

Continuing Our Commitment to Sustainability

**FALL 2020** 

## IMPROVING RESILIENCY THROUGH ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY

# BESP: THE DISTRICT'S GUIDE TO ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

#### PROPOSED PHASED TIMELINE

**Biosolids Energy Roadmap** 

YEAR 10-20

CHP unit

On September 3, 2019, the District's Board adopted a comprehensive **Biosolids and Energy Strategic Plan (BESP)** to determine the best combination of biosolids treatment, disposal, and energy recovery improvements to move the District toward its vision of energy sustainability.

The District's BESP provides a roadmap to energy sustainability, implemented in a phased timeline. The first phase of the BESP includes a new digester, a combined heat and power (CHP) system, and biogas storage. These improvements together allow GSD to produce and harvest more energy and use it to

power our facilities.

PHASE 1: Install new digester and CHP unit to convert biogas to energy. PHASE 2:
Install highstrength waste
receiving
station to
increase gas
and energy
production.

The BESP is our energy independence strategy to be implemented over the next 5–10 years. These improvements will help the District achieve this vision.

PHASE 3: Install thermal dryer to produce Class A biosolids and reduce hauling costs. PHASE 2

YEAR 3

YEAR 3

PHASE

#### **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- District Service Rates Remain Low
- What is a Sewer Lateral?
- Energy-Creating Pilot Project Saves Money

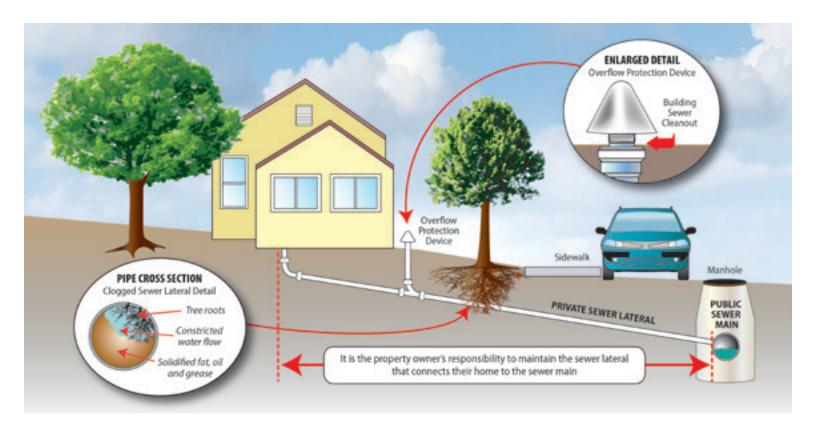




# WHAT IS A SEWER LATERAL, AND WHY DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT IT?

A sewer lateral is a sewer pipe that runs from inside your home's plumbing (sinks, toilets, showers, etc.) out of your house and connects to a main District sewer line. As the homeowner, you are responsible for maintaining and cleaning your lateral and any clogs or blockages which occur within the lateral. People often contact the District when a blockage occurs. If a clog in the lateral is the culprit, you need to contact a plumber who specializes in sewer blockages to help clear your lateral.

If the clog occurs within the main sewer line, it is the responsibility of the District. This is why we have a rigorous schedule of cleaning of all the sewer lines throughout the service area to prevent sewer overflows and to protect the environment.



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# FOG

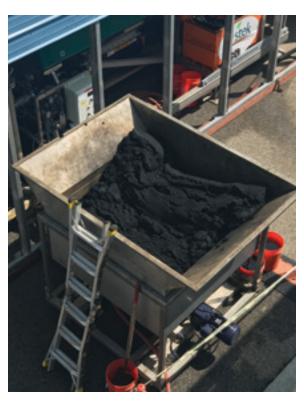




As hard as it is to believe, the holidays will be here before you know it, and most of us are cooking at home more than ever. Remember to pour your cooking fat, oil and grease into a container, like a used jar or can, then throw it in the trash. FOG (fat, oil and grease) is bad because it can solidify and plug your sewer pipes leading to a sewer overflow or spill.



Sewer pipe clogged with FOG.



### ENERGY-CREATING PILOT PROJECT SAVES MONEY

The District is embarking on an exciting new pilot project that has the potential to create more energy and reduce the amount of biosolids material we currently have to haul off-site. In the wastewater treatment process, energy is created through the digestion of organic material by helpful bacteria, leaving a substance known as biosolids.

These digested biosolids are typically hauled off-site for reuse. These same biosolids can be further processed and sent back to the digesters a second time to produce more gas and energy, while reducing the amount hauled away. The result is that we'll haul fewer biosolids off-site in trucks, and we'll reduce our demand for grid energy. This helps the environment by reducing greenhouse gases (GHGs), and it lowers GSD's cost for hauling and electricity.



#### **GoletaSanitary.org**

1 William Moffett Place Goleta, CA 93117

805-967-4519 Mon–Thur 8:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Friday 8:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. 805-564-7259 (after hours)

info@goletasanitary.org

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Sharon Rose, President George W. Emerson Steven T. Majoewsky Jerry D. Smith Robert O. Wageneck

#### **GENERAL MANAGER**

Steve Wagner, P.E.

#### **BOARD MEETINGS**

1 st and 3rd Mondays of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Goleta Sanitary District Board Room 1 William Moffett Place Goleta, CA 93117

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

We protect public health and the environment through cost-effective wastewater collection, treatment, and resource recovery to meet present and future community needs.

#### **VISION STATEMENT**

To be the region's leader in water resource recovery through excellence and innovation.

#### **VALUES STATEMENT**

We value our community, the people we serve, and the environment we protect by:

- Acting with integrity
- Being dependable
- Being responsible
- Being safe and
- Being innovative.



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## IMPROVING RESILIENCY THROUGH ENERGY SUSTAINABILITY

DISTRICT CONTINUES TO REDUCE ITS CARBON FOOTPRINT

The District completed an assessment to determine the amount of greenhouse gases (GHG) it creates during the treatment process. The assessment gives staff a baseline by which to measure our greenhouse gas emissions from our operations. The assessment is used to monitor and track the District's efforts in reducing its carbon footprint.

The good news: **the District has already reduced the amount of GHGs it produces by over two million pounds since 2015.** This reduction is equivalent to taking 33 cars permanently off the road. The reduction was achieved by a variety of improvements including: installing energy-saving lighting, reducing the size of certain electrical equipment, modifying the treatment process to reduce the amount of chemicals used, and more.

Additional planned improvements will reduce the District's carbon footprint by an additional 1.4 million pounds of gas. The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory assessment serves as a guide for the District to help meet our strategic goals of energy self-sufficiency and continued environmental stewardship.

# MEDICATION DISPOSAL

Do you have left-over or expired medication? Don't throw it down your drain; take it to one of the convenient drop-off locations in the greater Goleta/ Santa Barbara area.



Remember, only three things are safe to flush: **PEE**, **POOP**, and **TOILET PAPER**. For a list of all of the drop-off locations in Santa Barbara County, or for more information, visit https://med-project.org/locations/santa-barbara/.

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