

From the Victor Valley Wastewater Reclamation Authority



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Upper Narrows update from VWRA Construction Manager Alton Anderson:

Work on the Upper Narrows Pipeline Replacement project continues. The tunnels underneath 7th Street and C Street in Old Town Victorville have been completed. The large tunnel boring machine began making its way through the rocky hills of the Narrows in January and has travelled about 300 feet so far. It will eventually create a 1300 foot long tunnel that will join the previously drilled tunnel underneath C Street. That tunnel leads to Old Town Victorville where it makes a 90 degree turn underneath 7th Street toward the VWRA treatment plant. These tunnels will eventually be home to large pipelines that will carry wastewater from Hesperia, Apple Valley, Victorville and Spring Valley Lake.

Crews are also installing manholes near 7th and E in Victorville and at locations in Apple Valley. Two 16 inch pipelines, from Apple Valley to the Narrows, have been completed and work is continuing on the Hesperia tie in. As of now, the overall project is approximately 70 percent complete.

As with many large construction projects, there have been a number of unexpected delays. Bad weather, unknown underground geological conditions, equipment break downs and malfunctions and groundwater seepage have been just some of the challenges the construction teams have encountered. While there is no way to predict future problems, the pipeline replacement is on track to be completed by late August. However, there are no guarantees since this is a very complicated project. We appreciate the public's patience as we strive to complete what was considered an ambitious and challenging project from the start.

Alton Anderson
VWRA Construction Manager

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