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The Oro Loma Pledge:
To continue providing the best possible service at the lowest possible cost, as we have done for the last 100 years.

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Special 100th Anniversary Issue
August 7, 1911- August 7, 2011

August 7, 1911

Up until 1910, San Lorenzo was largely rural farms, fruit-drying fields, and cherry orchards. The land was very flat, close to sea level, with foothills to the east. In 1910, the area began to see the subdivision of large farms and estates for individual home sites. With such development, and with large areas subject to winter flooding, community leaders envisioned the need for a public storm water and sewer system. On August 7, 1911, a petition to form Oro Loma Sanitary District was approved by the County of Alameda Board of Supervisors. It encompassed an area of about 800 acres north of Hayward in an area bounded roughly by San Lorenzo Creek and Mattox Road on the north, Meekland Avenue on the west, Grove Way on the south, and Foothill Boulevard on the east.

1940

By the beginning of 1940, development of the area created an urgent need for proper sewage treatment and disposal. In April 1940, the District was reorganized under the Sanitary District Act of 1923. On April 19, 1940, a five-member Board of Directors was elected. Between 1940 and 1952, 47 large parcels were annexed to the District and 146 subdivisions were accepted.

1941

On March 26, 1941, by Resolution No. 26, Oro Loma approved the first of many joint agreements between Oro Loma, Castro Valley Sanitary District (CVSD), and the City of Hayward in regard to the sewer outfalls, as well as future sewer works. In 1941, a joint outfall sewer was constructed from the intersection of Grove Way and Meekland Avenue to a point of discharge in the San Francisco Bay.

1944

Oro Loma contracted with Oakland Scavenger Company to provide trash collection and disposal services to the District’s customers.

1911 from top: Fruit-drying field; San Lorenzo Library; Old Burr House; Oakland Scavenger truck.