

ORANGE COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT

pipeline

MAY/JUNE
2021

YOUR SOURCE FOR OC SAN NEWS AND INFORMATION

Welcome



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OC SAN WELCOMES *New Board Chairman and Vice-Chairman*

It's official, as of July 1, we will have new OC San Board leadership. **John Withers** Vice-President of the Irvine Ranch Water District will serve as Chairman, and **Chad Wanke** Mayor Pro Tempore, from the City of Placentia will serve as the new Vice-Chairman.

Chairman Withers previously served two-terms on the Board as the Vice-Chairman with the City of Stanton Mayor, David Shawver serving as Chairman. "It has been an honor and a privilege serving as the Chairman for the past two years. Together, with Vice-Chairman John Withers, the Board of Directors and OC San staff, we have achieved many important milestones in the history of the Orange County Sanitation District," stated David Shawver.



John Withers



Chad Wanke

The 25-member Board is comprised of one county supervisor, 20 city council members, two sanitary district and two water district representatives.

"It means a lot to me to be nominated for this position, I will thoroughly prepare myself to do the best job, to continue the great work of staff and the Board. I want to maintain and enhance the trust that OC San enjoys with the ratepayers, the trust that leadership has with the Board, and the trust that the Board has with staff. I want to maintain and enhance the trust and transparency with the various publics we serve, stated Chairman Withers." 💧



An Anteater for a Day



OC San participated in an externship effort for the University of California Irvine's Civil and Environmental Engineering Program.

This externship program was a combined effort between OC San, Orange County Water District, AECOM, Miyamoto International, Orange County Public Works, GEI Consultants, and NMG Geotechnical.

Throughout the week, students were able to log on and learn about each agency and participate in a Q&A session with staff to learn more about their roles in the agency. This is just one way that OC San does their part to be engaged and active in the community and help the next generation be aware and passionate about the wastewater treatment process. 💧

CONSTRUCTION CORNER

Teamwork Makes the Dreamwork

OC San works as a team in everything that we do. Each department contributes to our mission in a unique way. Construction Management is one of the four divisions under the Engineering Department. So, what exactly is Construction Management? In a nutshell it is the overall management during the construction phase of a project. The mission of the Construction Management Division is to ensure timely and quality construction and commissioning execution for every capital improvement project.

So who oversees this division? Longtime OC San employee Dean Fisher is the division manager, and he just celebrated 30 years of service. The Construction Management team works with the Operation and Maintenance Department, the contractor, and the design engineer during the construction of a project.

*The team is largely dependent on the type of project being built, but generally has the following components: a **resident engineer** who leads the way; a **project manager**, who is responsible for schedule and budget; a **construction inspector**, who coordinates and verifies everything in the field; a **technical support team** that may include **schedulers, estimators, engineering assistants, commissioning agents**, among others to ensure all the details are examined and checked thoroughly; the **design engineer** who is responsible for the design of the project; the **contracts administrator** who is part of purchasing and plays an integral part of the team to ensure Public Contract Law is being met and assists Construction Management to find solutions to procurement issues and contractual disputes; and for those public facing projects a community liaison from the outreach team.*

Construction Management has a few major projects in the works. At Plant No. 1, current projects include the Headworks Rehabilitation and the new Headquarters Building.

Over at Plant No. 2 the new Outfall Low Flow/Plant Water Pump Station project, the Headworks Modification for the Groundwater Replenishment System, and most recently the Primary Clarifier Replacement project are just a few of the larger ongoing projects.

In Collections, Construction Management is wrapping up the Newhope-Placentia Trunk Sewer project on State College Boulevard in Anaheim and continuing the Westminster Force Main project in Westminster and Seal Beach. New pipeline rehabilitation projects will also be starting soon along Los Alamitos Boulevard and Katella Avenue in Seal Beach and Los Alamitos area, and Orange Avenue and Western Avenue in Cypress, Buena Park, and Anaheim area.

You can imagine the number of projects Dean has seen over the years, so we asked if there was any one project that was particularly memorable.

“You tend to remember the things that didn’t go right and the one that just sticks in my head was trying to replace the Newport Beach Force Mains under the Newport Boulevard Bridge.

Nothing came easy with this project for a lot of reasons. We hit so many obstacles, the entire team was dumbfounded. I remember a 7 a.m. Sunday morning conference call involving 20 people trying to find a solution. At one moment someone said, ‘So we tried everything, nothing has worked, and we do not have a solution, does that sum it up?’ Later that day we reconvened at the site, figured out some new ideas and put them to work and eventually found a solution. In construction, sometimes you just need to persevere when the odds are against you.”

This year, we had 32 projects totaling \$24 million in construction cost that were advertised or projected to be advertised, next year we’ll have another 27. Needless to say, Construction Management will continue to be busy over the next few years. 💧

General Manager's FY 2020-2021 Year-End Report

Every year the General Manager, meets with the Executive Management Team to create goals that involve all aspects of OC San that help us reach the next level of success.

The General Manager's FY 2020-2021 Work Plan was adopted by the Board of Directors in August 2020. The work plan contained 17 individual goals organized under four focus areas including:

- **Business Principles**
- **Environmental Stewardship**
- **Wastewater Management**
- **Workplace Environment**

In January, a mid-year update was provided and this month the year-end report is being presented to the Board of Directors. What are the results? As of the middle of June, nearly all goals have been met or are on schedule to be completed by June 30. Three of the goals will carry over to the next fiscal year.

The goals presented to the Board of Directors are accomplished thanks to the hard work of every single employee. It is truly a team effort to make the plan and OC San a success. Another successful year for OC San!

Want to learn more or view the plan? Visit The San Box and click General Manager under the Departments tab and scroll to the GM Annual Work Plan. All approved plans are listed under this section. Happy reading!

We hope you learn more about the General Manager's vision for OC San. The Fiscal Year 2021-2022 General Manager's Work Plan will be presented in the next couple of months, stay tuned. 🌊



Division profile: Public Affairs Office

You know who to go to when a reporter calls you, or when you need a logo, the newest fact sheet, or some really nice graphics, but do you know what else the Public Affairs Office (PAO) does? Let's take a look into the work of the PAO.

The PAO is part of the General Manager's Office with the team located in the Administration Building at Plant No. 1. They are responsible for creating, organizing, and disseminating all internal and external communication. The primary objective of the team is to deliver messages that are accurate, transparent, and designed to foster public trust and confidence. The PAO staff provides many services including planning and implementing media relations; website and intranet site content; construction outreach; government relations; internal communications, education, and outreach; and graphic development.

Let's take a closer look at some of the services the team provides:

- Employee Communications and Outreach: managing the *Digester*, *Pipeline*, The San Box, the

ForInformation email inbox, and *Three Things To Know* weekly email. The team also manages all agency-wide events such as the Harvest Festival, Holiday luncheons, and recognition events.

- Industry and Advocacy: membership with fellow associations to help establish and solidify OC San's reputation as infrastructure leaders in the wastewater and resource recovery industry. Additionally, the staff attends various community and association events and provides presentations to better communicate the work of OC San and serve as brand ambassadors.
- Communications/Media Relations: traditional media relations such as working with the local newspapers, news releases and media alerts. Additionally, the staff manages all of the social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn. If you don't already, make sure to follow us @OCSanDistrict for unique, fun and interactive content. An additional communication vehicle is the OCSan.gov website where staff

posts OC San ongoing, reports, facts, budgets, and outside events.

- Agency Branding/Messaging: the PAO team serves as the brand manager for all of OC San, which includes how the OC San logo is used, taglines, consistent messaging, and a uniformed PowerPoint template. Additionally, the PAO team creates the Agency-wide Annual Report.
- Community Liaisons: the PAO team (with support from Engineering) serves as the community's contact during construction and maintenance activities. The liaison informs the community of our activities through notifications, community meetings, a 24-hour hotline. The liaison helps to facilitate inquiries and concerns between OC San staff and the community.

To learn more about the PAO Team visit, us on The San Box under the Departments tab, General Manager, then Public Affairs Office.

Soooo, who are you gonna call when you need help with your next OC San project? Yep, you got it, the folks in the Public Affairs Office. 💧

Meet The Team



Jennifer Cabral
Administration Manager



Daisy Covarrubias
Principal Public Affairs Specialist



Rebecca Long
Senior Public Affairs Specialist



Kelly Newell
Public Affairs Specialist



Belen Carrillo
Public Affairs Specialist



Gregg Deterding
Graphics Designer



Cheryl Scott
Administrative Assistant

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS



Dean Fisher, Div. 770

April 29, marked 30-years of service at OC San for Dean Fisher. Dean is a registered Mechanical Engineer with a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of California, Irvine as well as a certified Project Management Professional and a Certified Construction Manager.

He started at OC San in April 1991 as an Associate Engineer.

His original intention was to stay at OC San for five years, 30 years later he has served in several roles throughout the agency, including Engineer, Sr. Engineer, CIP Project Manager, Engineering Supervisor, and since 2009 as Engineering Manager.

Early on, Dean developed a passion for construction management and spent most of his career there. He likes to boast that other than a few months, his whole OC San career has been spent working in a trailer. OC San is very lucky to have such a dedicated team member like Dean be a part of the team. 💧

Quynh Nguyen, Division 740

Time flies! It's been three decades since Quynh started working at OC San.

She came to the United States in 1978, at 13 years old, and started working at OC San in 1991.

"I adapted well to the District's working environment through hard work and effort. I practically grew up here!

I am so blessed to be a part of this organization especially the Engineering Department as it has provided me many opportunities and benefits and helped me carry out my tasks positively and energetically. The greatest gift I have received is friendship...thanks to ALL my colleagues and staff for navigating me throughout good times and bad times. I appreciate it very much!" said Quynh.

A huge congratulations and virtual high five to Dean and Quynh for celebrating 30 years at OC San. 💧



Accolades

- Congratulations to our **Collections group for winning second place** for the Collections Systems- (Medium size) from the **California Water Environment Association**. Collections previously took first place at the local level through the Santa Ana River Basin Section, advancing Collections to the State competition.
- Congratulations **Giti Radvar**, Senior Engineer, Div. 750 for receiving her **Project Management Professional Certification**. The certification is offered by the Project Management Institute, USA, and is valid across all industries.
- OC San has been awarded the **Distinguished Budget Presentation Award** from the **Government Finance Officers Association** for the current fiscal period. This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting, so we are very happy and proud to have received this award for the 27th consecutive year.
- **Platinum Peak Performance Award** — This is OC San's 4th year of receiving this award from the **National Association of Clean Water Agencies**. It recognizes member agencies for achieving 100 percent water discharge permit compliance over a consecutive five-year period. 💧

**WE HAVE
MOVED**



Wondering where Risk Management has gone too? No worries, we have you covered. They have relocated to the back of Plant No. 1 in Engineering Trailer F. The move became official earlier this month and they are now officially up and running. Risk Management moved as part of the Headquarters Complex Project at Plant No. 1 (P1-128A) to make room for the pedestrian bridge that will be constructed where the Risk Management Trailer was previously located.

They aren't the only ones on the move. The PCI group has moved to Mount Langley to make room for a new standby generator building

that will be constructed under the Headworks Rehabilitation Project. (P1-105) at Plant No. 1. The existing PCI trailers will be demolished as part of the early construction activity under P1-105. 💧

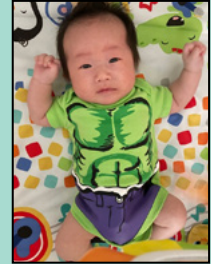


HOOT AND HOLLER!



Adam Nazaroff, Div. 740 — Happy Birthday! Adam's grandma, Mary Nazaroff, turned 100 this past May 2021.

Sam Choi, Div. 630 — Meet baby Micah Choi. He was born on April 1 at 5 lb, 8 oz he's tiny but mighty!



Bob Bell, Div. 822 — Caught in flight! Bob took this photo of a juvenile bald eagle catching lunch at the Huntington Library park. The eaglet drew a significant crowd at the park and is a rare site.



OC SAN PETS



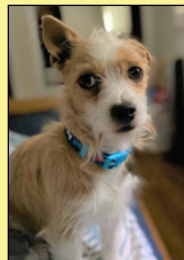
MEET my girl, **Phoenix** (Top) and my boy **Rocco** (Bottom) — **Melody Pennington**, Div. 620



MEET Jeter, he was a rescue and is a pretty fun pup. — **Keith Stahl**, Div. 840



MEET Kirby, a very regal two-year-old domestic long haired fellow. He follows a strict regimen of eating, sleeping, and snuggling. He also loves to fold over rug corners. — **Erika Rizk**, Div. 830



MEET Copper. We rescued him around Christmas time. He is the best. — **Brad Hamilton**, Div. 250



MEET Houdini. His best friend is Jesse Rodriguez and his favorite thing to do is go on walks to the park. — **Jesus Rodriguez**, Div. 630

In Memoriam

David Medellin passed away on May 14, 2021. He worked for OC San from February 1991 to September 2010 and retired as a Lead Storekeeper. 💧

CORE AWARDS

Congratulations to the following Core Award recipients (April 19 through June 6, 2021).

Jesus Baez	Randall Martin
Jason Biedermann	Herber Mendoza-
Deirdre Bingman	Miguel
Reggie Brown	Julio Montes
Mortimer Caparas	Dawn Myers
Michael Childers	Mike O'Reilly
Derek DeVoe	Jacob Parsons
Christer Gerada	Eric Rivas
Thomas Hendy	Bryon Spidell
Angel Hernandez	Nina Tran
Matthew Hirsch	Joe Vallone
Cortney Light	Gino Villalobos
John Livingston	Worthy Wang
	Christopher Walker
	Bryon Willis
	Dennis Yu

New Faces Welcome to OC San



Yiping Cao
Division 630
Environmental
Supervisor



Robert Carman
Division 770
Construction
Inspector



Reuben Contreras
Division 870
Electrical Tech II



Jessica Frazier
Division 220
Principal Staff
Analyst



David Gulley
Division 830
Operator In Training



Tyler Hilleboe
Division 830
Operator In Training



Eduardo Jimenez
Division 830
Operator In Training



Eustace Nwadiwe
Division 880
Instrumentation Tech I



Raymond Villalba
Division 620
Program Assistant

Service Awards

—30 YEARS—

Dean Fisher
MarcoPolo Velasco

—20 YEARS—

Madan Patel

—15 YEARS—

Robert Gamber
Joseph Manzella
Nicholas Oswald
Victoria Pilko

—10 YEARS—

Isabel Arango
Robbie Coronel
Mark Melby
Kha Nou
Jesse Velasco

—5 YEARS—

Absalon Diaz
Marta Dudek
Brandon Garcia
Randall Martin
Gloria Ramos
Loriann Shimomura

Heart Healthy Summer Fun Tips

Follow these easy tips and you will be well on your way to a happier and healthier you.

1. Timing is key: Try to avoid exercising outside when it is hot.
2. Hydrate: Drink water before, during and after physical activity.
3. Dress for success: Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothes.
4. Listen to your body: Take frequent breaks in the shade, and drink water before you're thirsty.
5. Doctor's orders: Check with your healthcare professional before starting an exercise routine.
6. Buddy up: If you can, workout with a partner for safety and fun!

Want to learn some more heart healthy tips? Visit **Learn the American Heart Association** at www.heart.org.



American
Heart
Association.

ON THE MOVE

Reed Calvo, from Lead Storekeeper to Data Management Tech I

Kevin Escobar, from Source Control Inspector I to Source Control Inspector II

Thang Mai, from Senior Environmental Specialist to Principal Environmental Specialist

Joseph Manzella, from Principal Environmental Specialist to Senior Scientist

Tom Meregillano, from Senior Regulatory Specialist to Environmental Supervisor

Paul Moore, from Operator In Training to Plant Operator