

Connections

March/April 2015



Restaurants in Hazel Dell benefit from lowest sewer charges in Clark County

At the end of last year, residents in Hazel Dell welcomed two new restaurants to the neighborhood – Chipotle and Panera Bread. Sanitary sewer service to both businesses is provided by Clark Regional Wastewater District.

While sewer may not be your first thought when you hear of a place to get your bagels and coffee, it is an essential service for any new business. In the past, it has been said that sewer system development charges (SDCs) discouraged restaurants from opening in Hazel Dell. However, **the District's Tier 1 SDCs in south Hazel Dell are the lowest in the County.**

The District worked closely with Panera Bread's developer to reduce the initial cost of their sewer connection. This included credits for building on a previously developed site. The development also qualified

for a fee waiver from Clark County. In total, the sewer SDC fee was less than \$750!

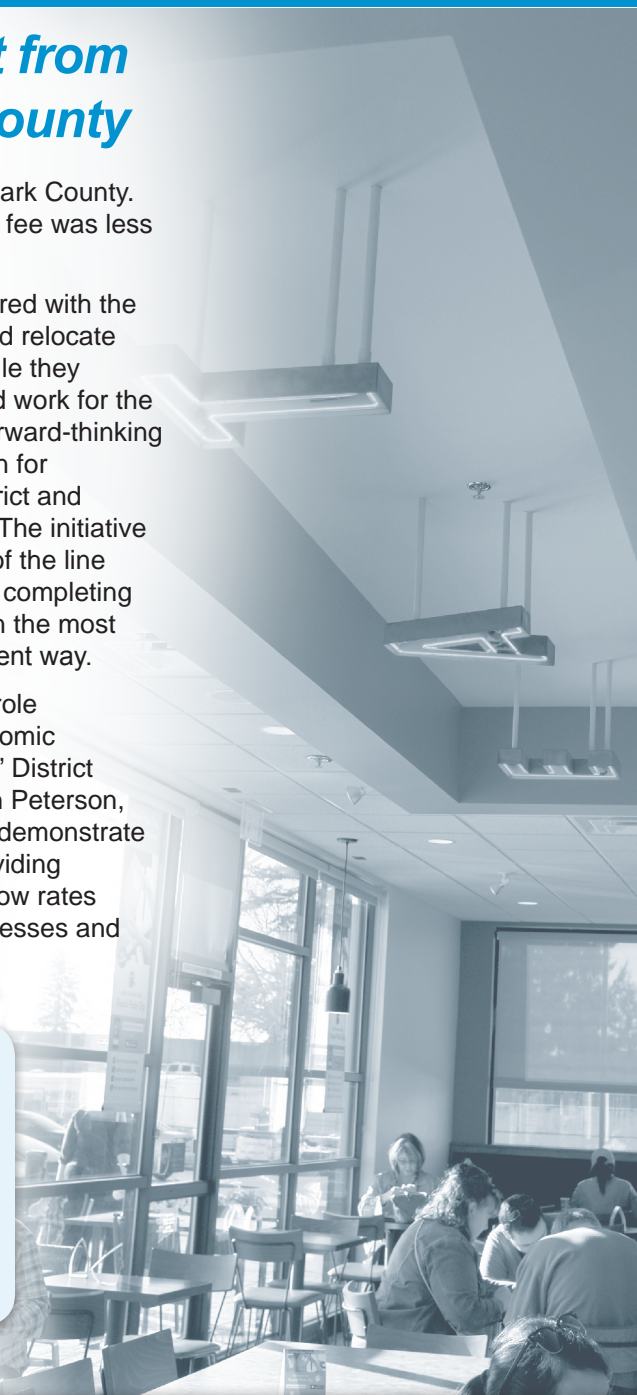
The District also partnered with the developer to restore and relocate an aging sewer line while they completed underground work for the new restaurant. This forward-thinking approach was a win-win for Panera Bread, the District and ratepayers, in general. The initiative optimized the location of the line for Panera Bread while completing necessary utility work in the most cost-effective and efficient way.

"The District takes our role in community and economic development seriously," District General Manager, John Peterson, said. "Projects like this demonstrate our commitment to providing high-quality service at low rates that support local businesses and ratepayers."

Did you know?

You may be surprised to learn that residential customers account for much more grease and clogging material in our pipes than restaurants or other commercial customers. Contact us to receive a free Freeze the Grease kit and help keep our pipes clean!

www.crwwd.com/grease.html



Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday,
8 am - 5 pm
Closed Weekends
& Holidays

Emergency?

Call 24/7:
360-750-5876

Commissioners

Norm Harker
Neil Kimsey
Denny Kiggins

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Financing Our Public Infrastructure

The Public Works Assistance Account (PWAA), commonly referred to as the Public Works Trust Fund (PWTF) loan program, was established in 1985 to be used by the Washington State Public Works Board to finance local government infrastructure. Since its inception, the PWAA has been very successful and is the preferred capital funding program throughout the state.

District ratepayers have benefitted greatly from the low interest rates offered by the program. Since 1995, the District has borrowed more than \$40 million from the PWAA, including \$20 million for construction of Phase I of the Discovery Corridor Wastewater



The Public Works Board website currently displays a notice that construction loans will not be offered this spring.

Transmission System. These loans have saved District ratepayers millions of dollars in interest compared to traditional financing, such as bonds.

The program also helps the District to leverage every local dollar paid by customers through their sewer service bills, making it more efficient and effective for us to maintain and expand regional wastewater infrastructure and to cost-effectively meet the needs of our community.

Recently, substantial amounts of monies in the PWAA have been diverted, partly to sustain state programs in light of reduced revenues during the economic downturn, and partly to respond to the Supreme Court's mandate to increase funding for K-12 education.

For more information on the PWAA, visit www.pwb.wa.gov.

Construction Nears 50% Completion

The first phase of the Discovery Corridor Wastewater Transmission System is on-schedule and on-budget and will soon reach 50% completion. The project is building a new pipeline to carry wastewater from the Ridgefield urban

growth area to the Salmon Creek Treatment Plant, supporting Ridgefield's needs for expanded sewer capacity and plans for development in the region.

A major milestone was reached in October 2014 when the existing Junction Pump Station was successfully taken offline and the area was connected to the existing Pioneer Canyon Pump Station. This means there is no longer a sewer capacity limitation to serving the southern portion of the Ridgefield I-5 junction industrial area.



Check out a construction photo tour on the website: www.crwwd.com/projects/dcwt/index.php

Work is currently taking place along NE 10th Avenue in the Fairgrounds area, NE 20th Avenue in Salmon Creek and at the northbound I-5 Gee Creek Rest Area. Visit the project website for information on upcoming work.

Come To An Event!

Calendar of Events

APRIL
10/11

Klineline Kids
Fishing Derby

There's a new feature in our newsletters this year - the calendar of events. As an active member of the Clark County community, we participate in events throughout the year to connect with our customers and help teach people about their sewer service. More events can be found on our website.

Register for the Klineline Kids Fishing Derby for a day of fun at Salmon Creek Park. Stop by the District booth to learn from Frog and FOGG about how to help care for our water resources! More info at: www.klineline-kf.org.



Frog and the F.O.G.G

