



# MARINA COAST WATER DISTRICT

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### **MARINA COAST WATER DIST. TO ADD 3 MILLION GALLONS OF WATER STORAGE**

*New tanks & booster pump station will replace old Army infrastructure, ensure safe drinking water and fire protection for Marina, Ord Community, CSUMB, & parts of Seaside*

**MARINA, Calif.—March 22, 2021:** The Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) board of directors has approved a critical project to replace aging Army equipment with two 1.6-million-gallon potable water storage tanks (reservoirs) and a new booster pump station (BPS). The project will increase the water storage capacity for MCWD customers by approximately 3 million gallons, and replace a 70-year-old storage tank and BPS built by the Army.

This project—specifically named the “A1/A2 Reservoirs and B/C BPS”—will provide potable storage for drinking water for Central Marina as well as pumping 100% of water to the Ord Community. The site acts as a forebay for the district, conveying water from Zone A and onward to Zones B, C, D and E. Replacement of the site is essential for delivering safe water not only to Central Marina and the Ord Community, but also to California State University—Monterey Bay (CSUMB) and parts of Seaside.

“In essence, every drop of water that comes out of the tap within MCWD will travel through these tanks,” said Derek Cray, MCWD operations and maintenance manager and interim general manager.

In 2018, CSUMB granted MCWD the easements to build the water storage site on an existing parking lot. In addition to supplying drinking water, the increased storage will also remedy the inadequate fire protection afforded by the severely undersized current water tank, which holds only 167,000 gallons. The A1/A2 reservoirs will provide adequate storage capacity for district fire flows and create essential redundancy in the district’s water delivery systems.

“This project is long overdue,” said Cray. “This exciting upgrade will benefit all of our ratepayers by providing safe water and fire protection for decades.”

The current tank (known as the “Sand Tank”) as well as the old B/C BPS was installed by the military prior to 1960 and likely without permits. For years, MCWD staff has worked overtime ensuring the station remains operational until a replacement can be built. Most of its parts are original from the 1950s, and are no longer replaceable.

“District staff has done a great job of holding together the existing infrastructure built by the Army,” said Cray. “However, there is only so much we can do to keep repairing the same site.”

Funds for the \$15 million project are already in place via developer capacity fees, bond funds, and ratepayer funds. The project will be built north of Inter-Garrison Road between 5<sup>th</sup> and 6th Avenues, next the City of Marina’s Corp. Yard. For additional details about the A1/A2 Reservoirs and B/C BPS project, please visit <https://www.mcwd.org/>.

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### **About Marina Coast Water District**

The Marina Coast Water District (MCWD) was formed in 1960 as the Marina County Water District by a group of local citizens. It was first a municipal-owned water system with boundaries to coincide with the existing Marina Fire District. In 1966, voters authorized the sale of water bonds to acquire a public-owned water company serving the area. With the closure of the Fort Ord military base in 1997, the Army contracted MCWD to operate its water and wastewater systems and, in 2001, officially transferred the systems to MCWD. MCWD has since improved water distribution and storage efficiency while decreasing operating costs. Today, MCWD is governed by a five-member board of directors elected by the voters. For more information, please visit [www.mcwd.org](http://www.mcwd.org).