

**Santa Cruz County Sanitation District
New Brighton/Seacliff Beaches Sewer Line Replacement Project
Grant Agreement No: 06-354-550-1**

The primary purpose of this project is to protect beach water quality and public health by removing the threat of a massive raw sewage spill from a pressurized line buried under sand along the beach.

New Brighton and Seacliff State Beaches are two of the most heavily used beaches along the Central Coast. These beautiful beaches lure swimmers, campers, surfers and other enthusiasts from throughout the state on a year round basis. Seacliff State Beach documented 2,500,998 visitors from July 2001 to June 2002. New Brighton State Beach recorded 1,602,834 beach visitors during the same period. The project area and adjacent beaches comprise 15 of the County's 29 miles of coastline.

The Aptos Transmission Sewer, which transports 1.5 million gallons per day of raw sewage, has had a troublesome history since its construction in 1979. A significant portion of the pressurized line is buried in approximately 12 feet of sand and rock along the New Brighton and Seacliff State Beaches. The beach area portion of the sewer line has had numerous documented problems with spills, ruptures, flotation, sagging of the line, odors and structural collapse. The line has ruptured or overflowed at least four times, spilling raw sewage onto the beaches and into the Monterey Bay Sanctuary. Exposure to waves and coastal erosion has caused expensive annual repairs and other remedial efforts including the placement of nearly 10,000 tons of riprap armoring.

The sewer line is currently flattened and deformed under portions of the sandy beach, and video testing confirms that it could rupture at any time. Eliminating this threat is the highest priority for the Santa Cruz County Sanitation District. If the sewer line breaks in its current beach location, it will cause a massive sewage spill. With the relocation of the sewer line and new pump stations with SCADA alarm systems, we anticipate that the number of direct sewage discharges from the transmission main and pump stations will be reduced or eliminated. Additionally, with the installation of the SCADA system and increased capacity in wet wells, any sewage spills will be contained and recovered more quickly.

The Santa Cruz County Sanitation District is using the Clean Beaches Grant to offset the cost of Phase 1 of New Brighton/Seacliff Beaches Sewer Line Replacement Project. Other funding including grants and an SRF Loan will fund Phase 2. The total project, expected to cost \$18- \$19 million, consists of abandoning and relocating more than three thousand (3,000) linear feet of sewer force main from the two public beaches, renovating two pump stations, demolishing one pump station, constructing one new pump station, and relocating a sewage collection system for New Brighton Beach State Park and Campground. The Phase 1 work includes: construction of the force main on Park Avenue, McGregor Drive, State Park Drive and the Beach Access Road; construction of

the Pot Belly Beach (New Brighton State Beach) gravity sewer main and pump station; construction of the force main and power controls/conduit in New Brighton Road; and construction of the Tannery Gulch force main and pump station.

The grant agreement was finalized in June 2007 and amended in September 2008 to reflect a minor change in the budget categories and a new timeline for the project. In 2007 and early 2008, the District finalized critical easements with State Parks and the Pot Belly Beach Homeowners Association. The initial study, biotic assessment, arborist report and archeological report were updated and revised in September 2008. The draft Mitigated Negative Declaration was submitted to County Planning in March 2008 and revised and resubmitted in September 2008. The 12 permit applications have been completed and 7 of 12 have been submitted. The City of Capitola is waiting for the updated Initial Study, to submit for approval of the Coastal Permit.

The project is being designed by Harris and Associates Engineers with significant input from District engineers. Progress has been slower than anticipated due to a complex CEQA review, issues with permits and coordination, and design challenges. However, these have been resolved for the most part, and we anticipate steady progress in the last quarter of 2008 and throughout 2009. Construction documents are now 95% complete and the project will be advertised in March 2009. We anticipate that Phase 1 will be complete no later than August 2009.

Monitoring: The monitoring plan was submitted in January 2008. The Sanitation District will use three methods to confirm that the project is producing the desired environmental results: 1) as-built drawings and field verification of improvements; 2) monitoring of historical and recent sanitary sewer overflow data; and 3) monitoring of historical and recent beach closure data.

Partnerships and Coordination: The Santa Cruz County Sanitation District will continue to work in partnership with California State Parks as this project is implemented. The project should remedy the situation so that no other structural improvements to the sewage collection system will be needed to protect water quality in the immediate vicinity of the beach.

Photo 1 - New Brighton State Beach Looking South towards Seacliff Beach



Budgeted Total Project Cost	Prop 40	Match	Total
Personnel Services		\$132,606	\$132,606
Professional & Consultant Services		\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000
Construction	\$1,732,877	\$10,482,123	\$12,200,000
Total	\$1,732,877	\$13,614,729	\$15,347,606