

**SEWER AUTHORITY MID-COASTSIDE RELEASES FINAL FEASIBILITY STUDY
REPORT ON WATER REUSE FOR THE COASTSIDE**

**Study Emphasizes Water Reclamation as Safe, Reliable and Affordable for Meeting the
Range of Community Needs and Underscores Agency's Leadership
in Sustainable Water Management on the Coastside**

Half Moon Bay, CA (October 27, 2005) ~ Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside (SAM) announces the release of the final report of the Water Reuse Feasibility Study conducted by Carollo Engineers, P.C., a leading engineering firm specializing in water and wastewater treatment facility design and water reuse systems.

The commissioning and release of the final report underscores SAM's 26-year history of leadership in examining water supply alternatives and identifying viable solutions for institutionalizing a water recycling program that meets the range of community needs and interests on the coastside.

Dating back to 1979, the agency has been engaged in realizing their vision of delivering safe recycled water applications for turf, agricultural and floricultural irrigation while addressing the environmental benefits to the coastside watershed, including Pilarcitos Creek.

"Our board and staff, and those who served before us, have long recognized the potential for water reuse," notes SAM Board Chair Scott Boyd. "By improving our wastewater treatment, we hope to also make an affordable water supply alternative available to local businesses concerned by escalating water prices. Providing this water to high-volume water users can help conserve precious resources and preserve the biodiversity of our watershed," adds Boyd.

The vision has charted and closely followed the historical practices of recycling water, the fastest growing water supply in California over the last century. In recent years, SAM's active interest has included identifying best management practices and examining reliable technology through visits to successful tertiary facilities in the region, drawing upon the technical knowledge of experts in the field of tertiary treatment and recycled water applications, continuous open dialogue with interest groups and multiple stakeholders. In addition, SAM has delivered keynote presentations as an active member of WateReuse Association, and co-sponsored the 2005 Water Summit after formally resolving that the finding of balanced solutions to protect the environment, agriculture, and public health, while considering economic interests, would only be achieved through a consensus-based process where numerous interests make a contribution.

The study's findings follow the preliminary review of water reuse options presented to SAM by Carollo in July of this year. It identifies process improvements necessary to meet the current California Title 22 water recycling regulations that dictate wastewater treatment processes and effluent quality criteria that assures reliability in the production of recycled water and ensures the use of recycled water does not impose undue risks to public health.

The final report also highlights SAM's ability to deliver safe and reliable non-potable water for turf, agricultural and floricultural irrigation applications at costs between \$200.00 and \$350.00 per acre-foot per year. The cost of treatment process improvements to meet the current California Title 22 water recycling regulations and water quality standards is \$3.8M expected to be financed through grants and legislative sources, not at the expense of the current ratepayers.

For more information, or to receive a copy of Carollo's Water Reuse Feasibility Study report, log onto www.samcleanswater.org, or contact Jack Foley at (650) 726-0124.

About Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside (SAM)

SAM is a public agency created to meet the wastewater collection and treatment services requirements of each community within its three member agency boundaries. The City of Half Moon Bay, Granada Sanitary District, and Montara Water and Sanitary District formed SAM in a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JPA) on February 3, 1976. SAM's service area includes a population of approximately 22,000 people. For more information, log onto www.samcleanswater.org

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