

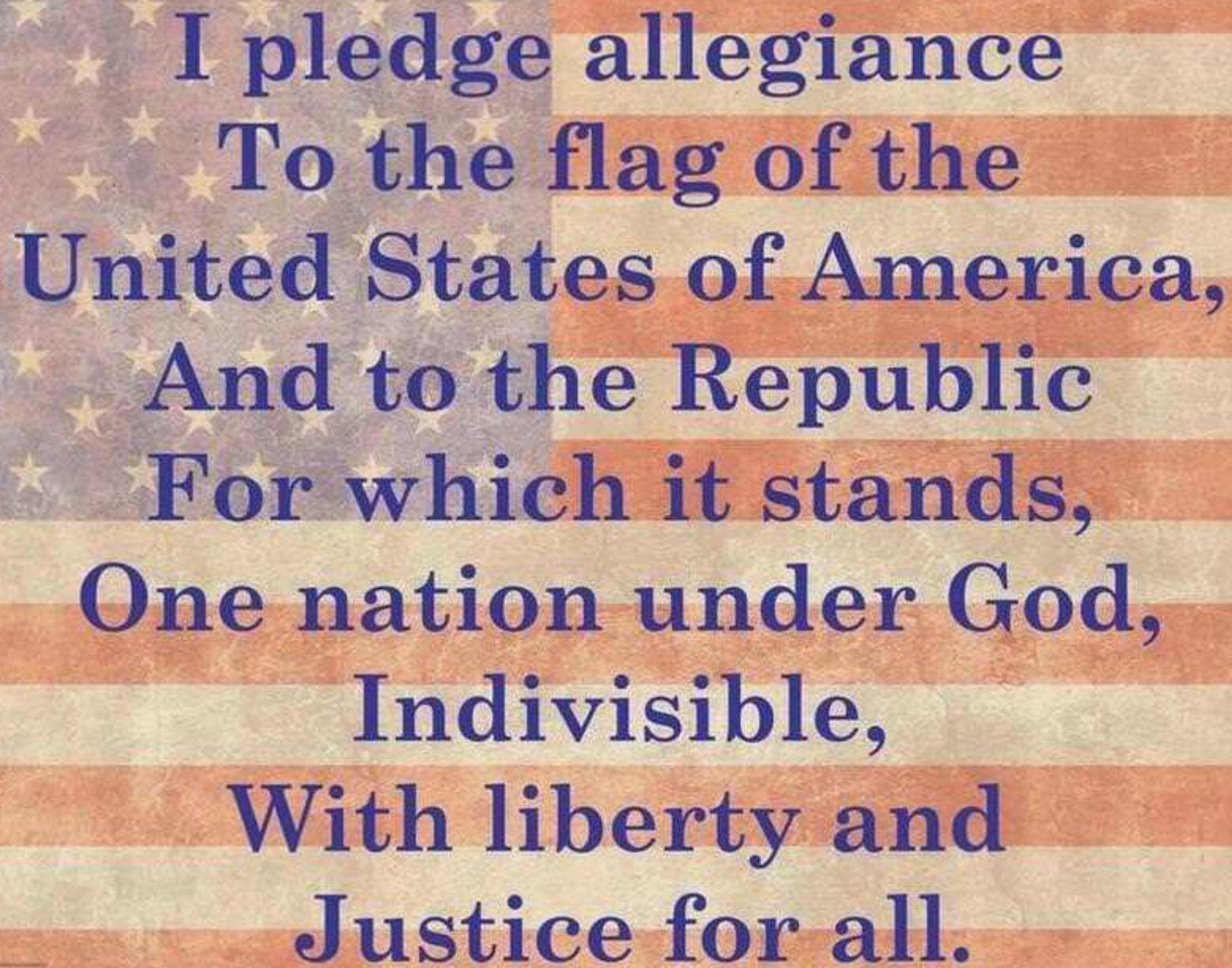


## **REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2021

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

TO PROVIDE SAFE DRINKING WATER THROUGH A DEPENDABLE WATER SYSTEM TO THE COMMUNITY OF ARVIN WITH A COMMITMENT TO CUSTOMER SERVICE & COST EFFICIENCY.



**I pledge allegiance  
To the flag of the  
United States of America,  
And to the Republic  
For which it stands,  
One nation under God,  
Indivisible,  
With liberty and  
Justice for all.**

# 1. Public Comment

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**This meeting is held in accordance with the Brown Act. Individuals may address the Board on any matter listed on this agenda, excluding closed session. Members of the public desiring to address the Board must request recognition from the Board President. Presentation by members of the public is limited to two minutes each per agenda item.**

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**This portion of the meeting is set aside for members of the public to address any matter not on this agenda and over which the Board has jurisdiction. Comments are limited to 2 minutes for each person and 15 minutes on each subject.**



## 2. Consent Calendar

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a. Approval of Minutes  
for Regular Meeting  
September 20, 2021

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b. Accounts Payable  
for September 2021

# 3. Board to discuss and take possible action re: Approval of the Arvin CSD's Water Shortage Contingency Plan 2020

ARVIN COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT  
ARVIN, CA

2020  
WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN



Prepared By:  
Arvin Community Services District  
309 Campus Drive  
Arvin, Ca 93203  
(661) 854-2127

Dee Jaspar & Associates, Inc.  
2730 Unicorn Road #A  
Bakersfield, CA 93308  
(661) 393-4796

2020

## WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

### 1.1 THE PLAN

This Water Shortage Contingency Plan addresses the Arvin Community Services District's (District) policy to reduce water consumption in the community of Arvin during a drought emergency. The District is 100% metered.

The Arvin Community Services District has not experienced a severe water supply shortfall due to a drought in its 63 years of existence because the groundwater resource underlying the District has remained stable as a result of importation of surface water by AEWSD. Therefore the District has been able to pump 100% of its water demand in years of drought. An extended drought increases the possibility that the District will have to lower its pumps. However, the supply would remain relatively stable. The District has seven wells, with combined capacity of 7,000 gpm. The eighth well will add another estimated 1,000 gpm to this total in 2022. Currently the wells can deliver 1.5 times the amount of water that is delivered on the maximum day. Booster pumps at the two tank sites add an additional 5,000 gpm of pumping capacity to meet peak hour demands. Emergency generators are stationed at three of the newer wells. The system has capacity to meet water demands.

The issue herein is the ability of the District to meet demands during an extended period of drought. Records of water levels since 1966 show that the AEWSD program of groundwater management that was implemented at that time has been effective in stabilizing groundwater levels. The physical risk of an extended drought would be lowering groundwater levels that would reduce the well production somewhat and could possibly effect water quality. However, a majority of the wells (five out of seven) are either brand new or very young. They are deep and have plenty of penetration into the water bearing zones in the underlying aquifer.

The issue of water quality effects is being studied. This will continue over the next five to ten years and will allow the District to better plan for these effects.

The following is the District's plans to deal with a water shortage in the event of simultaneous dry years and for dealing with a catastrophic event such as the effects of an earthquake

ORDINANCE NO. 7

AN ORDINANCE OF THE ARVIN COMMUNITY SERVICES  
DISTRICT ADOPTING A DROUGHT RESPONSE  
CONSERVATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, article X, section 2 of the California Constitution declares that waters of the State are to be put to beneficial use, that waste, unreasonable use, or unreasonable method of use of water be prevented, and that water be conserved for the public welfare; and

WHEREAS, conservation of current water supplies and minimization of the effects of water supply shortages that are the result of drought are essential to the public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, regulation of the time of certain water use, manner of certain water use, design of rates, method of application of water for certain uses, installation and use of water-saving devices, provide an effective and immediately available means of conserving water; and

WHEREAS, California Water Code sections 375 et seq. authorize water suppliers to adopt and enforce a comprehensive water conservation program; and

WHEREAS, adoption and enforcement of a comprehensive water conservation program will allow the District to delay or avoid declaring a water shortage emergency as authorized by California Water Code sections 350 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the District has adopted a Water Shortage Contingency Plan, which establishes a progressive program for responding to water supply limitations resulting from drought conditions. This Ordinance is intended to be consistent with and to implement the Water Shortage Contingency Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Water Shortage Contingency Plan contains five stages containing actions to be taken to lessen or avoid supply shortages. This Ordinance contains drought response stages that correspond with the Water Shortage Contingency Plan stages; and

WHEREAS the water conservation measures and progressive restrictions on water use and method of use identified by this Ordinance provide certainty to water users and enable the District to control water use, provide water supplies, and plan and implement water management measures in a fair and orderly manner for the benefit of the public.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of Arvin Community Services District does ordain as follows:

## 4. Introduction and First Reading of An Ordinance of the Arvin Community Services District Adopting a Drought Response Conservation Program

5. Board to discuss and take possible action re: Approving request to apply for funds from the COVID-19 Fiscal Relief for Special Districts

#### Items purchased for COVID-19:

- Counter Glass Protection
- N-95 Mask
- Latex Gloves
- Disinfecting Wipes
- Disinfecting Chemicals
- Fogger for lobby
- Signs for public

The screenshot shows the official website of the State of California Department of Finance. The page title is "COVID-19 Fiscal Relief for Special Districts". The main content area includes a paragraph explaining that the 2021 Budget Act appropriated \$100 million for fiscal relief to independent special districts. Below this is a section titled "Eligibility Requirements" with two numbered criteria: 1. Must be designated as an independent special district by the State Controller's Office (SCO); and 2. Have not received other forms of COVID-19 fiscal relief directly from the state or federal government. A note states that FEMA reimbursements do not disqualify a district, but applying for certain other programs does. The next section is "Allocation Methodology", which describes a methodology developed in consultation with the California Special Districts Association (CSDA) to allocate funds based on a district's proportionate share of unanticipated costs and revenue losses. The final section is "Application Process – Applications due October 15".

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## COVID-19 Fiscal Relief for Special Districts

The 2021 Budget Act appropriated \$100 million one-time General Fund to provide fiscal relief to independent special districts for revenue losses and or unanticipated costs incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency. Funds are reserved for districts that have not received other forms of COVID-19 fiscal relief directly from the state or federal government.

### Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to apply for an allocation, special districts must meet the following criteria:

1. Must be designated as an independent special district by the State Controller's Office (SCO); and
2. Have not received other forms of COVID-19 fiscal relief directly from the state or federal government.

The receipt of Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursements or the intent to apply for FEMA reimbursements does not disqualify a special district from applying. However, if a special district intends to apply for the California Arrearage Payment Program or the California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Program, the special district is ineligible to apply for these funds.

### Allocation Methodology

Finance, in consultation with the California Special Districts Association (CSDA), developed a methodology to allocate these funds to independent special districts. Each qualifying district that applies will receive an allocation based on its proportionate share of the total unanticipated costs and revenue losses incurred by all districts during the following eligible periods:

- Revenue Losses—Revenue losses, from all fund sources, incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency during the 2020-21 state fiscal year, compared to the revenue from all fund sources in the 2018-19 state fiscal year (July 1 through June 30—which serves as the base period to which the revenues will be compared).
- Unanticipated Costs—Unanticipated costs incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency during the period starting March 4, 2020 and ending June 15, 2021. This aligns with similar federal fiscal reporting timeframes.

### Application Process – Applications due October 15

# 6. Board to discuss and take action re: Letter of Support for Arvin-Edison Water Storage District's Application for USBR Water SMART Drought Response Program NOFO R22AS00020- DiGiorgio Unit Drought Resiliency Pipeline Project



## ARVIN COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Serving the Community of Arvin since November 20, 1958

### DIRECTORS

Robert Galbreath, President  
 Myrtle M. Rowan, Vice President  
 Cynthia Moran, Director  
 Aurilio Pappas, Director  
 Robert F. Rodriguez, Director

### STAFF

Raul Barrera, Jr., General Manager  
 Alicia Garcia, Civil Operator

### CONSULTANTS

Dee Anson, District Engineer  
 Alan J. Peake, Legal Counsel

October 4, 2021

Arvin-Edison Water Storage District  
 Attn: Jeevan Muhar, Engineer-Manager  
 P. O. Box 175  
 Arvin, CA 93203

Re: Letter of Support for Arvin-Edison Water Storage District's Application for USBR WaterSMART Drought Response Program NOFO R22AS00020 - DiGiorgio Unit Drought Resiliency Pipeline Project

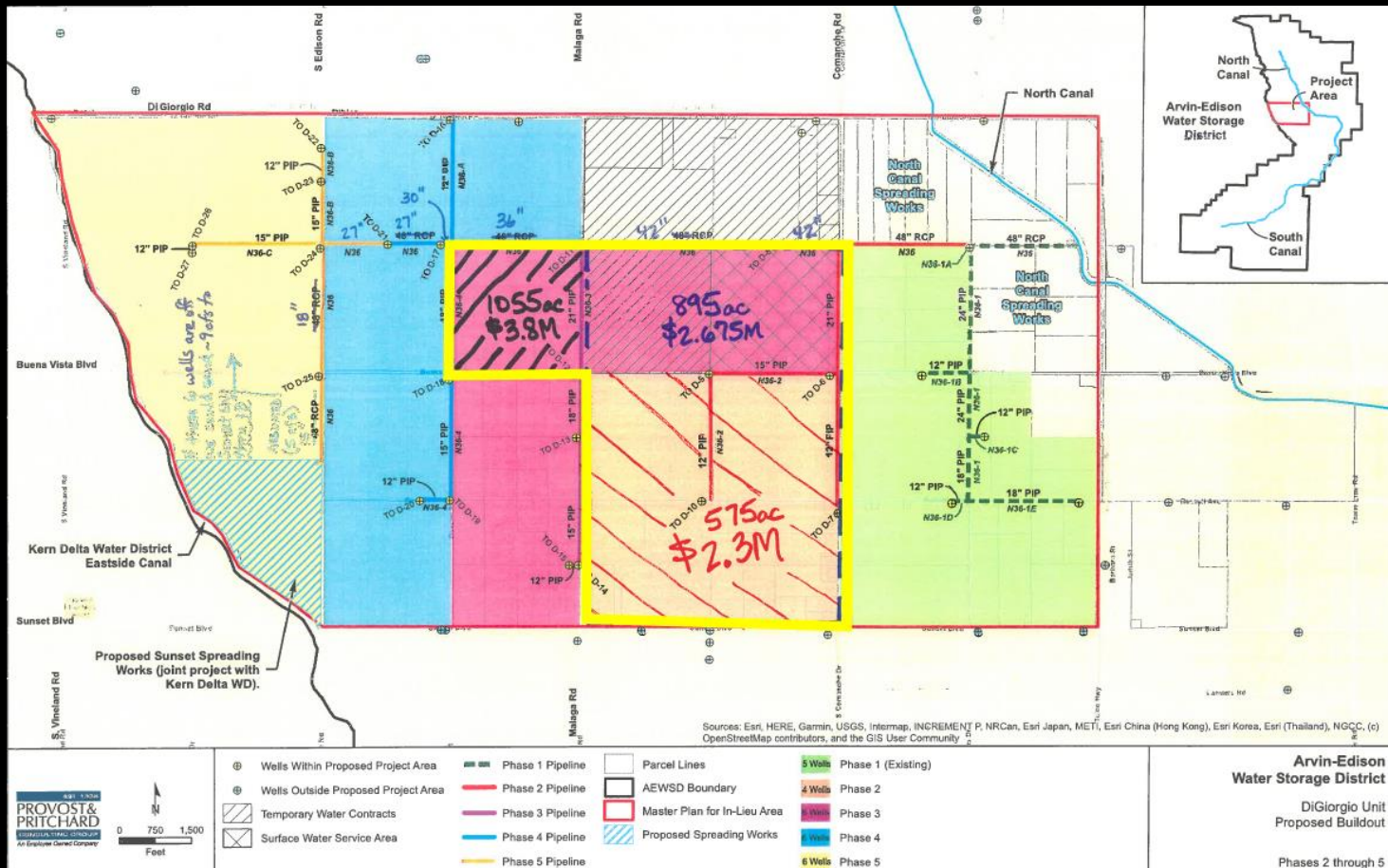
To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is to express Arvin Community Services District's support for Arvin-Edison Water Storage District's (AEWSD) DiGiorgio Unit Drought Resiliency Pipeline Project (Project). The Project will bring surface water supplies to agricultural lands which are exclusively reliant on groundwater. The Project benefits the region as a whole by decreasing reliance on the groundwater and improving drought resiliency. Arvin Community Services District understands the critical need for drought resiliency projects such as this, which will reduce the risk of rural drinking water wells going dry.

Arvin Community Services District recognizes the value of water infrastructure projects that can increase water management flexibility and water supply reliability in rural communities, especially during periods of extreme drought. This project aligns with Arvin Community Services District's water management goals to achieve long-term sustainability.

Sincerely,

Raul Barrera, Jr.





# 7. Board to discuss and take action re: Meeting with EPA related to the Arsenic Mitigation Project Phase II Completion



## U.S. EPA Announces Arvin Water District in Compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act Arsenic Rule

**KERN COUNTY** (October 12, 2021) Today/Yesterday/CMS1, the U.S. Environmental Agency (EPA) and the California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) announced at a joint press conference that Arvin Community Services District (District) is compliant with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Arsenic Rule for the first time since 2008.

The District's current drinking water system serves approximately 23,000 residents of Arvin and Kern County using groundwater, which contains naturally occurring arsenic, supplied by seven wells.

On January 22, 2001, EPA adopted a new SDWA standard for arsenic in drinking water of 10 parts per billion (ppb), replacing the previous regulatory standard of 50 ppb. Water systems were required to meet the new standard by January 23, 2006. In 2008, the District's arsenic levels ranged from 11 to 29 ppb, failing to meet the SDWA's regulatory Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for arsenic at 10 ppb.

"EPA is committed to ensuring access to clean water in Arvin, California," said EPA Pacific Southwest Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Director Amy Miller. "By bringing the system into full compliance with Safe Drinking Water Act standards, the District is doing its part to protect human health and the environment."

In [date], the District entered into an agreement with EPA to ensure its 20,000 year-round residents would have access to safe drinking water by complying with the arsenic MCL.

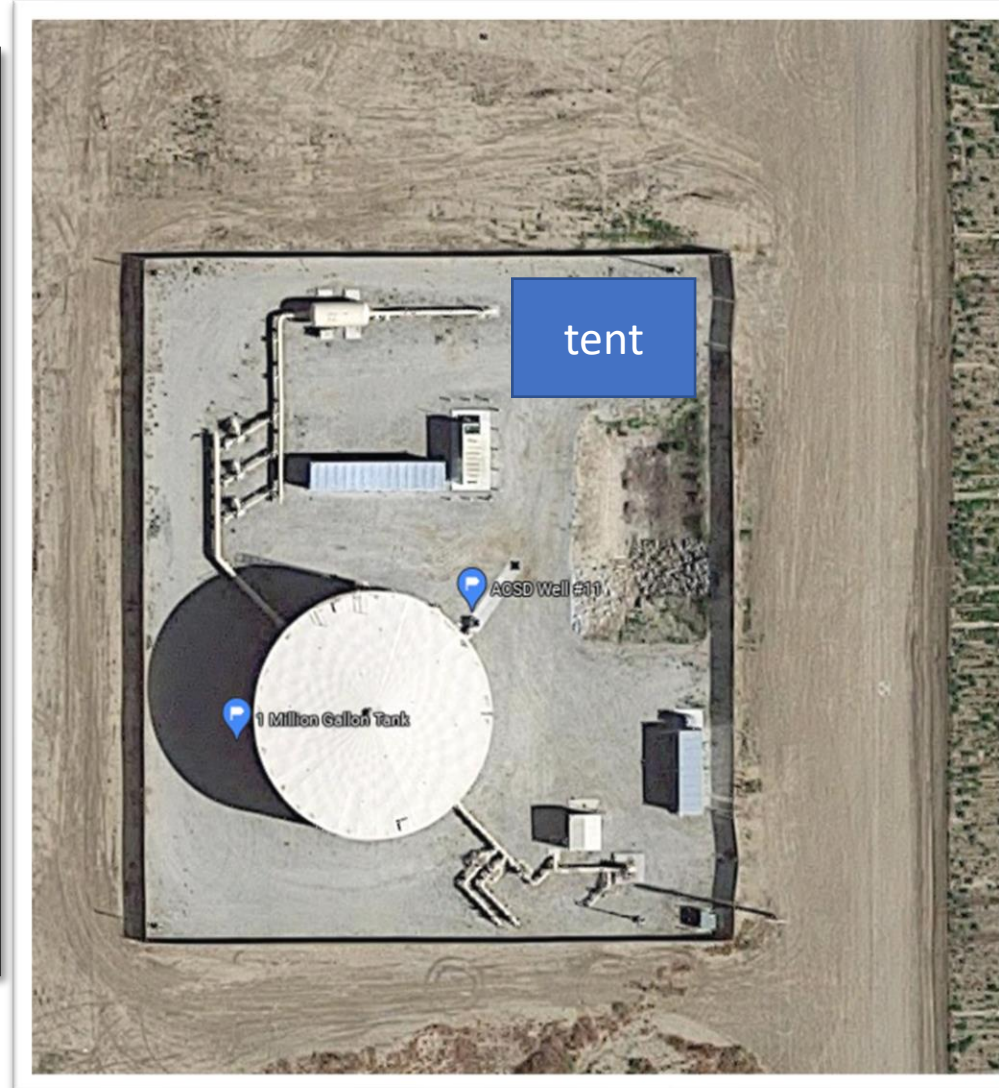
- The District agreed to:
- Implement an arsenic mitigation project.
  - Conduct quarterly meetings and submit quarterly reports to EPA.
  - Drill and complete five new groundwater wells.
  - Provide alternative drinking water to their customers by install three drinking water vending machines.
  - Conduct quarterly water quality monitoring of drinking water.

Arsenic, a naturally occurring mineral found throughout the United States, can be found in groundwater. It is a known carcinogen and drinking high levels over many years can increase

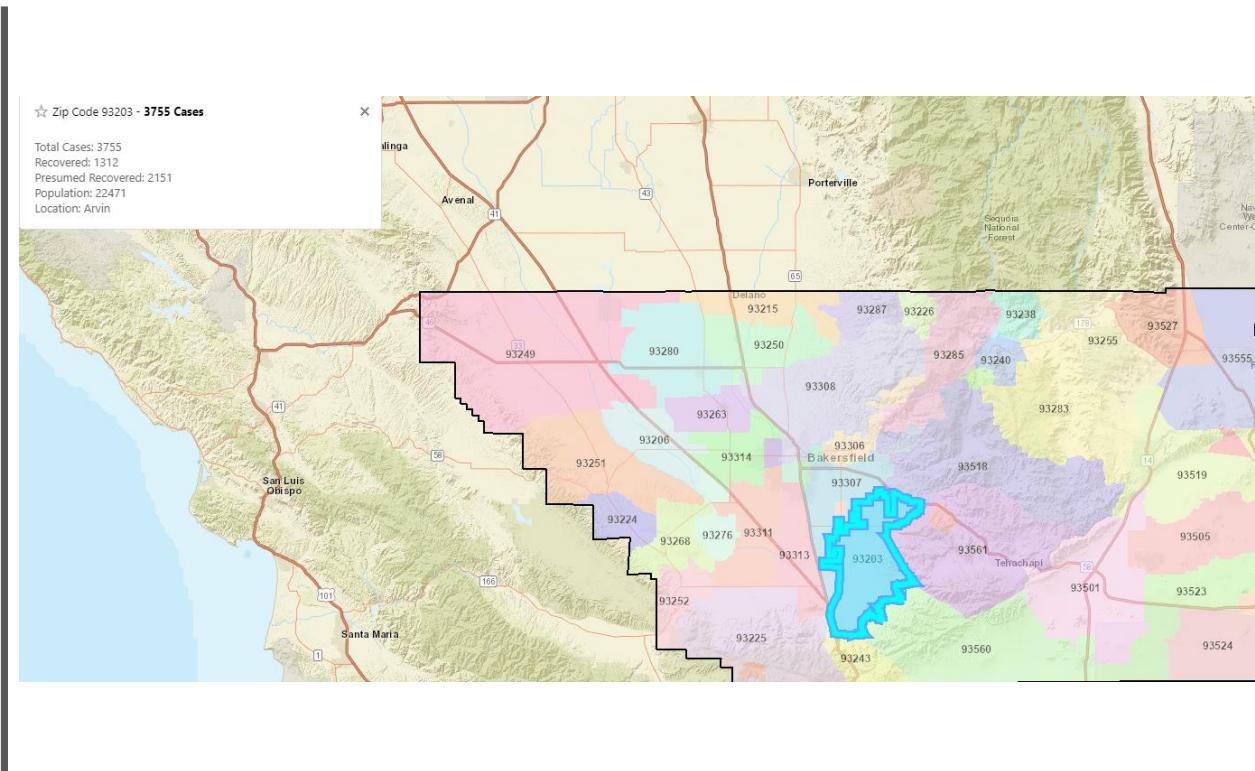
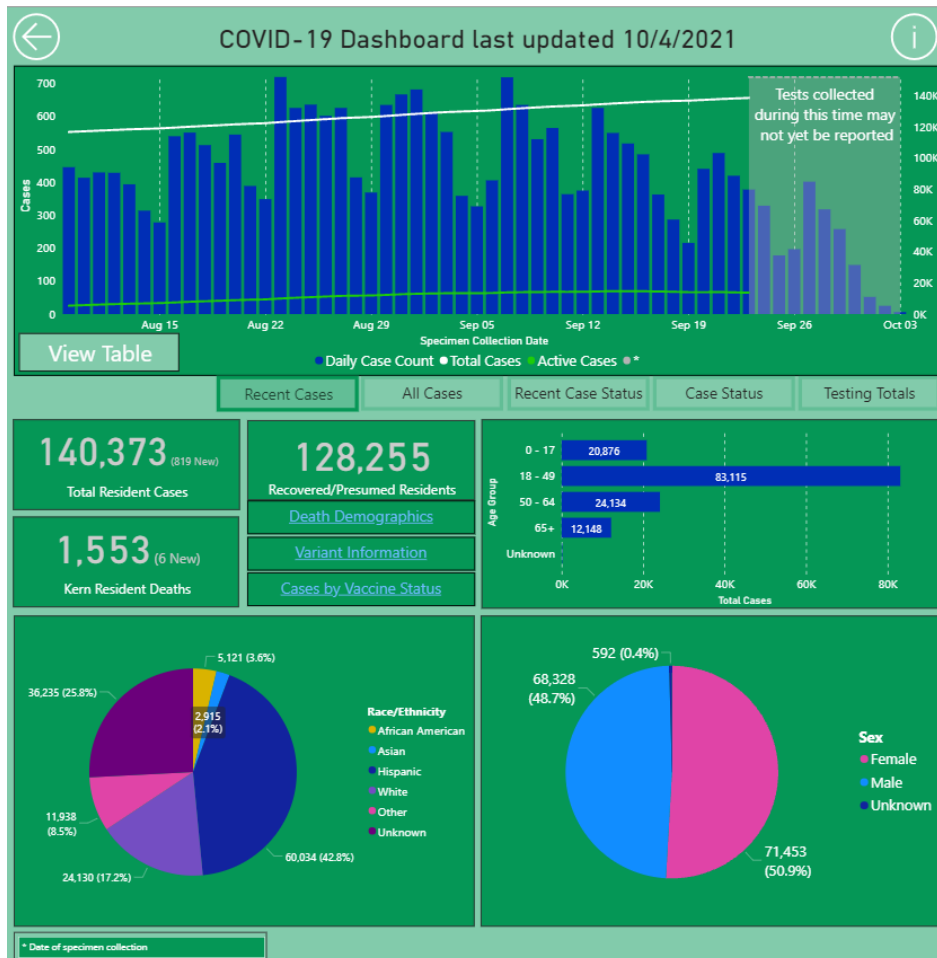
the chance of lung, bladder, and skin cancers, as well as heart disease, diabetes, and neurological damage.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa>.

Learn more about EPA's [Pacific Southwest Region](#). Connect with us on [Facebook](#) and on [Twitter](#).



# 8. Board to discuss and take possible action re: COVID 19 Prevention Plan



## 9. Staff Comments

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General Manager

Raul Barraza, Jr.

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Legal Counsel

Alan J. Peake

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District Engineer

Dee Jaspar/Curtis Skaggs

# 10. Board Director Comments

Director  
Gallardo

Director  
Moran

Director  
Pantoja

Vice President  
Reyna

President  
Alvarez

## 11. Adjournment

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Next Meeting Dates:

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October 12: EPA at 5:30 PM

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October 18: 6:00 PM

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November 1<sup>st</sup>: 6:00 PM