

Tahoe City Public Utility District

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For Immediate Release

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Investing in Solutions for the Taxpayers

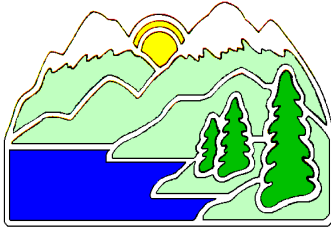
Tahoe City, CA – 10/21/13–

Tahoe City Public Utility District (TCPUD) recently invested over \$600,000 of property tax revenue to build a transmission line and bring a small, mutual water system into the public system. Customers in the Tahoma Meadows subdivision, near Tahoma, CA, now have safe drinking water that meets all State and Federal standards.

Tahoma Meadows Mutual Water Company (TMMWC) is a small public water system supplying drinking water and fire suppression to 47 residential water customers in the Tahoma Meadows subdivision. This water system, like many small systems, had many deficiencies including inadequate fire flow, no backup power, and insufficient water storage. TMMWC also had water quality issues and was under a compliance order from Placer County Health and Human Services for exceeding the Arsenic Maximum Contaminant level. These challenges presented a significant hardship for a water system with such a small customer base.

TMMWC initially requested that the public water system directly adjacent to TMMWC, the McKinney Water District, take ownership of their water system. The McKinney Water District Board of Directors were opposed, and TMMWC became caught without having a nearby water source. TMMWC then approached the TCPUD for assistance. The TCPUD Board of Directors recognized their difficult situation and realized that the taxpayers within this small mutual water system needed tax support.

“TCPUD was a god send and wonderful to work with every step of the way,” shared Jim Olson, President of the TMMWC. “With our aging infrastructure, and compliance issues, we didn’t want to be in the water business anymore and the TCPUD was the best solution to provide safe drinking water to our customers.”



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TCPUD first invested in a feasibility study of possible solutions to provide safe, reliable water to the existing TMMWC customers. It was concluded that the construction of a pipeline to interconnect the TMMWC system with TCPUD's water system was the best solution. Additionally, the extension of this pipeline is consistent with TCPUD's goal to provide regional water solutions to all of the District's taxpayers.

In 2012, the TCPUD Board agreed to acquire TMMWC and undertook the first phase of the project. New pipeline was installed as part of a joint project with the McKinney Water District. There were cost savings and reduced construction disturbance associated with combining the project under one contractor.

In the summer of 2013, TCPUD completed the final step in the TMMWC water system acquisition process and installed a new water pipeline to connect TMMWC's existing system to the TCPUD's distribution system. This project assures that all property owners in the Tahoma Meadows water system area have a safe and reliable source of drinking water that is in compliance with State regulations and fire suppression.

"We appreciate the Tahoe City Public Utility District's level of commitment to help these customers. There wasn't a solution without their assistance," commented Vicki Ramsey from Placer County Environmental Health Services.

Tony Laliotis, TCPUD's Director of Utilities, worked closely with TMMWC throughout the entire acquisition process. Laliotis stated, "The board members and customers from Tahoma Meadows Mutual Water Company have been great to work with every step of the way. Their cooperation helped ensure that the acquisition and transition into our District was a seamless process."

TCPUD has invested a total of \$730,000 in the Tahoma Meadows water system, a portion of which was grant funded through the US Forest Service's Lake Tahoe Fire Protection Partnership program.

About the TCPUD

The Tahoe City Public Utility District provides water, sewer and recreation services within its service area. The boundaries of the District lie within both Placer and El Dorado Counties, extending from Emerald Bay to Dollar Hill, and along the Truckee River to the Nevada County line. Sewer collection, parks facilities, and recreation services are provided for the entire area of the District. Water service is provided in five separate systems and serves approximately half of the homes and businesses in the District. For additional information, call Kelli Twomey at 530.580.6338 or send an email to ktwomey@tcpud.org.