

The Stege Pipeline

Autumn 2026

Welcome to The Stege Pipeline—Autumn 2026 Edition!

As the season turns, we are excited to bring you the second issue of our newly revamped newsletter! Inside, you'll find essential community updates, seasonal maintenance insights to keep our systems running smoothly through the fall, and important reminders on how we can all work together to protect our local environment.

Thank you for your continued partnership in keeping our district safe, clean, and sustainable—enjoy the read, and let us know what you think!



Employee Spotlight: Meet Kim Wendt! Administrative Specialist



Meet **Kim Wendt**, the newest addition to the Stege Sanitary District team as our Administrative Specialist!

Whether you stop by the office lobby or reach out over the phone, Kim is the welcoming face and kind, supportive voice here to help both our community and staff every day.

Behind the Scenes: While she keeps our operations running smoothly, Kim admits that if she could hold any other job in the world, she'd be an archaeologist digging up history! As the sole female in a currently all-male environment, she keeps everyone on their toes with her quick wit and delightful sense of humor.

Fun Fact: Kim has a truly unique party trick—she can shake her eyes from side to side! Next time you're in the office, be sure to say hello and ask her to show off her talent. Welcome to the team, Kim!

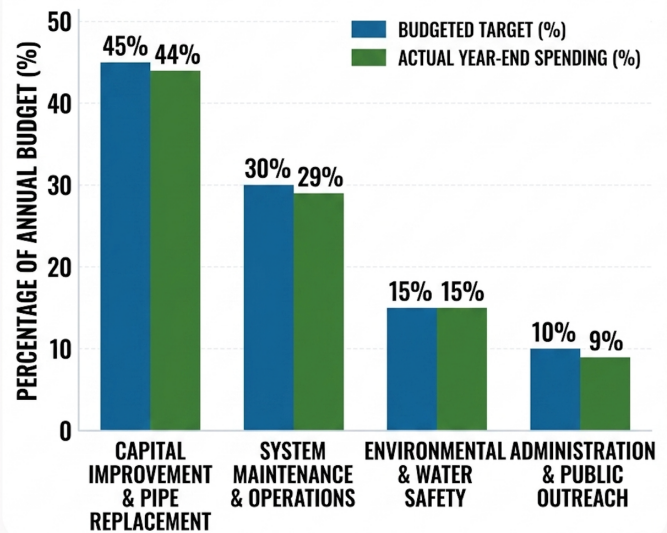
Statement of Transparency

The Stege Sanitary District Practices Responsible Financial Management. We want you to know: We actively monitor spending and manage expenses year-round to ensure your resources are used efficiently and stay within budget. This allows us to continue being a proud exemplary leader in environmental and water safety.

Responsible Stewardship:

Over 70% of district expenditures are directed straight into system maintenance and capital pipeline infrastructure, while operational efficiencies keep spending under budget year after year.

FINANCIAL DISCIPLINE: BUDGET TARGET vs. ACTUAL EXECUTION



“I hear a lot of talk about Zone F2. What is Zone F2?” Thanks for asking! Here are the facts:

- Ongoing closed-circuit television (CCTV) Inspections & Condition Assessment: District crews are actively deploying CCTV camera vans throughout Sub-basin F to perform underground pipe condition assessments. These inspections identify localized structural defects or emergency repair needs.
- Inflow & Infiltration (I/I) refers to the unintended entry of groundwater and stormwater into sanitary sewer systems. Inflow typically comes from surface sources like stormwater runoff, while infiltration occurs through cracks in underground pipes.
- Reduction of I&I lowers overall water treatment costs.
- Capital Improvement & Pipe-Bursting Projects: As part of the multi-year System Rehabilitation Program (funded under the EPA Consent Decree compliance framework), aged clay mains in targeted streets within F2 are scheduled for trenchless pipe-bursting replacements using HDPE pipe. When the main line is replaced, lower private sewer laterals along that stretch are being updated as part of the project scope.
- Neighborhood Work Notices: Residents in active work areas within Zone F2 receive advance notification door hangers 24 to 48 hours prior to any line cleaning, easement access, or rehabilitation work.



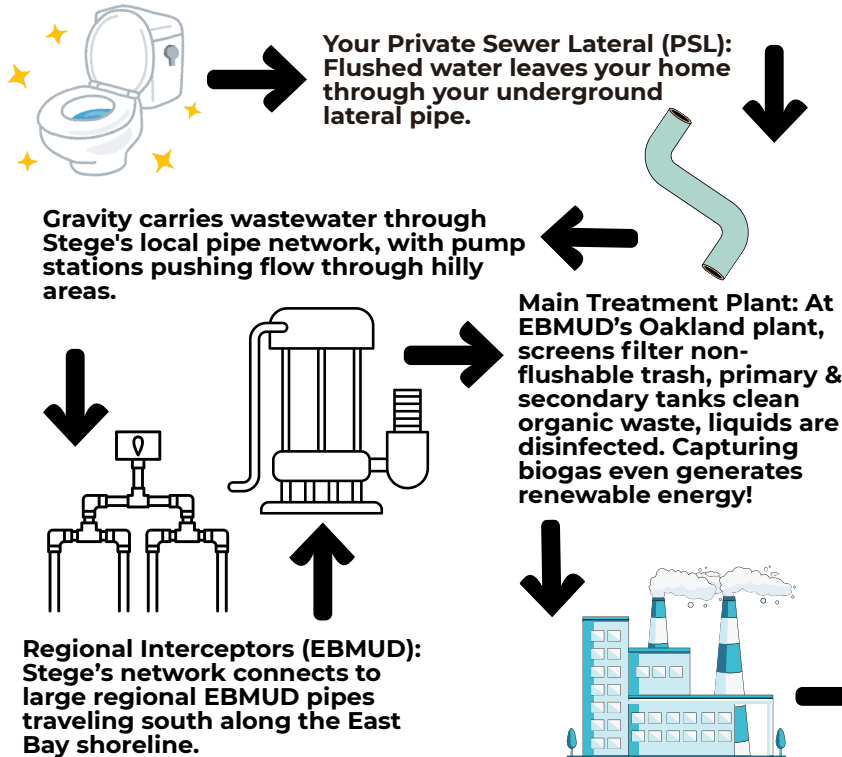
- ZONE F2 is located in the southern most portion of El Cerrito, and just west of Kensington. Please call our office at (510)524-4667 if you have additional questions. We are here to serve you.



Protect Your Property and the Bay with a \$0-Interest Loan

Property owners are responsible for their Private Sewer Lateral (PSL)—the pipe connecting your home to the main line. To help prevent leaks and protect the Bay, Stege offers an interest-free loan up to \$30,000, repaid conveniently over 10 years on your property tax bill. Visit steges.com/PSL or call (510) 524-4667 to get started today.

When You Flush... Where Does It Go?



Halloween Horrors in the Sewer: Spooky Non-Flushables (You'd Be Surprised!)

- Pumpkin Pulp, Seeds & Guts
- Fake Cobwebs & Polyester Fiber
- Candy Wrappers & Plastic Packaging
- Glow Sticks & Plastic Novelties
- Face Paint, Makeup & Fake Blood
- Costume Remnants & Fishnet Tights

And Don't Flush These Items Year-Round:

- Wipes Labeled "Flushable" (They are NOT!)
- All Feminine Hygiene Products
- Dental Floss
- Latex Products
- Cat Litter
- (Even "Flushable" Clay or Corn Blends)
- Meds & Old Pills

Stege Fun Zone!

Our Employee Spotlight this issue is Kim Wendt!
How many of her hidden Archaeological artifacts can you spot in this newsletter?

Q: What did the plumber say to the vampire on Halloween?

SPOT THE 9 FLUSHES OF HORROR!

Can you find 9 subtle differences or hidden non-flushables?



Stop letting your fake blood go down the drain—it's a total pain in the neck!

A:



Stege Sanitary District
7500 Schmidt Lane
El Cerrito, California 94530-0537

Our Mission

To protect public health and the environment for the communities we serve through planning and operation of a safe, efficient, and economical wastewater collection system.



**Have a Sewer Problem or
Sewer Emergency?
Call Us First!
(510) 524-4667**