

The Stallion Springs Bridge



February / March 2010

Issue No. 141

Build a bridge, not a barrier; make a friend, not a fuss; find a cause, not a controversy; be a cheerleader, not a critic; seek a solution, not a standoff

STALLION SPRINGS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MAJORITY PROTEST HEARING
regarding proposed increases in the District's
CONSUMPTIVE WATER CHARGES, WATER SERVICE CHARGES, and
ADOPTION OF FUTURE INCREASE POLICY for these charges

In accordance with Stallion Springs Community Services District Resolution No. 2009-21 adopted on December 15, 2009, and Article XIID, Section 6 of the California Constitution, please be advised of the following:

The District will hold a public majority protest hearing at 7:00 pm or as soon as the matter may be heard on March 16, 2010 at the Stallion Springs Community Services District office, 27800 Stallion Springs Drive, Tehachapi, CA 93561. The hearing will address a proposed increase in the District's consumptive water charges and water service charges. Additionally, the hearing will address the proposed adoption of a future policy for the potential increase of the charges. If the District does not receive a pure majority of protests from those entitled to protest by the conclusion of that hearing, the District will adopt the increases and policy reflected on the reverse side of this notice. In order to provide District landowners and residents with the greatest say in this matter, the Board has determined that all landowners shall have the right to protest the charges herein mentioned regardless of whether they currently pay the charges. Additionally, the District has determined that all residents who pay the charges herein mentioned may file a protest. However, only one protest may be recorded for each service address and/or parcel.

The amounts of the proposed increases reflect a uniform increase of twenty percent (20%). As you probably know, the District did not raise these charges this past year. However, District costs associated with providing these services, specifically costs which are outside of the District's control, such as the cost for recharged water from TCCWD, has and/or will increase significantly in the near future due to the unique water circumstances now occurring in the valley. In the hopeful event that the increases the District is being and/or will be subject to are less severe than anticipated, the District reserves the right to charge less than the proposed increase in any given year, but may in a subsequent year return to the increase if needed without holding another Prop 218 proceeding, as the community has had this opportunity to voice its opinion of on that increase in this proceeding.

If you wish to protest the proposed charge increases or the associated policy, you **must submit a written protest** during or before the conclusion of the public hearing. By law, oral protests at the hearing will not be counted unless they are accompanied by a written protest. A written protest must include: 1) the identity of the parcel represented by the protest; 2) the name and address of the protestant; 3) a statement illustrating the protestant's legal relationship to the parcel such as owner, lessee, or renter; and, 4) a signed statement containing an original signature, indicating that the writing is to be considered a written protest on behalf of the parcel. While it is not required that a protest be affixed to a form provided by the District (so long as it contains the required information above), the District as a courtesy will provide a protest form to those requesting one in person.

You may mail, or deliver, your written protest to the Board of Directors, Stallion Springs Community Services District, 27800 Stallion Springs Drive, Tehachapi, CA 93561. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

If you do not wish to protest the proposed Water Rate Increase or the Policy, you need not take any action.

The proposed increases in charges:

1. Bi-Monthly Base Service Charge for Residential and Commercial Water Service:

From: \$16.08 for ¾" & 1" meters	To: \$19.30 for ¾" & 1" meters
\$22.50 for 1½" meters	\$27.00 for 1½" meters
\$28.92 for 2" and over meters	\$34.70 for 2" and over meters

2. **Consumptive Water Rate Portion of the Water Service Charge:**
- a. Residential use up to and including 2000 cf
From: \$2.52 to \$3.02 per 100 cf
 - b. Residential use from 2001 cf to 4000 cf
From: \$2.89 to \$3.47 per 100 cf
 - c. Residential use above 4000 cf
From: \$3.11 to 3.73 per 100 cf
 - d. Commercial use up to and including 4000 cf
From: \$2.89 to \$3.47 per 100 cf
 - e. Commercial use above 4000 cf
From: \$3.11 to \$3.73 per 100 cf
 - f. Temporary use up to 4000 cf
From: \$4.21 to \$5.05 per 100 cf
 - g. Temporary use above 4000 cf
From: \$4.52 to \$5.42 per 100 cf
3. **Future Increases in the Above Charges.** In addition to the rate increases herein mentioned, the District proposes, and will in the future implement the following policy in regards to these charges if a majority of those entitled to protest fail to do so. Under this proposed policy the Board in any given year may raise the above mentioned rates in correspondence to the CPI increase for the year as indicated through comparisons of the January Consumer Price Index, All Urban Consumers, All Items Index, Western Cities with populations between 50,000 and 1,500,000 (the "CPI-U"). Additionally, under this policy the Board may, in any given year, raise the mentioned charges in an amount less than the CPI increase, or not at all. However, without providing a future majority protest hearing, the Board is prohibited under this policy from raising the charges herein mentioned above the CPI increase for that year and the Board may not go back in time to recapture previous CPI increases which were not captured by the Board.
4. **Effective Date of Proposed Increases.** While the increases proposed herein will become effective immediately upon their adoption, they will not be charged to customers until a fresh meter read is accomplished. Therefore, customers will continue to be billed at the older rates until the May meter read, on or about May 24, 2010. Prospective of that read customers will be charged the new rates.
- Should you have any questions, please call or write to: Stallion Springs Community Services District office, 27800 Stallion Springs Drive, Tehachapi, CA 93561 or (661) 822-0805.

-INFORMATION & NOTES-

- ◆ For emergency police, fire and medical calls dial 911 and specify to the dispatcher that you live in Stallion Springs. To reach the police for non-emergency purposes, you may call 822-3268 during normal business hours or 800-861-3110 for off business hours.
- ◆ For District emergencies off hours, such as a main line water break you may call 822-3268. Upon receiving the recording, press "1" and leave a message with the problem, your name and contact number and on-call District staff will be paged.
- ◆ The CC&R's are on our website at www.stallionspringscsd.com.
- ◆ The law states that dogs must be on a leash. Please follow this rule. Stallion Springs Police will be working with Kern County Animal Control in regard to ticketing violators.
- ◆ Fill out the attached form so you can be sent "The Bridge" and other District-related items via e-mail.
- ◆ The community Library has expanded. Come by and visit during the hours the volunteers are staffing the building.
- ◆ Pick up your 2010 trash decals at the Library when it is OPEN or at the District office during business hours.

HIKE AND RIDE



In December six members of the Stallion Springs Trail Association (SSTC) worked on digging post holes, pouring cement footings and erected six tall metal poles that will support a large metal roof that was donated by a Stallion Springs

resident. The metal roof will provide residents with a permanent shade structure at Buckskin Park.

The SSTC has also been establishing a new trail along the western perimeter of Stallion Springs. The SSTC spent time during December collecting litter, barbed wire segments, pruning trees and brush to clear this new trail currently being called "Elk Trail." This trail is adjacent to the former Jack Palance ranch fence line. The trail has significant hills and beautiful open spaces away from residential property and lends itself to hiking or riding a horse. The trail is temporarily being called Elk Trail because elk are so frequently seen from the trail. If you are interested in finding out where this trail is located, please contact the SSTC.

The SSTC plans hikes and rides monthly. Join the SSTC for trail work days usually held the last Saturday of each month at Horsethief Park. You will learn where the trails are and get to know the members of the SSTC who dedicate their time for the benefit of the entire community.

The SSTC meets every third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in the SSCSD administrative building Library. Please join us at our next meeting.

For more information about the SSTC, monthly Hike and Ride or Trail Work days, call Barry, SSTC Chair at 822-1207 or Barbara Rossi, STTC Vice Chair at 822-0511.

STALLION SPRINGS P.O.A.

We will hold our next meeting on February 18th at 6:00 p.m. at the Stallion Springs Community Center. Refreshments will be served.

Two important topics will be discussed. The first will be the future of the Stallion Springs Property Owners Association. There are several functions of the P.O.A. that are important to the community: Welcome Committee, Sunshine Committee, Christmas Caroling Committee and the High School Scholarship funding. We will take a ballot vote. If the decision is to continue, then we will need volunteers to run for office in June.

The second topic will be the need for paramedics in Stallion Springs. We will have representatives from the Kern County Fire Department present to inform us of how important this is to our community. Gary Riggs, a Stallion Springs resident and retired firefighter, will lead the discussion. He has researched this subject thoroughly and has communicated with the Pine Mountain Club community leaders who were successful in bringing paramedics to that community.

If you have any questions on the above, please feel free to contact me at 823-8682. I am looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. **ALL RESIDENTS OF STALLION SPRINGS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND.**

Myra Fletcher, President

GYMNASTICS

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND



Stallion Springs Parks and Rec. Dept. in partnership with Woodward West will be offering a second session of gymnastics classes starting February 3, 2010. This is an 8-week program that is run thru the Stallion Springs Parks and Rec. Dept. The cost is \$80 per child. Ages 3-18 accepted. We are offering 4 different levels. For more information, please call Danette @ 823-7883. Limited space, so call to reserve your spot today!

Inline Classes @ Woodward West

Stallion Springs Parks and Rec. Dept. will sponsor inline classes at Woodward West beginning February 3, 2010. World Class Champion Richie Velasquez will be teaching both the beginning and intermediate classes. For more information, call Danette @ 823-7883.

This is an 8-week program offered on Wednesday from 4:30—6:30 pm. The Cost for this class is \$80 per child. Sign up now, limited space available.

PARKS AND REC. UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

Valentine's Kids Craft	Feb. 6th	10-12 am
Greeting Card Workshop	Feb. 12th	6-8 pm
Tea with Friends	Feb. 21st	2-4 pm

MARCH

Easter Kids Craft	March 6th	10a-12n
Adult Beginning Tap Dance Class	Mar 8-Apr 16	5:30-6:30 pm (Mon & Fri 6-week session)
T-Ball Workshop	March 20th	11 am -1 pm

Please call 823-3268 for more information or to sign up for classes.

To Our Valued Customers

Stallion Springs General Store (Chevron) would like to thank our valued customers for their patience and apologize for the inconveniences they may have endured during our remodeling efforts. As most of you can see, we have added a few amenities that we hope you will appreciate such as the lighted covered canopy for those bad weather days, the access to all three grades of fuel with the addition of diesel grade 24-hours a day, 7 days a week, with pay at the pump features, a cash discount price which includes ATM, Chevron Credit Card transactions and of course cash. (Note: cash transactions will only be authorized during normal business hours.) The credit prices will be for Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover Card, fleet cards, and potential CFN cards, which will be accepted inside the store as well as the pumps.

We have been approved from the state to offer the state lottery games and we will be accepting the state-run assistance (food stamp) program.

We have also installed a water machine (Glacier) for filtered water, a new counter with a point-of-sale system. Come by and check out the progress or just stop in for a friendly smile and hello from Eivan or Laurie.



**STALLION SPRINGS
COMMUNITY
SERVICES DISTRICT**
27800 STALLION SPRINGS DRIVE
TEHACHAPI CA 93561

Delivered
by the
Community
Services
District

Delivered to:

All Stallion Springs Residents

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, February 6th	10:00 am - Noon	SHREDDING at the old CSD office
Saturday, February 6th	9:00 am - 4:00 pm	CLEAN UP DAY at the trash site
Tuesday, February 16th	7:00 pm	Regular Board of Directors meeting at the District office
Thursday, February 18th	6:00 pm	POA meeting at the Community Center (re: the future of the POA and taxing for Paramedic Service)
Tuesday, March 16th	7:00 pm	Public Hearing regarding water rates and the Board of Directors Regular meeting at the District office

Community Services District Board of Directors Meeting Notes

Regular Meeting Held December 15, 2009

- ...discussion and approval to move forward with Ordinance 141 in regard to a groundwater Covenant
- ...discussion and approval to move forward with notification in regard to proposed water rate increases
- ...approval to expend up to \$35,000 for a dump truck for the District

Special Meeting Held January 19, 2010

- ...the auditor presented the fiscal year 2009 audit for the District
- ...the Board discussed the District's strategic plan for the next five years

Regular Meeting Held January 19, 2010

- ...the Board approved Ordinance 141 in regard to a groundwater Covenant
- ...the Resolutions for water, sewer and road assessments were approved with the same costs as in previous years