and replacements will be a significant on-going investment that will occur for years to come to ensure continued water reliability for LVMWD customers.

## Take Control of Your Controller



Time change, time to change! Customers can take advantage of smart irrigation technology to level up their water savings. Weather-based irrigation controllers take the guessing out of seasonal schedule changes, offer an intuitive user interface and is a critical tool in reducing waste. LVMWD is offering our customers a discounted Rachio controller with FREE professional installation. Scan the QR code or go to [LVMWD.com/Rachio](http://LVMWD.com/Rachio)



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Glen Peterson

General Manager  
David W. Pedersen, P. E.

District Counsel  
Aleshire & Wynder, LLP

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You may direct communications to LVMWD Board members by sending an e-mail to: [board@LVMWD.com](mailto:board@LVMWD.com)

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Board meetings are scheduled at 9 a.m.  
on the first and third  
Tuesday of each month

Board Meetings are now live-streamed on the District's website at [LVMWD.com/LiveStream](http://LVMWD.com/LiveStream)

Las Virgenes - Triunfo JPA  
meets the first Monday of the month at 5 p.m.

Check [LVMWD.com/Board-Meetings](http://LVMWD.com/Board-Meetings) for  
Board meeting and agenda information

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Customer Service -  
(818) 251-2200

After Hours Emergency -  
(818) 251-2100

Report Water Waste -  
[StopTheWaste@LVMWD.com](mailto:StopTheWaste@LVMWD.com).

Rebate Information  
[LVMWD.com/Rebates](http://LVMWD.com/Rebates)

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Potable Water  
Recycled Water  
Waste Water Treatment  
Biosolids Composting  
Advanced Water Treatment



4232 Las Virgenes Road  
Calabasas, CA 91302  
[LVMWD.com](http://LVMWD.com)

# Spring Into A Beautiful Landscape With New Rebates

Spring has sprung! And we all know what that means... it's time to take advantage of Las Virgenes Municipal Water District's landscape transformation resources and rebate programs to elevate your outdoor spaces!

Create your own super bloom! Replace your turf grass with colorful California-friendly and native plants that provide habitat for local wildlife and build resiliency for our environment. For a limited time, get up to \$3 for every square foot of turf grass that is replaced with climate-appropriate plants. To qualify for this rebate:

- Project size must be 250 – 5,000 square feet
- Per every 100 square feet of turf replaced, 3 climate-appropriate plants must be installed
- Include a stormwater retention feature, like a rain barrel or dry creek bed
- Replace or modify overhead spray sprinklers with a more water-efficient system

Increase your impact! Trees help combat climate change by absorbing excess carbon dioxide, cooling the environment, and cleaning the air. While you're replacing your turf grass, consider planting some trees. You can qualify to receive a \$100 rebate for every new tree planted on your property, for up to five trees total. To be eligible, trees must be sized at a minimum of 15 gallons when

purchased and planted. Additionally, the trees must be planted within a turf replacement project area. Check out: [www.bewaterwise.com/tree-rebates.html](http://www.bewaterwise.com/tree-rebates.html)

During the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) annual Fix-A-Leak Week from March 18th-24th we highlighted the waste that can be curbed with a weather-based irrigation controller. For customers who have not already upgraded to a weather-based irrigation controller, the District continues to offer the Rachio 3 controller for \$99 with free professional installation. The Rachio Controller takes the guess work out of irrigating your yard with settings that are customized for the plants in your garden and schedules that automatically adjust based on real-time weather.

Still struggling to save water? Sign up for a free Water Use Survey! This indoor/outdoor survey is performed by a certified water efficiency practitioner that will check for leaks and other inefficient use. Participants will receive a written report that includes recommendations to conserve water inside and outside the home.

Learn more at  
[LVMWD.com/Conservation](http://LVMWD.com/Conservation)



## PURE WATER PROJECT LAS VIRGENES-TRIUNFO: **FULL CIRCLE PODCAST**

**Season 2 Coming Soon!**  
[OurPureH2O.com/FullCirclePod](http://OurPureH2O.com/FullCirclePod)

As water challenges arise locally, across California and the entire Western United States, LVMWD and the Las Virgenes - Triunfo JPA are focused on the critical mission of ensuring a safe and reliable water supply, healthy communities and a sustainable planet.

Listen to the Full Circle Podcast where we dig deep into how the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes - Triunfo is meeting those challenges and changing our water future.

