

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM REPORT FOR MEETING OF: April 1, 2025

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**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers  
**From:** Mark Rincón-Ibarra, Public Works Director/City Engineer  
**Subject:** Approval of Letter of Support for the City of Santa Rosa Community Project Funding Request

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Approve the letter of support for the City of Santa Rosa Community Project funding for the Llano Trunk Sewer Line project and authorize the Mayor to sign the letter on behalf of the Council.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The City of Santa Rosa received a 2022 Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) authorization and is applying for a federal earmark for construction of Phase 1 of the Llano Trunk Sewer Lining project. The trunk sewer provides approximately half the flow to the Laguna Treatment Plant. The City of Santa Rosa treats wastewater at the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant from Santa Rosa and the Subregional partner agencies, including the City of Sebastopol. The wastewater is conveyed via the Llano Trunk Sewer Line and the line needs rehabilitation and repair.

Similar to the City of Santa Rosa’s request last year, Santa Rosa is reaching out to all of the Subregional partners requesting a letter of support for the project (Attachment 1). Santa Rosa is in the process of working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to get the design and environmental review phases in their workplan. This earmark would provide funding to begin construction on the project.

**BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:**

The City of Santa Rosa Water Department (Santa Rosa Water) delivers approximately six billion gallons of drinking water annually, to over 54,000 customer accounts, and operates the sanitary sewer system, serving over 49,000 customer accounts, for a population of over 178,000. Santa Rosa Water also operates the Santa Rosa Regional Water Reuse System, which services businesses and residents in Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Cotati, Sebastopol, and unincorporated portions of Sonoma County. The hub of the reuse system is the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Llano Trunk sewer line is a wastewater conveyance system and is identified in the Santa Rosa Water’s Sewer Master Plan as the most critical wastewater infrastructure project because the trunk line transports significant flow to the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant via large diameter pipelines and are in environmentally critical areas, under paved roadways, and along sewer easements.

The proposed project would improve deficient wastewater conveyance and treatment facilities. Several of the City’s large-diameter trunk sewers require urgent rehabilitation to avoid catastrophic failure, which would interrupt the Regional Water Reuse System that serves approximately 230,000 residents in Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Cotati, Sebastopol, and unincorporated portions of Sonoma County. A project description and project map are found in Attachment 2.

**STAFF ANALYSIS:**

Federal funding for the Llano Trunk Sewer Line project would benefit Santa Rosa and the Subregional partners from a financial standpoint. In addition, the proposed project would prevent a catastrophic failure that would

interrupt the System’s ability to serve businesses and approximately 230,000 residents in Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Sebastopol, Cotati and unincorporated portions of Sonoma County.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH:**

As of the writing of this staff report, the City has not received any public comment. However, staff anticipate receiving public comment from interested parties following the publication and distribution of this staff report. Such comments will be provided to the City Council as supplemental materials before or at the meeting. In addition, public comments may be offered during the public comment portion of the agenda item. This item has been noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None.

**OPTIONS:**

The letter could be revised if Council wishes to add verbiage or modified language.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Letter of Support
2. Project Description and Map

APPROVALS:

Department Head Approval: Approval Date: 3/17/25  
CEQA Determination (Planning): Approval Date: 3/18/25

The proposed action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Administrative Services (Financial) Approval Date: N/A

Costs authorized in City Approved Budget:  Yes  No  N/A

Account Code (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

City Attorney Approval: Approval Date: N/A

City Manager Approval: Approval Date: 3/18/25

**City Council**

Mayor Stephen Zollman  
Vice Mayor Jill McLewis  
Phill Carter  
Neysa Hinton  
Sandra Maurer

**City Manager**

Don Schwartz  
dschwartz@cityofsebastopol.gov  
**Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC**  
Mary Gourley  
mgourley@cityofsebastopol.gov

**City of Sebastopol**

April 1, 2025

The Honorable Mike Thompson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
268 Cannon Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Thompson:

I am writing to express the City of Sebastopol's support for the City of Santa Rosa's Community Project Funding request for the Llano Trunk sewer line rehabilitation project, which aligns with the City of Santa Rosa's 2025 Federal Legislative Platform.

With your leadership the Water Resources Development Act of 2022 was passed into law, which includes an environmental infrastructure authorization for Santa Rosa's water and wastewater infrastructure projects.

The City of Santa Rosa Water Department (Santa Rosa Water) delivers approximately six billion gallons of drinking water annually, to over 54,000 customer accounts, and operates the sanitary sewer system, serving over 49,000 customer accounts, for a population of over 178,000. Santa Rosa Water also operates the Santa Rosa Regional Water Reuse System, which services approximately 230,000 residents in Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Cotati, Sebastopol, and unincorporated portions of Sonoma County. The hub of the reuse system is the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Llano Trunk sewer line is identified in the Santa Rosa Water's Sewer Master Plan as the most critical wastewater infrastructure project because the trunk lines transport significant flow to the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant via large diameter pipelines and are in critical areas, under paved roadways, and along sewer easements.

Santa Rosa's Regional Llano Trunk Line project is critical to strengthening the region's water resiliency.

We kindly request your consideration of the City's request.

Sincerely,

Stephen Zollman  
Mayor

**Project Location:** City of Santa Rosa, CA (Sonoma County)

**Non-federal sponsor:** City of Santa Rosa

**Authorization:**

Section 8375 of [Public Law 117-263](#) (HR 7776)

“(302) SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA.—\$19,400,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure, in the city of Santa Rosa California.”

**Project Description:**

The proposed project would improve deficient wastewater conveyance and treatment facilities. Several of the City’s large-diameter trunk sewers require urgent rehabilitation to avoid catastrophic failure, which would interrupt the Regional Water Reuse System that serves approximately 230,000 residents in Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Cotati, Sebastopol, and unincorporated portions of Sonoma County.

The Llano Trunk sewer line is identified in the City’s Sewer Master Plan as the City’s most critical wastewater infrastructure because the trunk lines transport significant flow to the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant, the hub of the Regional Reuse System, via large diameter pipelines and are located in environmentally critical areas, under paved roadways, along sewer easements, and adjacent to other infrastructure that is in the lower income residential and agricultural areas of our community.

On average, during dry weather, the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant receives 14 million gallons per day (MGD) of wastewater from the region and has seen flows peak at over 90 MGD during large storms. With the predicted prevalence of less frequent, but more intense storms, there is significant concern that the added flows during these events can add stress to our already decaying infrastructure leading to costly and environmentally damaging failure.

**Project Benefits:**

Many critical components of Santa Rosa’s infrastructure are currently needing repair or replacement to avoid catastrophic failure. Santa Rosa currently has approximately 48,000 linear feet of sewer trunk lines that need rehabilitation. The estimated cost for rehabilitation is over \$77 million.

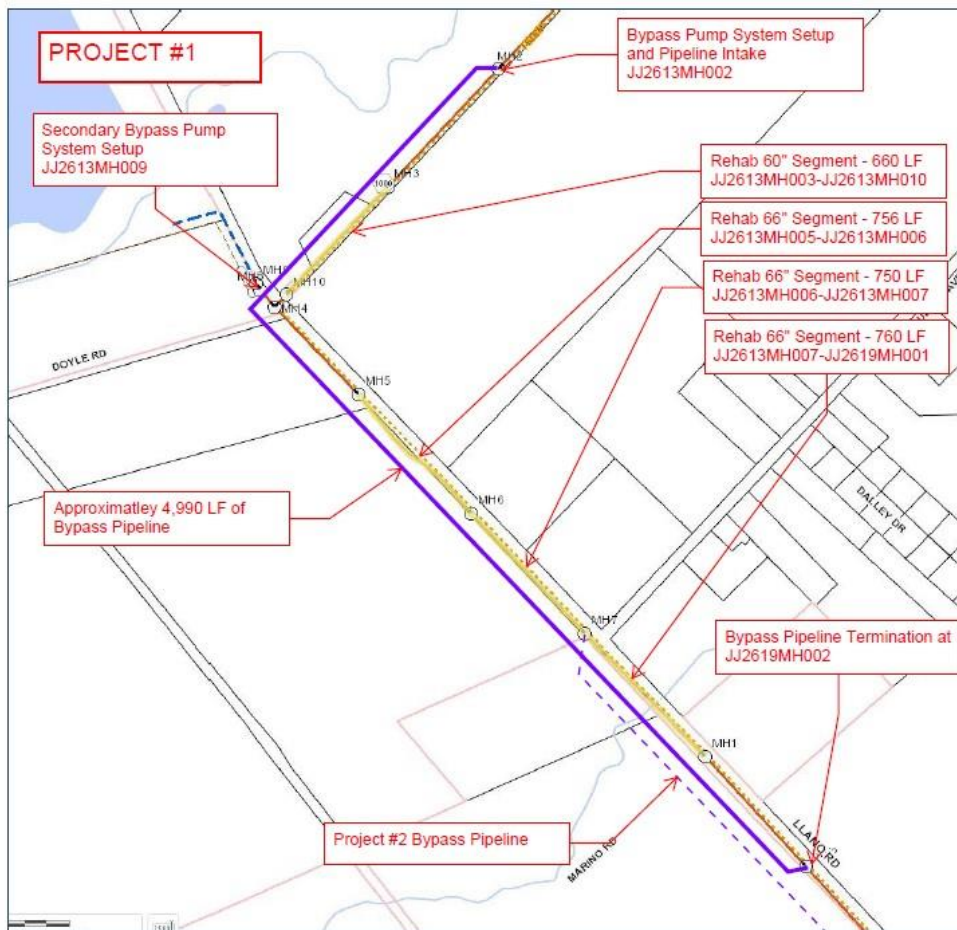
Funding for this project is crucial for increasing our capacity to repair and replace trunk lines prior to failure and to maintain affordable and essential sewer service for the health and safety of the region’s residents and businesses and to strengthen the local economy, preserve and protect our natural environment, address climate change, and preserve the region’s recycled water supply.

Annually approximately two billion gallons of recycled wastewater from the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant is used for agriculture and urban irrigation and over four billion gallons is sent to the Geysers steamfields via a 41-mile pipeline to recharge the steamfields, which produce approximately 100 megawatts of clean and renewable energy, or enough power

for 100,000 households in Sonoma and other North Bay counties. Santa Rosa’s ability to provide recycled water for agricultural and urban irrigation and to the Geysers steamfields would be severely curtailed if these identified trunk lines fail.

**FY24 Funding: Total Cost, \$5.9 million**

This project is part of the City’s Llano Trunk line and will rehabilitate four segments (approximately 2,296 linear feet) of existing 60" and 66" Reinforced Concrete Pipe (RCP) sewer trunk with cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) from Manholes JJ2613MH003 to JJ2619MH001, excepting two (2) previously lined pipe segments between Manholes JJ2613MH010 and JJ2613MH005. In addition, five manholes will be rehabilitated with epoxy coating. A sewer bypass system will be installed to intercept and route sewer flows around the segments to be rehabilitated. Bypass pumps will be installed to intercept flow at Manhole JJ2613MH002, one manhole upstream of JJ2613MH003. The bypass pipeline will generally follow the trunk alignment and terminate one manhole downstream of the project at Manhole JJ2619MH002. A secondary bypass pumping system will be needed at Manhole JJ2613MH008 to intercept sewer flows from the City of Sebastopol. It is anticipated that 2 pumping systems and approximately 4,990 linear feet of bypass pipeline will be required. Environmental mitigation for endangered species habitat will be required along the entire length of the project. A map of the first project is below for reference and a detailed budget estimate.



**Project #1 JJ2613MH003 to JJ2619MH001 (4 segments)**

Item No.	Estimated Qty	Unit	Bid Item Description	Unit Price	Extension
1	1	LS	Mobilization/Demobilization	\$126,483	\$126,483
2	1	LS	County Encroachment Permit	\$1,500	\$1,500
3	1	LS	Temporary Traffic Control and Maintenance	\$15,000	\$15,000
4	1	LS	Environmental Mitigation*	\$515,393	\$515,393
5	4	EA	Potholing	\$1,200	\$4,800
6	1	LS	Site Restoration	\$10,000	\$10,000
7	5	EA	Manhole Rehabilitation with Epoxy Coating	\$15,300	\$76,500
8	4592	LF	Pre-CIPP Rehabilitation CCTV Inspection	\$7	\$32,144
9	2296	LF	Pre-CIPP Sewer Cleaning	\$40	\$91,840
10	2296	LF	CIPP Liner Rehabilitation of 66-inch Trunk Sewer	\$770	\$1,767,920
11	2296	LF	Post-CIPP Rehabilitation CCTV Inspection	\$7	\$16,072
12	1	LS	Sanitary Sewer Bypass	\$676,689	\$676,689
				<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$3,334,341
				Escalation to January 2023 Dollars	\$3,755,136
				Engineering	10% \$375,514
				Inspection/CM	12% \$450,616
				Permitting/Administration	5% \$187,757
				Planning Level Contingency	30% \$1,126,541
				<b>TOTAL</b>	\$5,900,000
				<b>Construction cost</b>	\$4,900,000
				<b>Capital cost</b>	\$5,900,000

\* Mitigation estimate based on 20-feet of width from beginning to end of bypass system - approximately 4,990 feet and a mitigation cost of \$225K/acre.