



## City of Santa Maria Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project - Phase 2

### Prop 50 Funding

In a competitive grant for Integrated Regional Water Management monies under Proposition 50, the City was awarded \$4.8 million by the State Water Resources Control Board. The \$11.8 million balance of funding was provided by the City of Santa Maria Wastewater and Growth Mitigation Funds. The total project cost was \$16.6 million.

### Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Expansion Project – Phase 2

In order to maintain service levels and protect public health, the capacity of the facility was expanded from 9.5 MGD to 13.5 MGD to accommodate the existing community and expected growth as laid out in the City of Santa Maria's General Plan.

The City's main source of water is a blend of State Water Project (SWP) water and groundwater. The WWTP Expansion Project provides effluent, treated to secondary level, further filtered through percolation ponds to the groundwater basin at a 65 percent reliability factor. The reliability factor is the percentage of the water that filters to the groundwater basin. This system improves the overall groundwater quality and reduces the demand on imported State Water Project water.

State Water Project recharge from this project provides return flows for water supply to the surrounding community such as Orcutt. The project consisted of:

- New percolation ponds
- New structures – primary clarifier, primary trickling filter, digester, digester control building, percolation pond pump station, emergency generator, and asphalt sludge drying beds.
- Modifications to existing structures – headworks, grit chamber, primary trickling filter pump station, secondary trickling filter, digester control building, primary clarifier No. 1 bridge replacement.
- New field piping and electrical duct bank construction; and
- Electrical, instrumentation, mechanical, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning construction, and supervisory control and data acquisition improvements.

The WWTP Expansion Project continued a long-term Utilities Master Plan project designed to meet the City's wastewater needs through 2016. The expansion project also provided upgrades to the existing facilities to maintain service levels, sustain projected growth, and meet sewage treatment capabilities consistent with the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) requirements.

### Project Completion and Success

The project was completed in March 2010. The project improves overall groundwater quality as well as reduces the demand on the State Water Project.