

Connections

July/August 2016



On time and on budget: Successful completion of the Discovery Corridor Wastewater Transmission System, Phase 1

After more than a decade of planning and two years of construction, this major project connecting Ridgefield junction to the Salmon Creek Treatment Plant has been successfully completed.

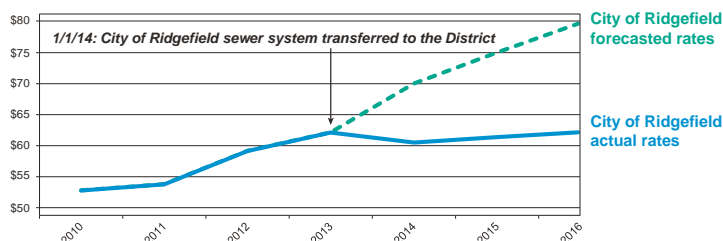
The nine-mile pipeline and pump station project is the first phase of the Discovery Corridor Wastewater Transmission System (DCWTS), which will connect the City of Ridgefield's sewer system to regional infrastructure. The system is currently operational and has been pumping wastewater from Ridgefield junction since February 2016.

DCWTS is essential to supporting continued growth in the region. Connecting to the Salmon Creek Treatment Plant increases Ridgefield's wastewater capacity. This enables economic development to occur, which is forecasted to bring thousands of new jobs to Ridgefield.

Ensuring low, consistent rates

This project is a major part of the District's continuing efforts to provide Ridgefield residents and businesses with **efficient, high-quality sewer service at the lowest possible cost**. Prior to joining the District in 2014, sewer bills in Ridgefield had been steadily climbing and were forecasted to continue to rise. Since then, rates have remained stable and are consistent with average sewer rates in western Washington, according to data from the Association of Washington Cities.

Six-year comparison of Ridgefield's forecasted and actual rates



Expanding the District's service area in Ridgefield provides rate support for all customers, helping ensure low and consistent rates into the future.



Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday,
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Closed Weekends
& Holidays

Emergency?

Call 24/7:
360-750-5876

Commissioners

Norm Harker
Neil Kimsey
Denny Kiggins

General Manager

John M. Peterson

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Planning for the long term

The District Board and Ridgefield City Council had the vision to take advantage of opportunities as they arose. Recent years have seen historically low interest rates and construction costs. Many years of thoughtful planning, designing, partnering and lobbying allowed the DCWTS project to move forward when timing was right. The success of the DCWTS project is owed to this long-term planning by the District and our local community partners.

Catalyst Award

In recognition of the DCWTS project as an important stimulus for development in our region, the Vancouver Business Journal honored the project with its inaugural Catalyst Award in July 2015. District Board Vice President Neil Kimsey said, "This is a tremendous validation of years of hard work by many leaders at the state and local level. It confirms we are making the right investment in the right location at the right time to move the needle on economic opportunity for our community."



The District and project contractor, Tapani Inc., jointly accepted the award

Did you know?

\$20 million of Phase 1 of the DCWTS project was funded through low-interest loans from the Public Works Assistance Account (also known as the Public Works Trust Fund). These loans have saved District customers more than \$10 million in interest compared to traditional financing. PWAA loans are no longer available but a number of jurisdictions have lobbied in support of their reinstatement by the legislature. More info is available on the PWAA website – scan the code with your smart phone or visit: www.pwb.wa.gov



Biotechnology cleans the air

The DCWTS project included installation of engineered media biofilter beds. These "living systems" clear unwanted odors from the sewer and help prevent corrosion by airborne chemicals. Fans push air from wastewater pipes through bacteria-coated rocks. The bacteria eat airborne particles that cause odors and corrosion, leaving behind only carbon dioxide and water (and fresh air).



One of the biofilter beds built as part of the DCWTS project

Biofilter systems cost less than other odor-control methods and are quiet and easy to maintain. They also extend the life of our system by reducing corrosion. Three of these systems have been placed between Ridgefield and Salmon Creek, which is enough for the whole DCWTS pipeline.

Come talk with us!

The District always looks forward to participating in the region's summer fun. This year, our parade float salutes the service of our staff in keeping the sewer system operating efficiently. Come by to see Frog and F.O.G.G. at an upcoming event.



Calendar of Events

Jul.	Aug.	Sep.
4	2	17
Ridgefield Parade	Ridgefield National Night Out	Public Safety Complex – Safety Fair

Frog and the F.O.G.G.

