



**August 2022**

**Serving the Community**

*“Your Independent Local Government Agency Providing Water, Wastewater, Drainage, Security and Solid Waste Services”*

**District Meeting Schedule For August 2022**

**Board Meeting Will Be Held In the Board Room**

**August 17, 2022  
District Board Meeting @ 5:00 p.m.**

**Committee Meetings Will Be Held Via ZOOM**

**August 2, 2022**  
Personnel @ 7:30 a.m.  
Improvements @ 8:00  
Finance @ 10:00 a.m.

**August 4, 2022**  
Communications & Technology @ 8:30 a.m.  
Security @ 10:00 a.m.

**The public is invited to attend.**

*All meeting dates and times are subject to change. Be sure to check our website, [www.rmcsd.com](http://www.rmcsd.com) for any changes*

**BE SURE TO LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!**

**MEASURE R—RANCHO MURIETA CSD SECURITY SERVICE PARCEL TAX FACTS & INFORMATION**

*Provided as a public service for your information only by RMCS D*

**Background:**

- RMCS D is unique in being the only California Special District (CSD) to provide in-house, 24-hour security services.
- In 1998, given the fact that security could no longer be covered as a utility by law, the community passed a special parcel tax, Measure J to ensure continued security services only.
- Simply put, Measure J has not kept up with the increased costs of security.
- Over the past six years, RMCS D has been supplementing Measure J with general purpose property tax.

**Why can't we just keep using Measure J and general purpose property tax to pay for security?**

- The District Board has committed to use direct property tax for reserves for Water, Sewer & Drainage including critical infrastructure repairs and replacements to continue providing clean, safe water and other services.
- Without increased reserve contributions, bond measures or borrowing money may become necessary.

**Before important decisions were made, we listened:**

- Over the past year we conducted a community conversation regarding solutions to our security needs. We sent and posted information; conducted a public opinion poll; asked for community feedback through an online survey in our Pipeline newsletter, on our website, and in a mailing; held a community leaders meeting; and heard public comment at multiple public board meetings.
- Here's what we heard from the community-wide mailer and survey sent in June:
- Continue security gate officers 24 hours a day, year round – 82%
- Deter crimes including burglary and theft – 57%
- Continue emergency response patrols 24/7 year round – 44%
- Reduce vandalism, graffiti, and property damage – 43%
- Patrol open space areas to reduce trespassing and fire risk – 38%
- Provide additional patrols by Sheriff's deputies – 32%

**The board made a final decision at their regularly scheduled July 20 board meeting:**

- The board considered three options: (1) reducing security services, (2) maintaining security services, and (3) increasing security services.
- The board voted to place option (2), an additional parcel tax to maintain security services, on the November 8 2022 ballot for all RMCS D registered voters to either vote yes or no.
- Measure R would allow RMCS D to use property tax for current immediate needs (e.g. reserves to address water and sewer infrastructure)

**The official ballot question you will see on your November 8 2022 ballot:**

- *“To prevent crime and better protect the lives and property of Rancho Murieta owners, residents, and businesses, continue to provide the current level of security patrols, and continue gated security 24 hours per day, year-round, shall the Rancho Murieta Community Services District ordinance to levy an annual supplemental security special tax of \$316 per parcel, including an annual inflation adjustment, providing \$872,000 annually in locally-controlled funding, until ended by voters be adopted?”*

**Accountability Measures:**

- Measure R funds would stay in Rancho Murieta for security services only.
- By law, no funds could be used for other District operations or be taken away by the County or State or be used for other purposes.

**For more information:**

- Contact Tom Hennig at [thennig@rmcsd.com](mailto:thennig@rmcsd.com) or call 916-354-3700.

## GM CORNER

### CHANGES TO CURBSIDE WASTE SERVICES

*As part of our continued partnership with the Community of Rancho Murieta, Cal-Waste wants to share some information regarding solid waste with your community.*

On July 1, 2022, the franchised rates between Cal-Waste Recovery Systems and the Rancho Murieta Community Services District were lowered by \$3.05 per customer per month in conjunction with the discontinuance of the annual four free bulk waste pickups. The Community Services District Board voted in favor of this contract amendment in order to reduce the amount the District will subsidize the solid waste disposal rates for Rancho Murieta residents. Bulk waste pickups will continue to be available to residents at a rate of \$74.00 for a standard pickup of up to six cubic yards.

Bulk waste pickups may consist of bagged or bundled yard waste, furniture, mattresses, large exercise equipment, carpet, electronic waste, and appliances. While bulk waste pickups are a great solution for a lot of household waste there are some materials that are not accepted, such as loose debris, tree trunks, rock, dirt, concrete, or household hazardous waste (HHW).

To schedule a bulk waste pickup, just call our office at (916) 354-4154 or email us at [CustomerService@Cal-Waste.com](mailto:CustomerService@Cal-Waste.com) to place your request. Our team is here five days a week, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm to answer all your questions and help you with any concerns.

### VOLUNTARY WATER REDUCTIONS

The Rancho Murieta CSD Board would like to encourage residents to try to achieve the 20% reduction in water usage. To help in this effort, the District has ordered 500 hydrometers to check moisture levels so you can more efficiently set your watering times. We have also ordered 2,000 toilet dye kits to check for toilet tank leaks. Those and other water saving tools should be available at the District office in August. Remember to check the website for rebates at: <https://www.ranchomurieta.com/rebates>. Here are some tips to reduce your water usage:

**Try reducing lawn watering times by two minutes**, but remember to take steps to protect your trees. Your lawn can survive with less water than your trees, so remember to give them a good drink! ***This action saves 80 gallons of water per day!*** **Water plants early in the morning to reduce evaporation—saves 50 gallons of water each time you water.**

**Begin the transition to a beautiful low-water garden by removing half of your lawn this summer.**

Information about how to implement these actions, additional water-saving tips and a continuously updated map with watering guidelines for each agency are available at [BeWaterSmart.info](http://BeWaterSmart.info).

**Remember**, irrigation water running into a gutter or evaporating in the heat of the day does not get into the root zone of your plants. Therefore, adjust irrigation timers to water after sundown and at short intervals to allow irrigated water to set in to your soil. Two to three short watering cycles are far more efficient than one long cycle. Also, it is best to use drip irrigation systems when possible to target irrigation vs spray which may drift away from the area you want to water. Drip system rebates may be found on our website here: <https://www.ranchomurieta.com/rebates>. Runoff water and drifting spray water may also create other issues like unwanted weeds or pooling areas of water in drainage systems where mosquitos may breed. Also, periodically check your irrigation system to ensure there are no leaks and irrigation heads are directed where you want them.

### NOTICE OF DISTRICT ELECTION

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Board of Directors of the Rancho Murieta Community Services District and are a registered voter within the District, you may obtain the paperwork from the Sacramento County Voter Registration and Elections Office at 7000 65<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite A, Sacramento, or on their website at <https://elections.saccounty.net/CampaignServices/Pages/Election-Documents.aspx>. The filing period is July 18, 2022 through August 12, 2022.

## Board of Directors

Tim Maybee  
President  
[tmaybee@rmcsd.com](mailto:tmaybee@rmcsd.com)

Randy Jenco  
Vice President  
[rjenco@rmcsd.com](mailto:rjenco@rmcsd.com)

Linda Butler  
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John Merchant  
Director  
[jmerchant@rmcsd.com](mailto:jmerchant@rmcsd.com)

Martin Pohl  
Director  
[mpohl@rmcsd.com](mailto:mpohl@rmcsd.com)



## A Monthly Newsletter

**August 2022**

**Serving the Community**

### BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Thursday

8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

*Friday—Closed*

### DISTRICT STAFF

**Tom Hennig**

**General Manager**

[thennig@rmcsd.com](mailto:thennig@rmcsd.com)

**Paula O’Keefe**

**Director of  
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[pokeefe@rmcsd.com](mailto:pokeefe@rmcsd.com)

**Michael Fritschi**

**Director of  
Operations**

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**Kelly Benitez**

**Security Supervisor**

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**Amelia Wilder**

**District Secretary**

[awilder@rmcsd.com](mailto:awilder@rmcsd.com)

**Travis Bohannon**  
**Chief Plant Operator**

[tbohannon@rmcsd.com](mailto:tbohannon@rmcsd.com)

**Ron Greenfield**  
**Utilities Supervisor**

[rgreenfield@rmcsd.com](mailto:rgreenfield@rmcsd.com)

### July 11, 2022 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Considered whether to propose a Supplemental Security Special Tax for approval by the District voters to fund ongoing security services

### July 20, 2022 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Denied Rick Tompkins appeal and affirmed their decision to terminate his employment
- Conducted a Public Hearing concerning Proposed Supplemental Security Special Tax
- Adopted Resolution R2022-18 calling for a Supplemental Security Tax Measure to be placed on the November 8, 2022 Ballot
- Introduced Ordinance O2022-03, amending District Code Ch. 4 (Purchasing & Bidding)
- Discussed Lake 11 Recycled Water Spill
- Adopted Resolution R2022-19 authorizing a contract with Domenichelli & Associates for emergency design of repair of the drainage of Lake 11
- Authorized General Manager to waive exception to bid requirement and enter into a contract for future accounting services
- Received Reservoir Education and Information Ad Hoc Committee Report
- Discussed repairs to the Safety Center

### JULY 2022 COMMITTEE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

#### Improvements Committee

- Discussed potential voluntary water restrictions
- Received Report on Recycled Water Discharge at Lake 11
- Discussed status of RFP for Disinfection Improvements at the Wastewater Facility

#### Security Committee

- Received Update on Security Special Parcel Tax Measure Option

#### Finance Committee 4/5 and Special Finance Committee 4/14

- Discussed Security Special Parcel Tax Measure Option
- Discussed FY 2022-23 Budget

### DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

**Riverview:** Lot A has been cleared and grubbed. Developer is currently performing compaction for roadway and culvert crossing. It was verbally agreed that the developer will be extending sewer and water infrastructure to the country club bathroom at Karston Drive during the next phase of construction. Model home foundations are in the process of being poured. Riverview Phase II comments have been submitted.

**Retreats:** All sewer mains and service laterals are installed and awaiting backfill. Met with KHOV and Teichert to discuss actual 6-inch minus shall be used to backfill trenches where blasting has taken place. The District is in the process of negotiating minor water components that were neglected from the original design. The Retreats has requested to split East and North into two projects, the District has set up a meeting to discuss the specifics of this request.

**East & North** The developer has requested that we approve their request to split this into two projects. We have a meeting scheduled to review their intent and discuss logistics. This request may require approval from the County.

**Murieta Gardens Lot 2 (Tractor Supply):** A letter of approval has been signed and delivered to the developer for the improvement plans.

**Veterinary Hospital:** The District has received the developer agreement and expect plans to be submitted soon.

## Why Your Timely Payment May Still be Leading to Delinquency Penalties

Rancho Murieta utility billing payments for each month are due upon receipt and no later than the 25th of the following month. However, a payment made on the 15th *may* still be delinquent on the 25th. This has to do with how your payments are being made and is specifically an issue for those choosing to make their payments via ONLINE BANKING. While online banking can be an instantaneous transaction, the bank transaction must often pass through several clearing houses before we receive it, and those steps can take as long as 10 business days to process. While it may appear that your transaction was on time when you sent it, is it now late when we receive it.

We do not have the ability to waive delinquency fees, but we also do not want any of our residents to have to pay fees for which they are not at fault. As such, we at the District would like to advise every one of several alternative payment methods that will alleviate any delays in check receipts:

### **1. Payment Drop Boxes**

There are several designated payment boxes located around Rancho Murieta. You can find them at the Association parking lot, the Village Club House and the District Administration Building. If you deposit a physical check in any one of these boxes it will be received WITHIN 24 HOURS as each drop box is checked daily.

### **2. Online Bill Payment Service**

The District partners with Paymentus, an online payment service provider, who will process your payment on behalf of the District ensuring that it is handled on time. Please be aware that there is a service fee of \$4.50 for any payment up to and including \$300.00. For more information you can visit <https://www.ranchomurieta.com/how-to-pay-my-bill>.

### **3. Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)**

If you choose to enroll in the EFT program, then your payment will be automatically withdrawn from your bank account on the 15th of each month (or the following business day), ensuring that it is received on time. There is no fee for payments in the EFT program. For more information you can visit <https://www.ranchomurieta.com/how-to-pay-my-bill>.

### **4. Pay by Phone**

You may also dial 1-855-288-7460 at any time to pay via our automated phone service. Simply follow the instructions and your payment will be received WITHIN 24 HOURS. Please be aware that there is also a service fee for all payments made over the phone.

## GET NOTIFIED OF EMERGENCIES IN THE AREA

Two different emergency alert systems are available in our community. *The District recommends that residents sign up for both systems.*

### **Sacramento Alert for area-wide emergencies**

This system will notify residents of area-wide emergencies that are critical and time-sensitive such as evacuations of neighborhoods, fires, levee failures, flooding, severe weather, disasters, unexpected road closures, and missing persons. The Sacramento County Office of Emergency Services (SacOES), in partnership with Yolo and Placer County emergency agencies, manages a state-of-the-art emergency alert system known as *Sacramento Alert*. Sacramento Alert sends rapid alerts to landline phones through "reverse 911" technology and to residents who have signed up through the Citizen Opt-In portal with their optimal contact information. This can include phone numbers as well as email addresses and TTY device information.

**Sign up here:** [www.Sacramento-Alert.org](http://www.Sacramento-Alert.org)

### **CodeRED for emergencies inside the Rancho Murieta**

The District also subscribes to **CodeRED** to inform residents about emergencies in Rancho Murieta on both sides of the highway. District staff can use this system to send alerts for at-risk missing persons, drinking water problems and other emergencies inside the district.

**Sign up here** by downloading the CodeRED Mobile Alert app today: <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/E0A618CC265A>

## HOW TO CONTACT THE DISTRICT

Visit us on the web at [www.rmcsd.com](http://www.rmcsd.com)!

- \*The District's Administration Office is located at: 15160 Jackson Road, Rancho Murieta
- \*Our mailing address is: P.O. Box 1050, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683; Main Office: 916-354-3700
- \*South Gate: 916-354-3743 *Contact the South Gate for after-hours water problems.*