

## UNWI 9

### **Sylvan Old Auburn Road Neighborhood Association (SOAR) Meeting Recap**

**February 25, 2008**

**7 p.m.**

#### **Attendees**

- Bill Chavez, SRCSD District Project Manager
- Alejandro Salazar, UNWI 9 Field Engineer/Construction Liaison
- Sarah Kennedy, Lucy & Company

There were 19 people in attendance at the February 25<sup>th</sup> SOAR meeting at the Pioneer Baptist Church.

Team representatives provided general background information illustrating the need for the project, which will be putting in new pipelines that are 24 and 36 inches in diameter. The project team also explained that the Districts had previously experienced overflows due to the existing sewer pipelines nearing capacity, which is why this project is crucial.

The team explained that the new pipeline is part of an intricate system of interceptors that will eventually connect to the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant in Elk Grove. Wastewater will flow through the Upper Northwest Interceptor, then the Natomas Pump Station, under the Sacramento River to West Sacramento, and end up at the treatment facility in Elk Grove. The treatment facility processes approximately 150 million gallons of wastewater per day and can handle up to 400 million gallons per day, if necessary.

Representatives explained the project using a photo story board that illustrated the type of construction currently being used, a trenchless or tunneling construction technique. This type of construction was chosen for the majority of the project because it is less disrupting to the surface. The only portion of the project that will use open cut or trenching technique will be between Van Maren Lane and Sylvan Road. The team explained that the project team works closely with the city of Citrus Heights, residents, police, environmental, utilities companies and the department of transportation.

Construction for the UNWI 9 & NEA-1 sections of the project started in June, 2007; currently, 70 percent of the shaft work has been completed. The drilling machine known as "Big Stan" is currently working along Oak Avenue and will be done drilling in that area in April 2008. Phase One, tunneling of the UNWI 9 & NEA-2 segments, is currently under construction. Phase Two, involving tunneling of the NEA-1 segment of this project, will begin early 2009 and will end in fall 2010.

There has been a variety of ways the project team has reached out to the public including: a dedicated project Web site, newsletters, one-on-one and small group meetings, door hangers and magnets. There will continue to be outreach to the public. Team representatives indicated that they want to know when the project inconveniences the public and urged the residents to call the hotline when they have questions or concerns. Team representatives emphasized that their goal is to have as few disruptions to the public as possible.

## Questions

**Question:** Does everything go into one main pipeline?

**Answer:** Yes, smaller pipes feed into the interceptor.

**Question:** Who owns the project?

**Answer:** Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District takes care of the larger pipes. SRCSD and Sacramento Area Sewer District (formerly CSD-1) are partners in the project.

**Question:** When will Sylvan & Van Maren area be completed?

**Answer:** Some activity will occur in April, but most work will be done during the dry season since it will be an open-cut project.

**Question:** Does the open trench method take less time than the tunneling?

**Answer:** The time frame is about the same for both methods, about 40-50 feet per day.

**Question:** How long are the pipes?

**Answer:** For the areas that are tunneled, they are about eight feet long so they can fit in the jacking shaft and tunneling equipment.

**Question:** Do you then turn the pipes 90 degrees?

**Answer:** A crane lowers pipes into the shaft, and the jacking machine pushes the pipes into the ground.

**Question:** How do they get the pipes together?

**Answer:** Pipes are connected with a flushed bell and spigot, piece by piece.

**Question:** Where does the dirt go?

**Answer:** The dirt is processed on site and later pumped up to the surface through slurry lines. Then, dirt is truck out to a disposal site.

**Question:** Will there be any other work besides the sewer lines going in? What are those black pipes we see?

**Answer:** No, the black pipes you see are the slurry lines that pump the extra dirt and water to the surface.

**Question:** Is there a 1/8 or 1/4 inch incline per foot?

**Answer:** There is approximately 1/8 inch per foot, or 2 percent slope.

**Question:** Will the sewage be moved by gravity?

**Answer:** Yes, that is the reason why the line has a very slight drop. Gravity lines are less expensive than building and maintaining pump stations.

**Question:** How deep is the sewer line?

**Answer:** It is between 25-60 feet deep depending on the location.

**Question:** How do you test the pipes?

**Answer:** The construction crew continuously checks the alignment and always knows the exact invert elevation of the pipelines. We test the sections of pipe with water to see if any has drained, which we wouldn't want to happen. The crew also regularly inspects the pipes to check for any cracks or leaks.

**Question:** If the pipe gets clogged, will you have to pump it?

**Answer:** The interceptor line can be accessed through the manholes. Maintenance crews can take care of any clogs or other issues.

**Question:** Once this project is done, will Old Auburn be repaved?

**Answer:** Only the areas that we disrupted by this project, not the entire street.

**Question:** When the storm drain line backed-up at Sylvan Corners, was it a result of this project?

**Answer:** Yes. We were told by several groups the line was abandoned, but in reality it wasn't. We currently have a bypass there but as soon as the dry season comes, we will perform a permanent repair to the line.

**Question:** Was this project on Old Auburn and Fair Oaks during the winter?

**Answer:** Yes, that was NEA-2, part of the UNWI 9 project.

**Question:** When will the project be done?

**Answer:** We are planning for Phase I to be completed in November 2008 and Phase II, the NEA-1 segment, to be completed by the end of 2010.

**Question:** Do they take the corrugated pipe out?

**Answer:** We remove the top 15 feet.

**Question:** Is there enough ventilation for the crews?

**Answer:** Yes, Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) verify all of our working areas are safe. We use an air monitor called a "sniffer" to monitor the air before anyone works. It ensures the oxygen levels are appropriate. We take every precaution to ensure safety for our crews.

**Question:** Will there be construction activity during summer when it is hot?

**Answer:** The summer is the best time to do work. When the weather is wet, like in the winter, it is actually more dangerous.

**Question:** Have there been any injuries?

**Answer:** No, we are doing very well. The contractor has been very well prepared. There are plenty of safety meetings and we take it very seriously.

**Question:** Who is the contractor?

**Answer:** Steve P. Rados is the general contractor.

**Comment:** I think the way this project is set up it doesn't seem like that much of an inconvenience. I think you are doing a really good job. The project looks nice and clean and seems to be going smoothly.