Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater *Master Plan*

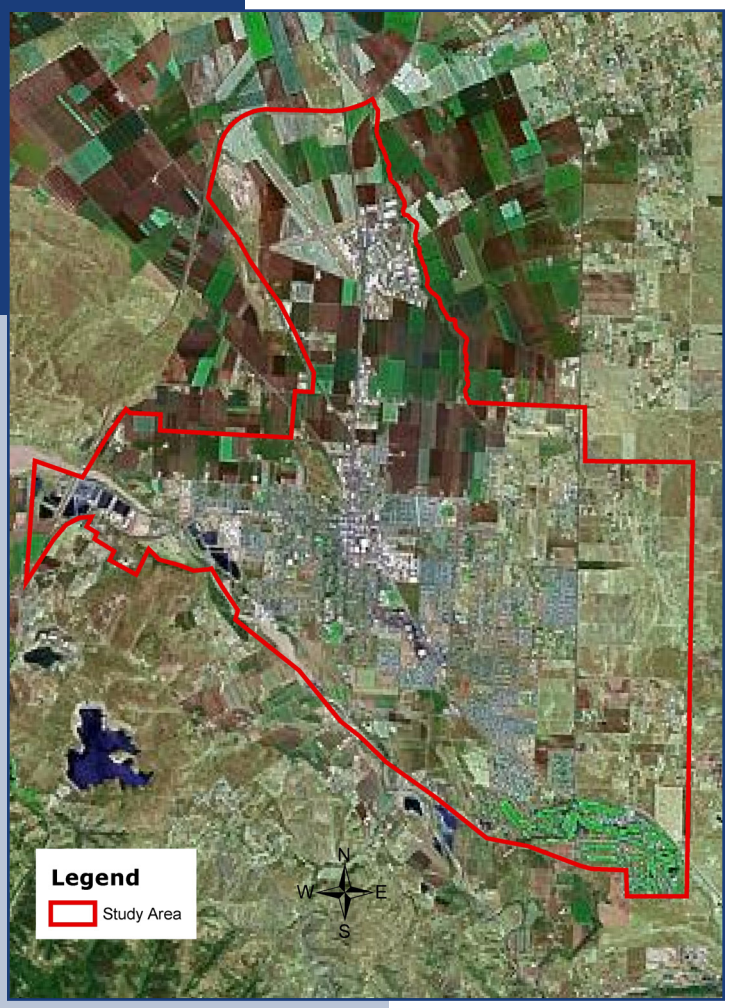
What is a Water and Wastewater Master Plan?

A blueprint used to guide future management and use of the water and wastewater resources for a designated area for an agreed upon time period.

Background

Northern San Benito County has a diverse and complex water supply system. The system is composed of a substantial groundwater basin, numerous river and creek channels, imported surface water from San Luis Reservoir, and significant opportunities for using recycled water. Recently, wastewater treatment and disposal has become a constraint to development of the Hollister Urban Area. The high level of minerals in the wastewater limits both disposal and recycle options due to adverse impacts to crops and groundwater. Although treated drinking water meets all federal and state drinking water regulations, hardness and minerals in the water supply need to be reduced. The reliability of imported water has declined significantly and the sustainability of local supplies requires review.

To address these issues using an integrated approach, a water and wastewater master plan is being prepared for the Hollister Urban Area in support of and consistent with the General Plans of San Benito County and the City of Hollister. The master plan will provide a long term vision to guide water and wastewater improvements.



Landmark Partnership

A partnership was formed between the City of Hollister, San Benito County and the San Benito County Water District to work together to address these issues. The three entities executed a Memorandum of Understanding and a Statement of Intent in 2004 to develop and maintain the Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan.

Key Goals

- Improve water quality
- Increase the reliability of the water supply
- Coordinate infrastructure improvements for the water and wastewater systems
- Implement goals of Groundwater Management Plan
- Integrate Long-term Wastewater Management Program
- Support economic growth and development consistent with the City of Hollister and San Benito County General Plans and Policies
- Consider regional issues and solutions

Other Related Activities

This project is being coordinated with other ongoing projects:

- ***Recycled Water Feasibility Study***
- ***Groundwater Basin Management Plan***
- ***Groundwater Modeling***
- ***Urban Water Management Plan***
- ***Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements Project***
- ***Long-term Wastewater Management Program***

Primary Elements

- Involve the community
- Confirm planning approach
- Establish evaluation criteria
- Develop and evaluate alternatives
- Develop financial and implementation plan

Public Workshop Schedule

Spring 2006	Planning Approach
Summer 2006	Alternatives Analysis
Fall 2006	Draft Implementation Plan

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