



ORO LOMA NEWS

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Sewer Upgrades

Every year, Oro Loma inspects over 120 miles of sewer lines, nearly half of the 280 miles of the District's underground sewer lines. Using a closed-circuit TV camera that crawls through the pipeline, Oro Loma identifies lines with defects or problems. Defects can include cracked or collapsing pipes, root intrusion, or loose connections. Each year, the sections of pipeline with the most serious problems are replaced. One of the sections chosen for replacement in 2012 is a 50-year-old sewer line under Hesperian Boulevard.

Crews will be working on Hesperian Boulevard between West A Street and Bartlett Avenue, replacing 1,100 feet of cracked 12-inch clay sewer pipe with 18-inch high density polyethylene (HDPE) pipe. The work is expected to begin in January 2012, and continue for about a month, from 8:00 am–5:00 pm Monday–Friday.

Oro Loma is using a trenchless, pipe-bursting technique that breaks apart the old 12-inch clay pipe while still in the ground, and allows the 18-inch HDPE pipe to be pulled through the existing trench. The HDPE pipe is more durable than clay pipe and does not allow root intrusion or groundwater infiltration. Trenchless pipe-bursting saves time and money and minimizes disruption to the public by avoiding the need to dig open a trench along the entire length of the pipe. Traffic on Hesperian Boulevard, however, will need to squeeze down to one or two lanes during the pipe replacement operation.

Another project that will get underway shortly is at Grove Way and Mission Boulevard in Hayward. This project should also last about a month, weekdays 8:00 am–5:00 pm. The project involves shutting down three of four siphons that run under a nearby creek, demolishing one manhole, and rebuilding a major 25-foot deep manhole structure. The District has approximately 45 of these deep-vaulted manholes that connect multiple sewer lines.

These projects are funded through the District's Capital Improvement Program.

In this 2009 photo at 167th Ave., workers ready new HDPE pipe for placement using trenchless pipe-bursting.

