



CITY OF RIO VISTA

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August 5, 2015

Ms. Cheryl Clower
Administrative Assistant to the Grand Jury
Hall of Justice
600 Union Street
Fairfield, CA 94533

RE: Grand Jury Inquiry for Mitigating Water Loss

Dear Ms. Clower:

The City of Rio Vista is responding to the request for data and information regarding the City's mitigating water loss. The City does continual improvements for the City's potable water system by doing repair and replacement of water pipelines, rehab of water storage tanks, and wells as part of mitigating water loss.

The following responses are to the findings as requested in the letter from the Grand Jury dated May 21, 2015:

1. **Finding 1** – Not all of the cities are conducting regularly scheduled water audits. **Recommendation 1** – **Each city conduct routine water audits in order to improve control of water loss and for water supply planning.** The City of Rio Vista just completed an audit of the meters and potable water system and presented the findings and report to the City Council in January 2015. The City also has a consultant that does ground water monitoring of the City wells for better future water supply planning.
2. **Finding 2** – All cities face deteriorating water delivery infrastructure. **Recommendation 2** – **Each City identify and replace aging infrastructure.** The City has spent over \$2 million replacing aging equipment, meters, pipelines, and valves, etc. since 2010. The has approved a rate increase for both sewer and water rates in 2009-10, and the City has been doing both sewer and water replacement projects since 2010. There is current project that will be soon under construction to replace both old sewer and water pipelines in the older part of Rio Vista.
3. **Finding 3** – All the cities have identified under-recording water meters as a cause of apparent water loss. **Recommendation 3** – **Each city comply with programs to address inaccurate reading water meters.** The City currently has a Request for Proposals (RFP) to install new meters for houses that do not have one, and replace non-operating meters too. The City expects to select a company to do this work in October 2015, and start the construction and installation of new meters in November 2015.

4. **Finding 4** – All the cities have developed water loss mitigation and conservation programs that serve their communities. **Recommendation 4** – **Each City enforce and continue expanding water conservation measures for residential and business consumers.** The City just adopted a new ordinance to meet the new State requirements for water conservation in June 2015, and currently has a FRP out for proposals for installation of new meters, replacing old water meters, and water lateral pipelines as needed. The plan in F/Y 2015-16 is for the City to do a water meter installation and replacement project to better manage the water distribution and production losses. The City has installed a demonstration garden at the City's Airport that helps promote water conservation and shows the type of plant materials that do well in the Rio Vista environment. We also sent out water conservation notices in the utility billings about the new ordinance, and about the demonstration garden.

Should you have any questions regarding these responses, please contact me at (707) 374 -6451, or via email at tchapa@ci.rio-vista.ca.us.

Sincerely,



Tim Chapa
City Manager
City of Rio Vista