


July 20, 2022

TO: Chair and Members of the Board of Directors

FROM: James D. Herberg 
General Manager

SUBJECT: July Status Report

The following status report is submitted for your review and consideration.

1. Public and Environmental Health

OC Beaches Ranked Best in State

Heal the Bay released their [2021-2022 Beach Report Card](#) and for the second year in a row, Orange County beaches top the honor roll list. To receive this recognition, beaches need to receive an A+ for all seasons. Landing a spot on the list is in part attributed to OC San's 100% Ocean Discharge Permit compliance record, our extensive Beach/Ocean Monitoring Efforts, and our Urban Runoff Diversion Program. Recognized beaches in the OC San service area are Corona Del Mar, Huntington City Beach at 17th Street, Bolsa Chica Reserve at Flood Gates, Surfside Beach, at Sea Way, and Crystal Cove.

2. Sound Finances and Increasing Efficiency

Informational Workshop Held for Prospective Local Vendors

As part of our continuous effort to engage with local businesses and diversify our contract bidding, we hosted the third Vendor Information Workshop. The July 12 event was attended by 26 participants where professional services and contract opportunities were presented. Attendees were shown how to find and submit bids for upcoming contracts. Board Chair Wanke participated in the workshop welcoming participants to the event. Two additional workshops are scheduled for later in the year. Details can be found at www.ocsan.gov/DoingBusiness.

Headquarters Mass Timber Installation Has Begun

Installation of structural steel and mass timber continues at OC San's new Headquarters Complex. Mass timber is made up of compressed layers of wood that are bonded together through lamination or adhesives. It is a strong, fire resistant, efficient material that also reduces the carbon footprint of our Headquarters. Mass timber is engineered for high strength ratings similar to concrete and steel but significantly lighter in weight and allows for faster and safer on-site installation. Combined with the steel-braced frames, the mass timber will provide a natural warmth to the interior of the building.

Mass Annexation of Parcels in Anaheim, Villa Park, and Yorba Linda

OC San is working with the Local Agency Formation Commission of Orange County (OC LAFCO) to annex 1,311 parcels in the cities of Anaheim, Villa Park, and Yorba Linda into our service area. These parcels currently receive OC San services and need to be annexed into our service area to allow collection of fees for service provided. A notice was sent to affected property owners and the webpage ocsan.gov/annexation was created with information regarding this process. Assistant General Managers Rob Thompson and Lorenzo Tyner will attend the OC LAFCO public hearing on August 10. When complete, fees will be collected on the property tax bill starting FY 2023-24.

3. Recovering Valuable Resources

Compost Fire at High Desert Composting Site

One of OC San's composting vendors, Nursery Products (in Hinkley, CA) has been battling a persistent fire since May 26. The facility operators have been cooperating fully with regulatory agencies and dousing the smoldering hot spots. Out of an abundance of caution, OC San began diverting our biosolids to other facilities at no additional cost. Our last load to this site was on June 11. We have been informed that other agencies began diverting about a week later. OC San staff continue to monitor the situation.

4. Community Outreach and Transparency

Connecting with our Public

OC San continues to reach the community through various outreach efforts. This month, staff participated in the Huntington Beach Southeast Area Council Committee meeting and participated in a tour of the Water Replenishment District Educational facility in Pico Rivera.

Keeping our Service Area Informed – Community Newsletter

The summer issue of the OC San Connection Newsletter will be distributed later this month. The electronic newsletter features articles on activities occurring at our facilities, throughout our collection system, and about various OC San programs. The newsletter can be viewed at www.ocsan.gov/newsletter.

Connecting with the Community via Social Media

OC San engages 7,800 followers on its social media channels. Below are statistics for OC San's social media activities for April, May, and June.

Facebook

www.facebook.com/OCSanDistrict

- Total Followers: 1.2k
- Posts: 58
- Reached: 21.6k

Twitter

www.twitter.com/OCSanDistrict

- Total Followers: 1.7k
- Posts 38
- Impressions: 10.6k

Instagram

www.instagram.com/OCSanDistrict

- Total Followers: 1.2k
- Posts: 39

LinkedIn

www.linkedin.com/company/ocsd

- Total Followers: 3.7k
- Posts: 15
- Reached: 11.3k

OC San Receives Accolades

OC San was recognized by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies with the Platinum Peak Performance Award for Plant Nos. 1 and 2. The Platinum Awards recognize 100 percent compliance with permits over a consecutive five-year period. OC San has been a Platinum Peak Performance winner for eight years in a row.

OC San also received two Silver Distinction awards, for the OC San Annual Report for 2020-2021 and for the CIP Annual Report for 2020-2021. The Communicator Award is the leading international awards program recognizing big ideas in marketing and communications. The Award of Distinction is presented for projects that exceed industry standards in quality and achievement.

4. Legislative and Industry Affairs

State Legislative Update

The Legislature is currently on Summer Recess until August 1. When they return to Sacramento, they will be in the last month of the legislative session. Over 800 bills are expected to be heard in their respective Appropriations Committees the first week the Legislature is back.

The Legislature and the Governor are expected to continue to negotiate certain impeding language and details included in the recently passed and signed \$308 billion budget.

Federal Update – Community Funding Request

OC San met with Congressman Lowenthal's office this month. During the meeting, current legislation, infrastructure, and funding opportunities were discussed. Additional advocacy meetings will be scheduled following the summer recess.

In addition, the House is expected to approve the United States Environmental Protection Agency spending bill towards the end of July and should include the OC San community project request for the Supercritical Water Oxidation Project. OC San is expected to receive approximately \$3 million through this process.

5. Workforce and Administration

Third Quarter Safety Scorecard

OC San's safety performance is evaluated using various leading and lagging indicators such as training, inspections, reporting of observations and near misses, and injury reports. Through the second quarter of 2022, OC San completed 99 percent of assigned safety trainings and 100 percent of the assigned office and workplace inspections. To date, 60 percent of the work groups were able to identify a safety hazard or report a near miss which will be mitigated to prevent an undesired outcome. Lastly, 100 percent of work-related injuries and illnesses were reported immediately to provide prompt care and evaluation.

Quarterly Performance Dashboard

OC San measures performance metrics tied to the Strategic Plan Levels of Service. These service levels, which reflect how well OC San is meeting its mission, are the commitments made to our customers, regulators, employees, and the Board of Directors. Each quarter, I will include the attached report with a selection of the performance metrics included in the Strategic Plan, providing a high-level overview of OC San's performance.

Payments of Warrants and Demands

Following this report, you will find the payments of warrants and demands for the month of June 2022. Each month, this report is provided in accordance with Resolution No. OCSD 14-13.