## **Contact: Shawn Moore**

Assistant Manager/Business Services Manager Clark Regional Wastewater District Phone (360) 993-8849 Fax (360) 750-7570

8000 NE 52<sup>nd</sup> Court P.O. Box 8979 Vancouver, WA 98668-8979 Phone (360) 750-5876 Fax (360) 750-7570

## **Clark Regional Wastewater District**

## Press Release

## Clark Regional Wastewater District Planning to Invest in its Campus

Vancouver, WA – After more than 20 years at its current location, the Board of Commissioners of Clark Regional Wastewater District (District) is preparing to expand facilities on its campus to house its growing operations for the next 20 years. After a review of alternatives, the District Board has supported a plan to invest more than \$13 Million to expand and improve its operations center. Once complete, in 2022, the improvements will provide the District with the facilities necessary to continue to meet the increasing demand for District services and improve the resiliency of District operations.

"The demand for District services has and will continue to grow. Every new customer represents more wastewater and more pipes and pumps that must be managed. Re-investing in the current campus is the most cost-effective solution for the near term, which supports the District's mission to provide the community with affordable and reliable service," said Norm Harker, Board President.

The District currently provides service to more than 125,000 people, protecting public and environmental health by safely collecting, conveying and treating approximately eight to twelve million gallons per day of wastewater. Its customer base has doubled in size over the last 20 years and, based on future growth estimates, is expected to double again over the next 20 years. Although much of the growth will occur to the north of its current location, along the I-5 corridor near the Fairgrounds and in Ridgefield, the potential capital cost savings associated with investing in the current location outweighed the operating cost savings that could have been gained from relocating to a more central location.

The proposed improvements will provide adequate space for vehicles, equipment, staff and materials and it will improve the resiliency of District operations. The main feature of the plan is to construct a new building for the field operations team. Existing structures will also be remodeled and updated. A copy of the proposed plans can be viewed online at www.crwwd.com/projects/campus.html.

"Reinvesting in the current location will allow the District to maximize the value of the ratepayers' original investment and use the existing facilities throughout the remainder of their useful life," said Harker.

The planned improvements on the District campus are scheduled to be constructed over the next three years. The project will be funded from a mix of connection charge revenue, which is collected from new development, and rate revenue, paid by customers in their monthly sewer bills. The campus improvements have been factored into the District's long-range financial plan and the rate and charge structures already adopted by the Board.

For more information, contact Shawn Moore, Assistant Manager/Business Services Manager, at (360) 993-8849 or smoore@crwwd.com.

### end ###