Department of Water Resources Michael L. Peterson, Director



Including service to the Cities of Elk Grove and Rancho Cordova

January 30, 2017

Dear Sacramento County Water Agency Customer:

The Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) will be installing water meters in your community. In 2004, the State Legislature passed Assembly Bill 2572, requiring the installation of a water meters by January 1, 2025, as a condition of water service from all water suppliers. To comply with this mandate, SCWA has initiated a multiphased water meter installation program. The aged and undersized water mains located in the Arden Service Area (ASA) has facilitated pipe material failure and leaks, insufficient fire flows, and various issues for operations and maintenance. The Arden Service Area Distribution System Pipe Realignment and Meter Installation Project (Project) will abandon old pipelines located in backyards, install approximately 38 miles of new distribution pipelines within the street right-of-way, install nearly 3000 new meters, and replace or install new fire hydrants. Implementing this project in your area will help 1) improve reliability 2) meet current fire flow requirements 3) meet pipeline separation standards and 4) lower operation and maintenance costs.

Due to the complexity and size of this Project, the service area has been separated into tentative phases for construction over the next seven years (see phasing map attached). We are currently designing our first phase (Phase1A), with the assistance from our contracted engineering consultant, Domenichelli & Associates (D&A). Construction for Phase1A is anticipated in late 2017 or early 2018, therefore, D&A will begin performing site evaluations (at each home and business) to determine the best location for the meter box. All D&A representatives requiring access to your property and that are working with SCWA will have a badge with a photo I.D. The D&A representative will have an exhibit of your property, to take key notes detailing the conversation concerning your meter. Any concerns with landscape features and preferred areas to avoid should be relayed to D&A. The notes from the exhibit will be incorporated into the design plans to help minimize landscape and paving disturbances during construction, to the extent practicable. An invitation for a public meeting concerning the project will arrive by mail as we approach work in your specific area.

After the meter is installed, you will be placed on a one-year "statistical metering" program. This program is designed to track your water use and provide you with comparative billing, reflecting a metered rate versus the current flat rate. You will remain on a flat water rate during the one-year study period unless you request an early conversion to being billed by metering.

A "Water Metering Information" pamphlet has been provided with this letter to help you understand the installation process and the need for and benefits of metered water billing.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at (916) 876-7191or <u>rochah@saccounty.net</u>. Please visit our website <u>www.scwa.net</u> for up-to-date project information.

Sincerely,

Helen Rocha, P.E. Associate Civil Engineer

*Enclosure* 

