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July 31, 2009

RE: Ongoing Coordination of Services With City of Vancouver

Dear Valued Customers:

Clark Regional Wastewater District (District) was formed over 50 years ago to support the needs of a growing community. Sewer service is an important, yet basic, foundation that protects the environment while encouraging economic growth within urban areas. As the District's elected Board of Commissioners looks to the future, we have identified potential challenges in effectively operating the utility if the City of Vancouver annexes into the District's service area. The Board has determined that further defining the District's relationship with the City of Vancouver is essential to delivering our services in a way that is financially and environmentally responsible for our customers over the long term. The District values our customers and understands that many of you will have questions to be answered. We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to be a part of the discussion.

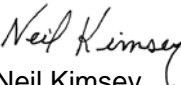
We are, therefore, beginning a public information effort for our customers, stakeholder groups and partner agencies. We are interested in knowing what you think about this issue. The District plans to inform our community partners in a variety of means throughout July, August and September. In addition to this billing insert, please also look for further explanation of the process and the potential agreements between the two agencies at the District website ([www.crwwd.com](http://www.crwwd.com)). The District plans to conduct a **public meeting** on this topic on the evening of **Tuesday, October 6**, from **6 to 8 PM**, where you can talk directly with District staff and the Board about these matters.

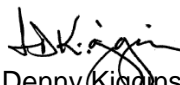
To begin to address the question of why develop a long term plan with the City of Vancouver, please allow us to explain the situation. A full 93% of the District service area exists within the Vancouver Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) and a portion of the District's flows are sent to Vancouver for treatment. The City has plans over a 20-year (or more) timeframe to annex the UGB and eventually to transition urban services, such as sewer, to a City function. State law supports that progression, especially as it relates to a special purpose utility such as the District. As a result, we asked that a framework be developed to provide for the best long-term interests of our customers should the annexation and transition of services take place at some point in the future. It is important to understand that this framework does not make the annexation process easier; it simply provides a road map for continued sewer service if annexation does happen someday. Subsequently, the District and City have jointly commissioned a study to explore these issues. The result of which has been the development of a draft agreement framework for an "annexation" and an "operations" agreement.


For more information on this topic, please contact Kim Thur, Executive Assistant, at 360-993-8822 or [ktthur@crwwd.com](mailto:ktthur@crwwd.com), visit our website ([www.crwwd.com](http://www.crwwd.com)) and plan on attending the public meeting on October 6, 2009. Thank you for your continued interest in the future of our community.

Sincerely,

Clark Regional Wastewater District Board of Commissioners

  
Neil Kimsey  
President

  
Denny Kiggins  
Vice President

  
Norm Harker  
Secretary



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