



From the Office of the City Manager

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CENTRAL COAST BLUE CELEBRATES OUR LOCAL EFFORTS TOWARD
SECURING SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLIES**

The innovative regional recycled water treatment project that will serve the Five Cities communities recently reached two important milestones: The arrival of a pilot or Demonstration Facility that will test advance treatment approaches, and a new identity – Central Coast Blue.

City of Pismo Beach Director of Public Works, Ben A. Fine, revealed the new name – the previous name was the Regional Groundwater Sustainability Project (RGSP) - and website with the City Council on February 6, 2018.

The new Central Coast Blue name recognizes the value water has in supporting the distinct character of this community. Central Coast Blue demonstrates our forward-thinking and proactive approach to water stewardship now and into the future. The vision for Central Coast Blue is to take treated wastewater and use additional proven advanced purification processes to achieve a drinking-water quality water resource to supplement groundwater supplies for our community.

The unveiling is the first in a string of important upcoming program milestones which include the opening of an advanced treatment Demonstration Facility to the public in Spring 2018, development of a groundwater model, construction of a test injection well, completion of the environmental impact report, and securing national and state funding support.

Much like the regional collaboration that made Lopez Lake Dam a reality, the Central Coast Blue project is a unified effort between multiple agencies – City of Pismo Beach, City of Arroyo Grande, City of Grover Beach, South San Luis Obispo County Sanitation District and Oceano Community Services District.

“Our communities are taking a proactive and responsible approach to water management, leading a regional vision and effort that recognizes our community, water and future as one,” Fine said during the Pismo Beach City Council meeting. “This effort acknowledges the value we place on water in the Central Coast, and connects our community in closing the water gap.”

Once completed, Central Coast Blue will take a water resource that is currently discharged into the ocean and treat it to drinking water quality. The newly recovered highly-quality, safe water will be injected into the Santa Maria Groundwater Basin to guard our coastal community from future water shortages, seawater intrusion and drought impacts.

The Central Coast Blue project will use microfiltration/ultrafiltration, reverse osmosis and ultraviolet/advanced oxidation. The public will soon be able to see these processes in action, including other new innovative treatment approaches at the Demonstration Facility.

Central Coast Blue will increase municipal groundwater supplies by 60 percent and reduce the amount of treated wastewater discharged into the ocean by 77 percent. This project will provide water independence for our communities, enhance water supply and quality, provide drought resistance, and create an asset out of a resource that is currently unutilized.

Central Coast Blue celebrates our water journey by recognizing that our water, community and future depends on closing the water gap together.

Additional information about tours and the open house will be provided soon on centralcoastblue.com

One Water. One Community. One Future.

One Community

Central Coast Blue protects our shared groundwater

One Water

Central Coast Blue recognizes all water has value

One Future

Central Coast Blue is the right investment for the future

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