

# Storey County Water System



## County Priorities for the Lake Tahoe Basin and the Marlette Lake System

*Legislative Committee for the Review and Oversight of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency and the Marlette Lake Water System*

*January 23, 2024*



# Overview

- 2023 Water Resources Plan
  - Capacity
  - Buildout Estimate
- Capital Investments
- Needed Improvements
- Fiscal Obligations
- Next Steps

# Storey County Water System

## Comstock

- Virginia City
- Gold Hill
- Silver City (Lyon County)
- American Flat

## Outside Scope of Franktown Decree

- Highlands
- Mark Twain

# Storey County Water System

- Siphon
- Treatment Plant (Surface Treat)
- Ophir Grade Transmission
- Silver City Transmission
- 2 Reservoirs
- 2 Tanks Raw
- 5 Tanks Treated
- Distribution



- 803 Connections
- 596 *Residential*
- 207 *Commercial*
- 1,310 Population
- 995 Vacant Residential Parcels
- 236 Vacant Commercial Parcels

# Capacities & Uses

## Water Use Agreement, 2002

- 495 AF          Comstock Limit
- 221 AF          Comstock Used

# Capacities & Uses

## Capacities

*(millions/gallons)*

- 1.2/day Treatment
- 2.4 Treatment Potential
- 7.5 Raw Water Storage
- 1.5 Treated Water Storage

## Uses

- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Fire Suppression – Urban
- Fire Suppression – Wildland
  - *Wildland Urban Interface*
  - *Historic buildings*

# Current & Buildout

	Current (AF)	Expansion (AF)	Buildout (AF)
Virginia City, Gold Hill, Silver City	221	456	677
American Flat	4.5	291	296
<b>Total</b>	<b>225.5</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>973</b>
<b>Total w. Potential Parcel Splits</b>			<b>1,500 (estimate)</b>



# Challenges

- Antiquity
- Maintenance
- Staffing
- Small Pool of Rate Payers
- Debt

# System Upgrades

## Overview

(Millions)

- \$12                      Transmission
- \$6                        Distribution
- \$43                      Buildout Needs
- **\$61                      Total Costs Comstock\***

*\*Water Resources Plan includes analyses of areas outside of the Comstock that may not be feasible to develop. \$210 million comprehensive capital improvement plan.*

# System Upgrades

## Completed by Storey County Water System

- Water Treatment Plant
- Ophir Grade Water Line
- Siphon Improvements
- New Reservoirs
- B Street Water Main
- Tanks, Raw
- Tanks, Treated
- **\$12 million +**

# System Upgrades

## Needed

\$12 million	Main Transmission Siphon
<i>\$7 million</i>	<i>Main American Flat Siphon</i>
\$2.6 million	Silver Street Waterline
\$1.3 million	Divide Waterline
\$6 million	Silver City Waterline
\$4 million	3 Water Tanks
\$10 million	Distribution VC / Gold Hill
\$4 million	Distribution American Flat
<b><i>\$61 million</i></b>	<b><i>Total Estimate</i></b>

# Rates, Revenues, and Debt

## Water Rate Comparison (2024)

- **\$47.59**      **Virginia City/Gold Hill**
- \$19.67      Reno
- \$26.02      Dayton/Moundhouse
- \$57.00      Silver Springs
- \$43.00      Canyon GID
- \$27.39      Carson City

## Debt and Revenue (2024)

- \$3 million      USDA Bonds
- \$100,000      Annual Bond Payments
- \$600,000      Annual Revenue
- \$600,000      Annual Expenses
- **803**      **Rate Payers**

# Next Steps

## Successor Water Agreement

- State of Nevada
- Storey County
- Carson City
- TMWA (surplus/spill)
- 2002 Water Agreement MOU
- Raw Water Purchase Agreement
- Regional Methods to Address Issues

## Fund Capital Improvements

- Federal Appropriations
- Local Tax Funds
- Enterprise Fund

# Questions



## Contact

Storey County Water System

Austin Osborne, County Manager

Jason Wierzbicki, Public Works Director

775.847.0968