

Water Works

News Update

Riverview Water District

11769 Waterhill Road, Lakeside, CA 92040

619-561-1333

www.riverviewwaterdistrict.com

Water works for you and so do we!

October 2004

Step #2: Riverview and Lakeside Board Members Unanimously approve terms and conditions of merger!



Billie Sangster, Board President of Riverview Water District and Bruce Robertson, Board President of Lakeside Water District exchange signed resolutions setting the terms and conditions of the merger of Riverview and Lakeside Water Districts, which is expected to occur at the end of next year.

An independent study of the merger determined the two water districts would save about \$900,000 a year by consolidating. Customers of Riverview, which has one of the highest water rates in the county, should see a savings of 16 to 26 percent in their water bills.

All employees in both water districts will keep their jobs for 18 months after the merger. Two additional field staff positions will be required to operate the combined districts; one management position will be eliminated.

Two members of the Riverview Board will serve on the five-member Lakeside board, creating a seven-member board. New division boundaries will be drawn up for the district, and it will revert to a five-member board in the 2006 election.

Riverview board members enthusiastically supported the merger despite an advisory vote in November 2000 in which 54 percent of the voters rejected the merger. We're not going against the voters' wishes without a lot of thought and regard including the following components:

- Uniform (lower) rates for Riverview customers, cutting rates 20% – 26%;
- the opportunity to purchase water directly, eliminating Padre Dam's wholesale charges;
- providing better quality water to Riverview and Lakeside customers.

During the previous merger attempt in 2000 these components didn't exist. **The present board views this as a wonderful opportunity for Riverview customers to realize lower rates and enjoy better quality water.**

The independent study indicated there are more similarities in the two small districts than differences! Both districts are well maintained and are already working together, sharing equipment, and sharing staff coverage. Riverview serves 2,125 meters and Lakeside serves 4,700, combined -still a small district compared to industry standards.

After the merger, the combined districts will gain a seat on the County Water Authority board, giving the Lakeside community a voice in decisions about water distribution in the County.

The 3 Components that drive the merger effort!

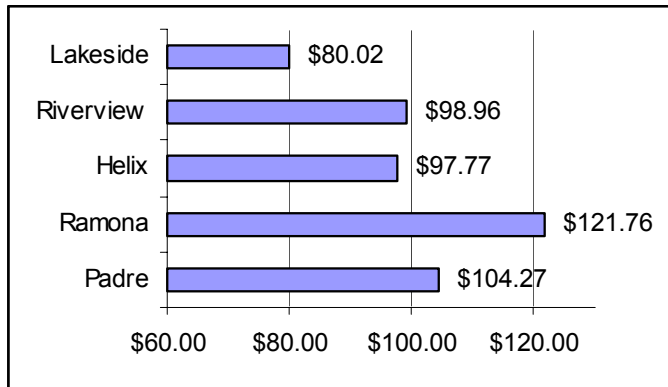
1. Uniform Rates:

Riverview customers' rates will be the same as Lakesides' rates following the merger! **Saving Riverview customers 16 - 26%!**



Average Bi-Monthly Water Bill

Residential 3/4" meter using 40 units (4000 cubic feet)



2. Eliminating a layer of wholesale charges!

After the merger, the combined districts will gain a seat on the County Water Authority board, which will allow them to purchase water directly from the water authority thus eliminating a layer of wholesale cost! The combined districts would obtain water through the new Lakeside-Morena pipeline Helix Water District is installing.



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3. Improved Water Quality

San Diego County's first ozonation water treatment facility has begun cleaning drinking water for local residents at Helix Water Districts' new water treatment plant!



Photo of Chamber
Courtesy of Helix Water

Oxygen passes through an electrical field inside a chamber to become ozone.

Ozone is a molecule consisting of three atoms of oxygen, which is created by running pure oxygen through an electrical charge in a specially designed chamber. **Ozonation improves the taste, color and odor of treated water and provides much better disinfection than chlorine alone.** It reduces the amount of coagulant chemicals needed in the treatment process and significantly reduces chlorination by-products.

Ozone has been used throughout the world for many years and provides a higher quality treatment for drinking water.

For additional information regarding the information contained in this newsletter call: 619-561-1333.

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