

Issues & Insights

Ventura County's
supply of water news



Local Impact: Creating a Resilient Water Future for Our Cities

United Water Conservation District (UWCD) is committed to enhancing Ventura County's water resources. The District works with with local cities and agencies to implement sustainable water supply projects. We play an active, collaborative role to ensure a reliable water supply reaches the cities that need it most.

On average, our Oxnard-Hueneme Pipeline system (OH Pipeline) supplies about 12,000 acre-feet annually, or 3.9 billion gallons of water, to several agencies in the Oxnard Plain. This water is used by the cities of Oxnard and Port Hueneme and several mutual water companies, and Naval Base Ventura County.

Through the OH Pipeline and our customer agencies, UWCD delivers water to nearly 265,000 people on the Oxnard Plain. Most of this water is treated or blended with other supplies.

We partner with cities on innovative projects to support the region's water needs, from enhancing water quality to building a near drought-proof recycled water supply. Learn more below.



Project Partnerships Driving Sustainability



United and Pleasant Valley County Water District

UWCD, in collaboration with Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) and Pleasant Valley County Water District (PVCWD), has successfully completed the construction of a 3,300-foot pipeline along Laguna Road (Phase 1). This pipeline connects the Pumping Trough Pipeline (PTP) and PVCWD Pipeline systems, creating an important interconnection that bolsters water sustainability in the region while increasing operational flexibility for both systems.

Currently, this interconnection pipeline would deliver up to 1,000 acre-feet-per-year (AFY), or 325 million gallons annually, of recycled water to the PTP system. As part of the second phase, UWCD plans to construct a new pump station to further expand recycled water delivery capacity to 4,000 AFY.

This collaborative effort between UWCD, PVCWD, the City of Oxnard and FCGMA, introduces a new drought-resilient recycled water supply to the PTP system and reduces reliance on groundwater pumping. Recycled water, produced by the City of Oxnard's Advanced Water Purification Facility, supports local growers and promotes sustainable water conservation practices.

The project has been made possible through significant state and federal grant funding, totaling \$5 million. UWCD extends its gratitude to the Department of Water Resources' 2021 Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program (SGMA Implementation Round 1 grant) for the Oxnard and Pleasant Valley Basins and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Conservation Innovation Grant.

Rice Avenue and Fifth Street Railroad Grade Separation Project

UWCD is supporting the City of Oxnard on their Rice Avenue/Fifth Street/SR-34 Grade Separation over Union Pacific Railroad Project to enhance safety, reduce congestion, and improve access to the Port of Hueneme.



The centerpiece of the Project is a six-lane bridge designed to separate Rice Avenue from the Fifth Street/State Route 34 intersection and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks, significantly improving commuter safety. The project also includes new traffic signals, bicycle lanes, sidewalks, and ADA improvements. Funded by \$134.5 million in state and federal grants, construction began in March 2025 and is expected to be completed by 2029. The Project's impact on UWCD's PTP system includes the need for a temporary construction easement of 1,436 square feet and a permanent easement of 3,000 square feet at PTP Well Site

No. 4. Once construction is completed, the temporary construction easement will revert to UWCD, while the permanent easement will reduce the site's footprint. To preserve the original site footprint, the County of Ventura intends to transfer an adjacent parcel to UWCD.

The new bridge will also affect approximately 800 feet of PTP's mainline along Rice Avenue between Sturgis Road and Fifth Street. Through a utility relocation agreement with the City of Oxnard and support from Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin, UWCD has secured a \$2 million grant to fund the reconstruction of this segment of the PTP pipeline.

District staff and City of Oxnard staff continue to meet frequently to ensure project construction plan alignment and address PTP impacts

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