



## ROXBOROUGH WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

### General Manager's Report April 20, 2022

#### Information Only

##### 2022 General Assembly:

- Roxborough WSD cooperated with several other utilities on a fact sheet to support HB22-1345 that would phase out the addition of PFAS chemicals in consumer products. PFAS is a family of 5000+ compounds, a small number of which have documented human health impacts. The most effective way to eliminate them from water supplies and wastewater is to stop using them in consumer products.
- HB22-1322 concerning Water Quality Regulation is intended to address issues with the stream standards and permits the South Platte River and Sand Creek north of Denver. It's a very poorly written bill with widespread potential impacts. I voted at the Water Congress State Affairs Committee to oppose the bill but do not plan to testify.
- HB22-1358 is a bill to eliminate childhood exposure to lead in drinking water. While well intentioned, it sets an action level of 1 ppb for lead exposure, compared to EPA's action level of 15 ppb, and would require all drinking water sources in a school or day care to be filtered and tested. Any faucet or fountain found to exceed 1 ppb of lead would be labeled "non-drinkable," thereby eroding trust in drinking water. Even districts with no lead service lines, such as RWSD, can have lead levels of 3 ppb based on components of fixtures in homes.
- HB22-1363 concerns measures to increase accountability for special districts to taxpayers. It's 17 pages of new requirements that go well beyond the stated intention of controlling metro districts.

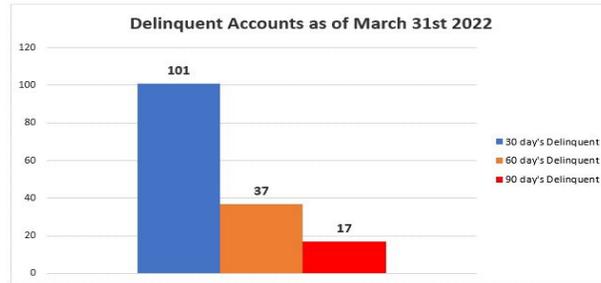
##### Past Due Accounts:

- As of March 31, we had 17 accounts with a past due balance of \$10,970, compared to 28 accounts with a past due balance of \$13,627 as of February 28.
- We had no customers on the shut off list for March. We are making good progress getting people caught up.
- All payment agreements for past-due water and sewer bills are current except one. One payment agreement has been paid in full. The resident that is not current has been told he must pay his current bill each month. We'll need to decide what to do with his past-due balance in October when we certify accounts to Douglas County.



# ROXBOROUGH WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

## Delinquent Accounts



Total Amount  
Past Due 30 days  
**\$15,094**

Total Amount  
Past Due 60 days  
**\$5,155**

Total Amount  
Past Due 90 days  
**\$10,970**

### March 2022

#### Dominion Water and Sanitation District/Sterling Ranch:

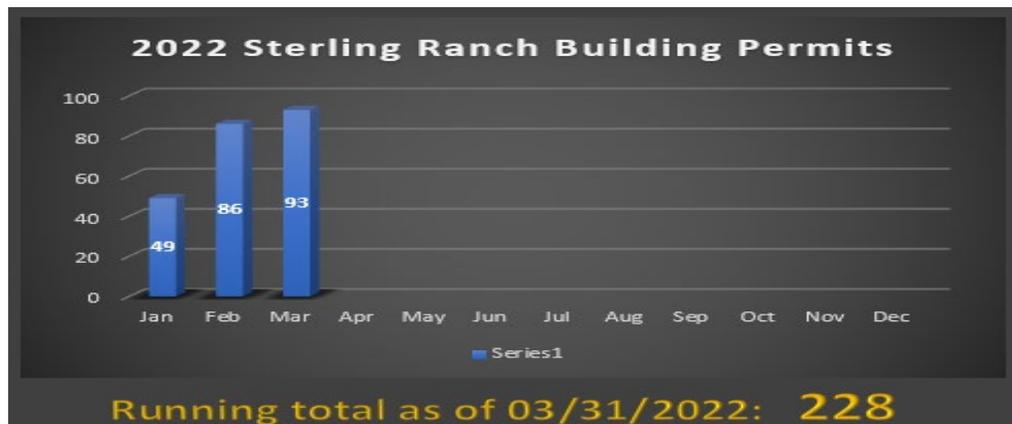
- Day-to-day operations going well. Dominion should have a contract locate firm on board by May 1, and RWSD staff will cease doing locates and just operate the distribution system. We will bill them for field tech time doing locates in April.
- Odor complaints have died down, and Dominion is proceeding with a project to add chemical odor control at the Titan Road Lift Station.
- There were an additional 29 Certificates of Occupancy (CO) issued in Sterling Ranch in January bringing the total number of COs that have been issued in Sterling Ranch to 1,469 for a monthly Wastewater Operations Charge of \$29,380.
- Dominion has paid the 2022 Capital Asset Lease Payment of \$200,000 due in March.
- Year to date development summary:





## ROXBOROUGH WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

- Under the Purchase and Sale Agreement for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, RWSD tracks new building permits issued in Sterling Ranch. Dominion is invoiced \$300 for each residential equivalent building permit in the prior year. In March Dominion paid \$162,900 for 2021.



### Public Outreach:

- Thanks to Stephen for responding to complaints about the fixed monthly charges for water on the Facebook community forum.
- Blog post about the annual rate hearing and 2022 changes in rates.
- There was a rumor circulating that RWSD was making “unlimited” water available for the Nordic Spa proposed near Arrowhead. I corrected the rumor at a OneRoxborough meeting and stated, again, that the current owner entered into an Availability of Service Agreement in 2005 for up to 18 equivalent residential units (EQRs) and has been paying Availability of Service Charges for 18 EQRs since that time.
- Provided a notice of the annual flushing program to the Roxborough Park Foundation for distribution to residents and did a similar blog post for the website.
- We included the Rampart Range Road transmission main project in the March newsletter and will mail a one-page summary of the project (attached) with the April bills. Contractor will begin mobilizing in May. We will provide weekly updates on the project on the website.
- On April 18 the City of Aurora passed an ordinance prohibiting new golf courses in the City; decorative, nonfunctional turf anywhere; turf in front yards; and limiting turf in backyards to 45% of the area or 500 square feet, whichever is less. A copy of the ordinance is attached.
- Castle Rock is allowing in-home graywater recycling to flush toilets. See Douglas County Commissioner George Teal’s April video newsletter at: <https://www.douglas.co.us/government/commissioners/commissioners-video-newsletter/>



## Support HB22 -1345

Reps. Cutter and Bradfield

Publicly owned drinking water and clean water utilities are “passive receivers” of PFAS chemicals. We do not produce, use or manufacture PFAS, but “receive” these chemicals through both drinking water supplies and wastewater that arrive at our treatment plants. Certain industrial processes and consumer products, such as nonstick cookware, cosmetics, and food packaging have introduced PFAS chemicals into the water cycle. PFAS contamination is the direct result of consumers using certain products developed by producers and manufacturers, as well as discharges from firefighting foam and other industrial processes. The best solution for Colorado is to stop PFAS chemicals from being introduced into the water cycle in the first place by removing PFAS from consumer products and firefighting foam. Removing PFAS from consumer products and firefighting foam is a foundational step to reducing exposure to PFAS chemicals in Colorado.

### **What are PFAS Chemicals?**

PFAS describes a family of 5,000-plus human-made chemical compounds found in numerous products used in everyday life, such as carpets and rugs, cosmetics, paper packaging for food, nonstick cooking pans, infant car seats, mattresses, play mats, and water-repellant fabrics. Using these products exposes people to PFAS chemicals.

### **PFAS Chemicals in Water and Wastewater:**

When drinking water sources are contaminated with PFAS, it is difficult and expensive to treat, and we frequently need to secure alternative drinking water supplies. Furthermore, there are no treatment technologies to destroy PFAS at wastewater facilities.

### **Prevent PFAS from entering the water cycle: Support HB22-1345**

Eliminating PFAS chemicals from the consumer and industrial stream is the most effective tool to ensure that regional entities can continue our missions to protect public health and the environment by protecting drinking water sources, cleaning, and treating water, and recovering critical resources. This bill rightfully puts the burden on the entities that manufacture and produce PFAS, rather than drinking water and clean water utilities. Preventing PFAS from entering the water cycle will help keep the substances out of our lakes and rivers.

### **As introduced, HB22-1345 will:**

1. Immediately restrict the sale of certain consumer products containing PFAS where safer and viable alternatives exist in the market, including cosmetics, carpets, food packaging, cookware, juvenile products, and fluids used in oil and gas production.
2. By 2031, phase out the sale of all consumer products containing PFAS when safer alternatives exist;
3. Instruct state agencies to prioritize purchasing PFAS-free items where available; and
4. Further regulate the sale and use of PFAS firefighting foam.

## Contact Information:

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# ROXBOROUGH WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT

## Transmission Main Construction in Rampart Range Road

Starting in May 2022, construction will begin on a new 24" water transmission main to replace an existing 12" transmission main in Rampart Range Road between the north and south entrances to Village Circle East. The District's 2020 Master Plan identified capacity limitations in the existing 12" transmission main in Rampart Range Road so this project will significantly increase capacity and replace an aging 50-year-old water main. Lane closures will occur in Rampart Range Road and the connecting streets to complete this work. We understand how critical this area is for transportation in our community, therefore all roads will remain open to traffic and pedestrians throughout construction. Please be vigilant while traveling through this area and follow all traffic signs so that everyone can move safely through our roadways.

The project will be completed in three phases to minimize construction impacts. The first phase will start at the southern entrance to Village Circle East and proceed north to the northern entrance to Village Circle East. Northbound traffic will be shifted to the western side of the road during this phase and the northbound lanes will be closed from approximately 1500 feet south of the Village Circle East southern entrance to 2100 feet north of the Village Circle East northern entrance. The second phase of construction will be localized to the northern and southern intersections of Rampart Range Road and Village Circle East. The third phase will be localized to the entrance to Rampart Court and the entrance to the parking lot south of Verandah Court. Phase 1 is anticipated to start late May to early June and be complete early to middle of August. Phase 2 is anticipated to occur early to middle August and be complete late August to early September. Phase 3 is anticipated to start early September and be complete by middle October. Weather may have an impact on schedule. During construction, there will be no impact on water service to any customer.

The following map shows the approximate work zone for each phase of this project. Traffic control will be set up during each phase to accommodate work in these areas. Weekly updates will be provided on our website during construction, and we appreciate all of your patience as we make these infrastructure improvements.



ORDINANCE NO. 2022- \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL

FOR AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, ENACTING SECTION 138-191 OF THE CITY CODE PERTAINING TO THE USE OF TURF AND ORNAMENTAL WATER FEATURES

WHEREAS, Aurora Water is responsible for providing water for the residents of the City of Aurora; and

WHEREAS, water scarcity in the arid west is compounded by water availability and population growth; and

WHEREAS, water used in irrigation and ornamental water features severely limits the amount of water that can be recaptured by Aurora Water's Prairie Waters potable reuse system; and

WHEREAS, low water-use landscapes are attractive, require less maintenance, save water and better withstand drought. Eliminating high water use turf in nonfunctional and aesthetic areas maximizes the amount of available reusable water, a primary goal of Aurora Water; and

WHEREAS, the intent of section 138-191 is to help Aurora Water meet future water needs and is in the interest of the health, safety and general welfare of the residents of Aurora.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO:

Section 1. Section 138-191 of the City Code of the City of Aurora, Colorado, is hereby amended to read as follows:

**Sec. 138-191 Use of turf and ornamental water features.**

**(1) Definitions. As used in this section 138-191 the following words and phrases shall have the below meanings ascribed to them:**

***Turf* means any cool season turf species, variety or blend, including but not limited to Kentucky bluegrass and Fescue with an annual irrigation water requirement greater than 15" (9.345 gallons per square foot).**

***Aesthetic Turf* means turf areas designed for aesthetic appeal only and are not conducive to active or programmed recreation.**

***Water-wise landscape*** means landscapes designed with shrubs, perennials and warm-season grasses with an annual irrigation water requirement of less than 15” (9.345 gallons per square foot).

***Median*** means the landscaped area between opposing directions street traffic lanes.

***Curbside Landscape*** means the landscaped area between a sidewalk and curb.

***Residential development perimeter or common landscape*** means any landscaped area within a residential development not irrigated by a residential water meter and not dedicated as a park per the City of Aurora’s Parks Recreation and Open Space Dedication and Development Criteria Manual.

***Commercial development*** means any development that meets the commercial user definition in section 138-221.

***Landscaped common area*** means areas within a private community designed for community use in section 138-151.

***Multi-family residential development*** means developments that meet the multi-family user development definition in section 138-221.

***Active or Programmed recreation area*** means an area with a primary function of sport field but can also accommodate secondary functions including but not limited to non-organized sporting events, cultural activities and organized social gatherings.

***Ornamental water feature*** means any exterior decorative fountains, waterfalls, basins, ponds, lakes, waterways or other similar aesthetic structures unless required under Chapter 138, Article VIII – Stormwater of the City Code.

(2) The intent of this section 138-191 is to assist the City in meeting future water needs.

(3) Use of turf and ornamental water features. The provisions of this section 138-191 apply to all development and redevelopment within the City.

(a) Exemptions. Developments with Framework Development Plans (FDP) and Master Plans approved prior to January 1, 2023 are exempt from this section.

(4) Turf that serves primarily an aesthetic purpose shall not be permitted.

(5) The installation of new turf shall be restricted as follows:

- (a) Turf shall not be installed in the front or side yards of any single-family dwelling.**
- (b) The installation of new turf in residential backyards shall not exceed the lesser of: forty-five percent (45%) of the backyard area as defined by the Unified Development Ordinance; or five hundred (500) square feet.**
- (c) The removal of water-wise landscaping for the purpose of installing turf is prohibited, regardless of building permit issue date.**
- (d) Turf shall not be installed in medians or curbside landscapes.**
- (6) The installation of turf in the following developments shall be allowed only in active or programmed recreation areas:**
  - (a) Multi-family developments;**
  - (b) Commercial developments;**
  - (c) Public and private schools;**
  - (d) Interior landscaped common areas on a common irrigation meter designed for recreation and conforming to the City’s Unified Development Ordinance, as modified from time to time; and**
  - (e) Formal sports fields, informal play areas, active and reflective recreation areas only as defined in the City’s Parks and Recreation and Open Space Dedication and Development Criteria Manual.**
- (7) Turf shall not be installed for the development of golf courses.**
- (8) Ornamental water features. The use of water in all public and private exterior ornamental water features and ponds is prohibited.**
- (9) Median landscape. The installation of spray and/or sprinkler irrigation systems in median landscaping is prohibited.**
- (10) Except as indicated in section 138-191(3)(a) above, there shall be no waivers or variances to this section 138-191 permitted.**

Section 2. Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this Ordinance shall, for any reason, be held to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause, or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 3. Penalty. City employees violating the terms, directives, or mandates of this Code are not subject to the general penalty provisions contained in Section 1-13 of this City Code.

Section 4. Pursuant to Section 5-5 of the Charter of the City of Aurora, Colorado, the second publication of this Ordinance shall be by reference, utilizing the ordinance title. Copies of this Ordinance are available at the Office of the City Clerk.

Section 5. Repealer. All orders, resolutions, or ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance or with any of the documents hereby approved, are hereby repealed only to the extent of such

conflict. This repealer shall not be construed as reviving any resolution, ordinance, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.

INTRODUCED, READ AND ORDERED PUBLISHED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

PASSED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MIKE COFFMAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
KADEE RODRIGUEZ, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

*Ian J Best* *RLA*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ian Best, Assistant City Attorney