

SMARTCOVER

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LIFT STATION MONITORING DURING EMERGENCY FORCE MAIN REPAIRS

BACKGROUND

The Carpinteria Sanitary District (CSD) provides wastewater collection, treatment and disposal services to residents and businesses in the City of Carpinteria, CA and nearby unincorporated areas in the Carpinteria Valley.

Carpinteria is a small Southern California coastal town -- just east of Santa Barbara and northwest of Ventura. The Carpinteria Valley -- referred to as "California's flower basket" -- is one of the largest greenhouse hubs, producing millions of dollars in flower sales per year. Some of the state's most environmentally sensitive areas are located in this fertile valley.

While the City of Carpinteria is home to 20,600 residents, as a regional jobs center, there's a daily workforce population expansion that exceeds local residents numbers.

This quaint seaside tourist destination, attracts nearly 900,000 annual visitors and hosts the Avocado Festival -- the most prominent event in all of Santa Barbara County with more than 100,000 visitors.

CSD is responsible for cleaning and maintaining 42 linear miles of sewer pipeline and approximately 4,300 lower lateral sewers throughout the City of Carpinteria and surrounding areas.

THE CHALLENGE

CSD had an ongoing issue with a force main leak. During the winter season, SmartCover notifications alerted the CSD team there was an issue around a lift station, which required a field inspection. Underground infrastructure typically requires routine "just in case" visual inspections to ensure proper function and mitigate risk -- unless you have SmartCover.

With most staff on holiday leave, sending traffic management and a crew out into the field unnecessarily would be expensive. Matt Oliver, Collection System Supervisor, called the SmartCover after hours support line to confirm the unit located at the lift station was operating properly. The data analysis was confirmed and he knew it was time to roll a truck as quickly as possible.

THE SOLUTION

Due to the bypass configuration of the lift station and the location of the backup wet well telemetry equipment, CSD was relying on SmartCover to monitor sewer levels during the force main line repairs.



8

Lift Stations

4K

Lateral Sewers

42

Miles of
Sewer Pipeline

4K

Connections

20K

Population

900K

Annual Tourists



LIFT STATION BACKUP IS KEY TO RAPID REPAIRS WITHOUT SEWAGE SPILL

THE RESULTS

Aided by their real-time SmartCover data reports, CSD staff identified and validated there was an issue.

“Real-time data from the SmartCover unit at lift station two bolstered our situational awareness and allowed us to properly configure our bypass system during repairs.”

-- Matt Oliver, CSD Collection System Supervisor

An emergency response crew was dispatched to install a new bypass around the cracked portion of the force main. The sewer lines were continuously monitored while critical repairs were accomplished without any sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs).

SUMMARY:

Cities like Carpinteria can be confident that SmartCover is not only providing ongoing smart sewer monitoring but also the system's extended battery power and satellite communications bring an extra layer of protection and visibility when a community or neighborhood goes off grid due to a power outage or cell service disruption.

With the SmartCover technology suite, a community is protected during extreme conditions -- whether manmade or by mother nature.

Online sewer reports give full visibility in and around infrastructure at the most critical times -- BEFORE it becomes an emergency.

SmartCover is widely used by smart utilities for lift station back-up and monitoring when there is a lack of reliable power, telemetry and/or cellular coverage.

