



TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | OCTOBER 1, 2025

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Mark Anderson, Committee Chair
Glenn Acosta, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT

Fernando Paludi, General Manager
Michael Perea, Assistant General Manager
Lorrie Lausten, District Engineer
Gary Kessler, Water Superintendent
Oscar Ulloa, Wastewater Superintendent
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Superintendent
Roseann Lejsek, Executive Assistant
Phil Serpas, CMMS/SCADA Administrator

STAFF ABSENT

None

DISTRICT CONSULTANTS

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

None

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Director Anderson called the October 1, 2025 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

VISITOR PARTICIPATION

No comments were received.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

No comments were received.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

None

ITEM 1: ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP

Mr. Paludi presented the Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap for Committee review in accordance with the agenda.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee recommended forwarding this matter to the Board of Directors (Consent Calendar).

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ITEM 2: QUARTERLY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM UPDATE

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration. Ms. Lausten provided a high-level status update of each project budgeted for FY25/26, and a detailed status update of the DWTP Pipeline Improvements project.

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 3: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECT UPDATES

1. Dimension Water Treatment Plant Pipeline Rehabilitation Project

Ms. Lausten reported that Phase 1A is on track to be completed in the next few weeks, and she stated that she anticipates the project to be completed by the end of the year. Ms. Lausten noted that small, unforeseen challenges have been identified as the project progresses but that these matters are being worked through. Mr. Kessler provided a brief update on the status of the filter plant project.

2. Urban Water Management Plan

Ms. Lausten reported that the Urban Water Management Plan must be updated every five years, and that staff attended a kickoff meeting with MWDOC for cost-sharing services to complete the report. Ms. Lausten added that the approximate cost to the District is \$40,000.

3. Other Projects

Staffing - Mr. Paludi reported that Mr. David Rodriguez has been hired as a full-time employee of the District. Director Acosta suggested that Mr. Rodriguez attend future meetings of the Engineering/Operational Committee.

Trabuco Oaks Community Hydrant Pressures – Mr. Perea reported that the District’s consultant, Hazen & Sawyer, was preparing a cost assessment memo that should be completed in the next couple of weeks.

Discussion occurred regarding the status of a claim with the County of Orange related to potential water quality issues stemming from the Airport Fire. Mr. Kessler reported that sample testing has been completed at the creek, and that no evidence of contamination has been found, therefore, a claim has not been filed at this time.

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 4: WATER SYSTEM UPDATES

Mr. Kessler reviewed the projects and repairs for the prior month, and he reported that Water Operations staff had completed the following tasks:

1. Worked with Hydrotech on EMASS at pump stations.
2. Assisted Meter Tech with angle stop repair on Old Oak in Robinson Ranch.
3. Performed site cleanup at Harris Grade Tanks (weeds and painting).
4. Assisted with both parts 1A and 1B on transmission main line repair.

Mr. Kessler presented the Water System Summary for Committee review, and he noted that the report would reflect September’s data at next month’s meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

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ITEM 5: WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATES

Mr. Ulloa reviewed the projects and repairs for the prior month, and he reported that Wastewater Operations staff had completed the following tasks:

1. Replaced a 4" valve for filter 2 at the WWTP.
2. Installed a 4" bypass drain line at Dove Creek for weed abatement control.
3. Weed abatement completed at the WWTP to comply with the Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD).
4. Assisted with process screen replacements at Heritage Lift Station.
5. General painting at WWTP.
6. Line cleaned 1.5 miles of gravity sewer line on Santiago Rd.

Mr. Ulloa presented the Recycled Water System Summary for Committee review, and he noted that the report would reflect September's data at next month's meeting. Mr. Ulloa also presented the Sewer System Management Plan Quarterly Report for Committee review.

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 6: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Mr. Stroud reviewed the projects and repairs for the prior month, and he reported that Maintenance staff completed the following tasks:

Projects and Repairs

Maintenance staff performed and/or completed the following tasks and projects:

Water Operations

1. Witnessed slip line project start up on DWTP transmission line.

Wastewater Operations

1. Received new dual head air compressor for WWTP.
2. Assisted Wastewater dept with sewer line cleaning on Santiago Canyon Road.

District Fleet Upgrades & Other Projects

1. BIT Program.
2. Prepped Porter Ranch for OCFA USAR training.
3. Received new 200-gallon water tank skid.
4. Received five (5) new small generators: one 5500 watt two 3500 watt and two 2000 watt. These are the smaller job site type used for power tools and loss of power for our telemetry sites.
5. Cleaned up shop and Maintenance yard in preparation for facility tours.

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 7: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS

No other matters were reported.

RECOMMENDATION: None

ADJOURNMENT

Director Anderson adjourned the October 1, 2025 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:20 a.m.