



**TOWN OF PARADISE**  
**Council Agenda Summary**  
**Date: September 9, 2025**

**Agenda No. 1(g)**

**ORIGINATED BY:** Marc Mattox, Public Works Director / Town Engineer

**REVIEWED BY:** Eric Reinbold, Acting Town Manager

**SUBJECT:** Paradise Sewer Project Update

**COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED:**

1. None, written monthly update only.

**Background:**

This report is a monthly effort to provide additional opportunity for public engagement on the status and next steps of the Paradise Sewer Project.

**Analysis:**

Since its incorporation in 1979, the Town of Paradise has sought a centralized wastewater system to address failing septic systems that impact public health, groundwater quality, and economic development. The need for sewer service became even more urgent following the 2018 Camp Fire, when the lack of modern wastewater infrastructure emerged as a major barrier to rebuilding businesses, housing, and community resiliency.

In 2022, the Town secured \$30 million in CDBG-DR funds to begin pre-construction work, including environmental review, design, and permitting. To provide technical expertise, HDR was retained as Owner's Agent, and a progressive design-build team was selected to develop a Basis of Design Report. That effort confirmed that a locally managed, phased sewer project was necessary to achieve both affordability and long-term community needs.

In January 2025, the Town Council formed a Sewer Project Ad Hoc Committee to evaluate local treatment and collection alternatives, with strong emphasis on public engagement and cost feasibility. The Committee, working alongside staff, HDR, and the Paradise Irrigation District, conducted community meetings, stakeholder workshops, site tours of other wastewater systems, and a technical alternatives analysis.

**Main Accomplishments**

- Town Council unanimously voted to approve a revised Project Description consisting of a Hybrid Gravity/Low Pressure Collection System, Aerated Lagoon Wastewater Treatment, and Percolation/Evaporation Pond Effluent Discharge.
- Town Council instructed staff immediately commence and resume efforts to advance the project forward through environmental and design activities.
- Responded to questions from the public and Town Council about the project and recommended alternative
- Supported and participated in meetings with community members about the project.
- Supported preparation for and participated in a Special Town Council Meeting on August 14 for Town Council to vote on Ad Hoc Committee project recommendation. A

recording of the presentation, as well as all meeting materials, can be viewed at [www.paradiseseWER.com](http://www.paradiseseWER.com).

- Continued support for finding and evaluating all project funding options, including meeting with DFA staff to discuss grant funding on August 18.
- Began developing the scope for the next phase of collection system design with the collection system design-builder.
- Begin drafting RFQ for procurement of wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) design consultant for design-bid-build project delivery method.

#### **Key Activities (One Month Look-Ahead)**

- Prepare Alternatives Analysis Summary TM to document alternatives evaluated and recommended Project Description adopted by Town Council on August 14.
- Begin preparation of Administrative Draft Subsequent Environmental Impact Report (SEIR)
- Finalize RFQ for consultant WWTF design services and release for advertisement. Begin bid period.
- Coordinate with PDB team for proposal of revised scope of services for collection system pipeline.
- Begin updating funding applications and documents to reflect the revised project scope.