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Press Release

Clark Regional Wastewater District Secures State and Federal Investments for Septic Elimination Program

Vancouver, WA—Clark Regional Wastewater District (District) will receive \$1.6 million in state and federal grant funding for the construction of the Curtin Creek Septic Elimination Program (SEP). Through the District's partnership with U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell and state Representatives Sharon Wylie and Monica Stonier, the District will receive \$800,000 apiece from both state and federal sources.

"The District thanks Senator Cantwell and state Representatives Wylie and Stonier for their efforts to secure these investments that will better this neighborhood, the environment, and our community," said Commissioner Norm Harker, President of the District's Board of Commissioners, "we will continue to pursue these opportunities to benefit other neighborhoods that have similar needs," he added.

Curtin Creek SEP project is located in the Sunnyside neighborhood near NE 88th Avenue and NE 102nd Street. The \$2.25 million project will extend sewer service to 72 properties in an economically disadvantaged neighborhood, with failing septic systems that are creating environmental concerns for homes and nearby waterways. Septic systems in the area are part of homes constructed in the 1970s and are at the end of their useful design life. This project will accelerate the elimination of the septic systems while providing additional financial assistance to homeowners when they connect to sewer. Thanks to the support of Senator Cantwell and state Representatives Wylie and Stonier, property owners in the SEP project will save on average more than \$20,000 when they connect to public sewer. The District will fund the remaining project costs with local funding.

There are approximately 1,500 septic systems in the District's service area, and many are approaching the end of their design life. The District's Board of Commissioners established the SEP to protect water resources by providing a pathway to enable customers to move away from septic systems and connect to the community's safe and reliable wastewater infrastructure. Through the SEP, the District has made service available to more than 300 properties and connected more than 80 homes, with many homeowners receiving financial incentives to aid in their connection.

If you have questions about the Curtin Creek project or the Septic Elimination Program, please contact Heath Henderson, Engineering Director, at 360-993-8815 or hhenderson@crwwd.com.

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