

Water re-use studies near completion

Shaffer updated the board on the progress of two water re-use projects being studied. One is sponsored primarily by Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU) and the other by a group of smaller water districts in El Paso County including WWSD. Both projects have a common goal of conveying water from Fountain Creek to consumers in northern El Paso County, but vary in their details, especially the routes for the required pipelines and the storage areas.

The project sponsored by CSU has a draft report completed, Shaffer said, with a final draft expected by the end of March. The draft report does not address the issue of whether pre-treatment of the water before it enters CSU's delivery system will be required, Shaffer said, adding that question must be answered to be able to compare the true costs of the projects.

The study for the project sponsored by WWSD and other districts, often referred to as the "Loop Group," is expected in two to three weeks and should address the issue of required pre-treatment so the costs can be compared on a consistent basis, Shaffer said.

Shaffer explained El Paso County currently has \$20 million in funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) that will be dedicated to water projects. Additional funding from the same source could be available in the future but that is not certain, he said.

Bush said he believed the Town of Monument was solidly behind the project proposed by the Loop Group. He pointed out there are 16 groups competing for the ARPA funds, which could come with constraints, and would need to be evaluated carefully to ensure the costs of accepting the funds don't outweigh the funds themselves. "When it comes to accepting money, be careful what you are buying into," he

said.

Revegetation plans questioned

During the public comment portion of the meeting, John Floria, resident of the Dunes at Woodmoor, asked about the district's plans to replace the trees that had been removed to accommodate the new pipeline installed to move water from Woodmoor Lake to the newly upgraded Central Water Treatment Plant just north of Lewis-Palmer Middle School.

Operations Superintendent Dan LaFontaine said final plans for tree replacement are on hold until the exact alignment of the pipeline is known. He said the district was committed to being a good neighbor and would replace some trees, but the landscaping would not be identical to what it was before the pipeline was installed. The new trees might be smaller than those removed, he said, and would not be installed over the pipeline to allow it to be repaired if necessary.

Developments pick up pace

Shaffer reviewed developments in the district's service area.

Monument Junction 1, located west of Jackson Creek Parkway and south of Highway 105, is being graded, Shaffer said. The developer, Classic Homes, is focusing first on the commercial portion of the development and

is moving rapidly. Monument Junction 2, east of Jackson Creek Parkway, is 60% through its design review and will include 514 single-family equivalent (SFE) residences on 80 acres.

Campbell Homes has purchased lots south of Monument Junction 2 and is currently building homes.

The Cloverleaf residential development, near the intersection of Higby Road

and Jackson Creek Parkway and east of Lewis-Palmer High School is beginning to install water and sewer lines. Shaffer expected lots in the development to be available for sale by August or September.

Shaffer also said Phase A of the Highway 105 reconstruction project, which will widen Highway 105 from Jackson Creek Parkway to Lake Woodmoor Drive, is

due to begin this year and is fully funded. The next phase will widen Highway 105 from Lake Woodmoor Drive to Martingale Road, just east of Furrow Road. The utility relocations required by the work on Highway 105 will require WWSD to adjust its budget, Shaffer said.

Board election will be held

Erin Smith, WWSD's attorney, told the board that three



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