



ROSS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT

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Reopening of Multi-Use Path Along Corte Madera Creek Marks Completion of Historic Sewer Improvement Project

Ribbon Cutting Planned with Community Stakeholders and Leaders

Ross Valley Sanitary District, the 111-year-old sewer agency serving the Ross Valley, will celebrate the completion of a once-in-a-generation capital improvement project that replaced a major force main sewer pipe running along the north-east side of Corte Madera Creek in the Ross Valley.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled for Saturday, December 10, at 11 a.m. will bring together community stakeholders including Friends of Corte Madera Creek Watershed, the Kentfield School District, Marin County Flood Control, local residents and others to celebrate the completion of the project with its many benefits to the community.

The \$9 million dollar construction project, known as the Kentfield Force Main Project, replaced a pipeline installed in the 1970s that serves approximately 60% of the Ross Valley. The old single Techite pipeline was replaced by HDPE, a much more reliable product, and two parallel pipes totaling 7,200 ft, were placed in the berm from Kentfield Pump Station to Bon Air Road. This product will increase capacity and enhance reliability and the overall operational flexibility of the system.

In completing the project, the District worked with Marin County Flood Control and the Friends of Corte Madera Creek Watershed to replace four old culverts along the creek, which allow tidal water to flow into the adjacent wetlands and help protect nearby homes from flooding.

The popular multi-use path running alongside the creek from the bridge at Bon Air Road to the

District's pump station across from Kent Middle School was also refurbished. Along with new asphalt and a crushed quarry running path, the benches have been relocated to make the path ADA compliant and more user-friendly to all.

The Kentfield Force Main construction, which began in June of 2010 along South Eliseo Drive in Greenbrae, was designed to replace an inferior and rigid pipe material called Techite with a new pipe made of flexible, high-density polyethylene (HDPE). The project stabilized the berm in key areas to enhance seismic safety of the berm and the system.

The project also paves the way for the installation of a new flow meter later this year, which will provide important data about both wastewater flows and the amount of unwanted stormwater entering the system from old pipes upstream.

Ross Valley Sanitary District, like water and sewer agencies throughout the nation, is facing a monumental infrastructure challenge to replace aging pipes before they fail. Approximately 85% of the District's public sewer pipes are at or exceeding the end of their useful lives with an estimated replacement cost of \$300 million.