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## Press Release

## Clark Regional Wastewater District Awards Ridgefield North Junction Sewer Project

Ridgefield, WA – The Clark Regional Wastewater District (District) Board of Commissioners awarded a \$2.4 million contract to Tapani, Inc. of Battle Ground, Washington for construction of the Ridgefield North Junction Sewer project. This project is an important investment in the City of Ridgefield, further positioning regionally significant properties at the Ridgefield-Interstate 5 junction for employment-based development. Once completed, the project will allow for sewer service to be extended to approximately 1,000 Acres of land (see attached map), including the future site of Clark College at Boschma Farms. "This project is a catalyst for job creation, for the development of industrial and commercial services around the Ridgefield I-5 junction, as well as residential investment in the northeast portion of the city" said Norm Harker, District Board President. Funding for the improvements came from system development charge revenue, which is collected from new development.

The project will install approximately one mile of sewer pipe and a new sewer pumping station. Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2019 and be complete by the end of the year. The District has coordinated with Ridgefield Public Works and temporary traffic control measures will be in place, as needed, throughout the duration of construction. Traffic impacts will, however, be limited as the majority of construction will not occur in the public roadways. The travelling public can expect increased truck traffic in the area during construction.

The District began providing service in the City of Ridgefield in 2014. The partnership between the City of Ridgefield and the District was in the best interests of the customers for both agencies and the long-term vitality of the City. At that time, the City was forecasting a steep spike in customer rates, system capacity was limiting development and major investments were needed to realize the employment potential of lands within the City. The District's commitment to the City was to lower and stabilize rates, provide access to treatment capacity and invest in the expansion of the collection system, specifically at the Ridgefield-Interstate 5 junction.

"The District has delivered on its commitments to Ridgefield. We have seen rates stabilize for our residents and access provided to wastewater treatment capacity, which has enabled economic development to occur," said Don Stose, Ridgefield Mayor. Residential customers are in fact paying less for sewer service in 2019 under the District than they were in 2013 under the City, prior to the transfer.

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

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