

WATER NEWS



**Our water.
Our future.**

September/October 2022

Paradise Irrigation District

District awarded funding to continue recovery

Better water distribution for customers and more water storage for fireflow demand are some of the results of a \$23.4 million grant just awarded to Paradise Irrigation District. The grant, from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, assists PID with replacement projects that will help the district further recover from the Camp Fire's devastating effects on our community's water system.

Much of the grant will fund the construction of two 1.5 million gallon steel water storage tanks at the site of PID's Reservoir B. Prior to the fire, Reservoir B was a lined tank with a cover; the fire destroyed the cover and lining, meaning the district lost storage of two million gallons of water.

The new tanks will provide up to three million gallons for water storage; the storage is vital to the community because it provides needed fireflow demand as well as better pressure and distribution of water to PID customers. This project is slated to be complete by Fall 2023.

Additionally, the grant provides funding for replacement of the old steel main water line on Almond Street. This project is being completed in cooperation with the Town of

linear feet of water main lines damaged by contaminants in the fire.

"This grant offers needed financial support

**MOVING
FORWARD
WITH PID** 

\$23.4 million grant to fund increased storage, water line replacement

Paradise to fit the timeline of the town's road and sidewalk improvement project.

Funds from the grant will also fund replacement of 8,300 water meters and meter boxes throughout the district as well as 133,000 linear feet of service lateral lines and 79,500

as PID continues the work to restore our community's water distribution system," notes District Manager Tom Lando. "Staff and consultants worked hard to meet the requirements of the grant. We're pleased that the work paid off so well to benefit our community now and in the years to come."

Additional \$6.25 million grant will pay for improvements to Treatment Plant and PID's water distribution system

Multiple improvements to PID's Treatment Plant and water distribution system are in the planning after FEMA notified the district it would receive a \$6.25 million grant. The grant was applied for in 2017.

This project, reads the award, "will reduce the risk of damage to water distribution infrastructure and damage from loss of service due to flood, seismic and storm events." With the grant awarded, the district will begin the process to identify the specific tasks needed to help "harden" the district's Treatment Plant and distribution system against disaster damage.



Watch your water use—save for our future!

FACT:

PID customers are using almost the same total amount of water as they were prior to the Camp Fire—and we have far fewer people in the community today.

Board appoints director

Chris Rehmann was appointed as director for Division 1 during a July 25 special meeting. Rehmann fills the slot vacated with Brian Shaw's resignation.

Rehmann served on PID's Community Relations committee prior to being appointed; he and his wife, Rolawn, were instrumental in a successful May 2021 outreach effort to publicize the district's restoration of "great water" following the effects of the Camp Fire.

Rehmann, an engineer, moved to Paradise in March 2018. His home wasn't destroyed in the fire but their entire 3.5-acre yard burned and they've now replanted it.

"I'm so impressed with the ability of what was once just a sleepy little town's water district to come through the 2018 disaster so successfully," Rehmann says. "I'm excited to be part of helping our community rebuild."



Chris Rehmann, new PID board member

"I'm proud to be part of the PID team that's helping our community rebuild"

Mark Cavalli, a six-year PID employee and foreman for the distribution crew, has known Paradise before the fire and after the fire—and he's eager to see the changes that recovery is bringing to our community.

"I graduated from Paradise High in 2005 so I know the Ridge pretty well," he says. "My partner, Cierra [who works for PID as well] and I lost everything in the fire but it's amazing to see how fast our hometown is coming back. It's especially rewarding to be part of PID these days and be able to serve our customers and give them the best work we can."

Cavalli says the best part of his job are the people he works with. "I go to work happy and I come home happy because the people here are outstanding.



Mark Cavalli, PID foreman

The utility workers are putting in hard work, day in and day out, no matter the weather. I've seen them fix leaks when it's snowing!

"It's amazing the things these guys go through and do. They have the will—and the ability—to just get the job done."

Download Dropcountr app for water alerts now and to monitor water use *(once your meter is in)*

Available for Android and Apple iOS devices. Aim your phone camera here for the link to download!



We're here to help:

Since the Camp Fire, our customers face many unique situations—whether they're staying in a temporary home on their lot, or rebuilding or purchasing a home. Our friendly customer service professionals are eager to help you get into your Paradise home and will help you understand the steps you need to take to get water service. Check our website and Facebook page as well!



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