



# TCPUD QUARTERLY NEWS JAN-20



## TCPUD BOARD ADOPTS 2020 BUDGET, SEWER AND WATER RATES

At the November 22, 2019 Board meeting, the TCPUD Board of Directors unanimously approved Resolution 19-27 Adopting the Operating, Non-Operating, Special Studies and Capital Budgets for 2020 - including a total operating expense budget of \$12.8 million, TCPUD funded capital budget of \$13.7 million, and non-operating expense and debt service payments of \$1.2 million. The TCPUD remains committed to its long-term objective of investing in its infrastructure and providing quality services to all its customers and visitors. A total of 43 water, sewer, and parks and recreation capital improvement projects are identified in the 2020 budget, and include the West Lake Tahoe Regional Water Treatment Plant, distribution improvements in the Timberland and Madden Creek Water System service areas, and rehabilitation of the Tahoe City Residential Sewer System. Additionally, improvements and upgrades will occur at TCPUD owned and/or operated facilities including, Commons Beach, Skylandia Beach, Kilner Park, Rideout Community Center, and the Tahoe City Golf Course.

The 2020 TCPUD budget reflects new sewer and water rates adopted under Proposition 218 guidelines, in accordance with the 2019 Water and Sewer Rate Study. These rates continue to fully fund operations for both sewer and water. The rate revenue, along with property tax and grants, provide the critical funding that allows the TCPUD to undertake the 2020 planned capital improvement projects, and to continue the rehabilitation of the TCPUD's aging water and sewer infrastructure.

For more detailed information about the TCPUD 2020 operating and capital budgets, and water and sewer rates, please visit [tcpud.org/budget](http://tcpud.org/budget).

### NEWSLETTER GOING DIGITAL IN APRIL

Beginning in April 2020, the TCPUD Quarterly Newsletter will be delivered digitally. An October 2019 newsletter survey revealed 62 percent of respondents would prefer an electronic quarterly newsletter while 32 percent of respondents answered they prefer paper. Due to the strong preference for digital outreach, along with the cost savings from the reduction of printing and postage costs, **this will be your final paper newsletter bill insert**. The digital quarterly newsletter will include the same types information, but will be sent via our email provider, Constant Contact, and posted online at [tcpud.org/quarterly-newsletters](http://tcpud.org/quarterly-newsletters). If you have not given your email address to the TCPUD, please sign-up for e-newsletters online at [tcpud.org](http://tcpud.org) or email [slyans@tcpud.org](mailto:slyans@tcpud.org).

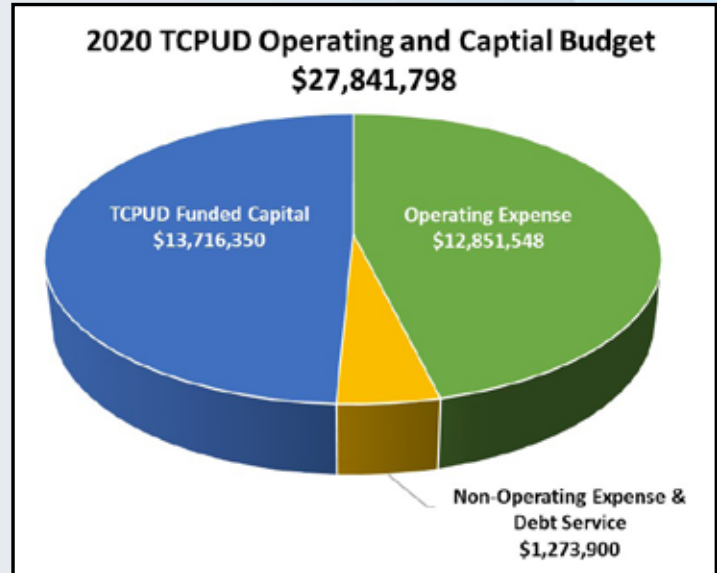
A big thank you to all the newsletter survey respondents for providing valuable feedback to help the TCPUD improve our future customer communications. And, congratulations to Jane Newhard-Parks of Tahoma for winning our newsletter survey raffle. Jane is the recipient of a 2019-2020 Tahoe City Winter Sports Park Season Pass.

### CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

**Dollar Edgewater & Glenridge Sewer Back-up Power Projects:** Completed in December 2019, two capital infrastructure projects showcase TCPUD's improvements to sewer pump stations with limited storage capacity. The **Dollar 1 Edgewater Backup Power Project** will provide permanent backup power to the sewer pump station that serves lakefront sewer customers in Dollar Point. The **Glenridge Sewer Pump Station Generator Building Project** will provide permanent backup power to the sewer pump station serving sewer customers near Meeks Bay. Both Projects demonstrate TCPUD's commitment to maintain critical backup power equipment across our district and prepare for the threat from wildfire, extreme weather events, and public safety power shutoffs

**Tahoe Cedars & Madden Creek Water System Master Plans:** In August 2019, the TCPUD solicited written proposals for the development of Master Plans for the Tahoe Cedars and Madden Creek Water Systems. The Master Plans will focus on assessing overall system deficiencies and recommending improvements and associated capital infrastructure projects to bolster reliability within each water system. In November 2019, the contract for the Master Plans was awarded to Carollo Engineering and is planned for completion in fall 2020.

Additional information regarding capital improvement projects and plans can be found on the TCPUD website at [tcpud.org/capital-improvement-projects](http://tcpud.org/capital-improvement-projects).



## WATER WINTERIZATION TIPS

Winter weather is here! To protect your home and keep your water flowing, be water wise and winterize. The most important step is to use your **stop and waste drain valve** (if you have one) to drain your pipes anytime you leave for extended periods. Freezing water expands enough to break plastic, copper, and even steel pipes and can ruin tile and carpet, drywall, short electrical appliances, and destroy furniture. Here are a few winterization tips you can take to help prevent pipes from freezing:

- When unoccupied, shut off water to the house, drain all internal piping.
- Allow heat to reach plumbing, but do not solely rely on using a heater to keep pipes from freezing. Heaters can fail at any time, especially when it is extremely cold and they are constantly on, or when the power goes out.
- Insulate exposed water pipes – under sinks, in attics, crawl spaces or outside house.
- Locate and stake water shut off box at the street. Stakes are available at the TCPUD.

If you do not have a way to shut off and drain the water from your house, please contact a licensed plumber to discuss your options.

### WHAT IS A STOP AND WASTE DRAIN VALVE?

Have you ever wondered what a stop and waste drain valve is? Many homes have a stop and waste valve, or a stop and drain valve, as the main water shut off to their house. When turned off, these valves drain water from under a house to avoid frozen pipes. However, as the valves get older they become harder to operate. If they are not opened or closed completely, water will bleed out of the drain hole under pressure, creating a constant leak. The TCPUD has responded to leaks caused by this issue and found crawl spaces completely flooded. To avoid wasting water, and possible damage to your property, the TCPUD recommends always properly and fully opening or closing these valves. If you have questions, please call the TCPUD at 530.580.6278.



### 2019 MULTI-USE TRAIL SYSTEM ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABLE

On August 7 and 8, 2019, trail user counts and intercept surveys were conducted by a team of TCPUD staff, partner agencies, and community volunteers at four locations within the TCPUD Multi-Use Trail System. A primary goal of the annual Trail Survey is to ensure the TCPUD adequately addresses and responds to improvement opportunities that further the public's enjoyment of the trail system. A few noteworthy highlights from the 2019 Multi-Use Trail Summary Report include:

- 91% of respondents claim the trails play a significant positive role in their enjoyment of North Lake Tahoe.

- 76% have, or would consider, using the trails in the winter. – **TCPUD trail snow removal has expanded to over 10 miles this winter!**
- 48% would have used a car for their trip had they not been using the trail.
- 11% were using Electric "E-bikes" – which are allowed on the trails.

To view the full 2019 Multi-Use Trail Survey Summary Report, visit [tcpud.org/biketrails](http://tcpud.org/biketrails)

### WINTER SPORTS PARK IS OPEN

The Tahoe City Winter Sports Park is back for its fourth year offering ice skating, sledding, and 4km of dog friendly cross country and skate skiing trails. The ice skating rink opened for 2019-2020 season on a snowy Thanksgiving weekend, welcoming over 300 attendees to the Park. The ice rink operates daily from 10am – 8pm through mid-March, weather and conditions permitting. For rate and pass information and to join the TCPUD youth hockey league, please visit the new Winter Sports Park website at [wintersportspark.com](http://wintersportspark.com). To learn more about Café Zenon, the Park's food and beverage operator, visit [cafezenon.com](http://cafezenon.com). Come join us for a great season at the Tahoe City Winter Sports Park.



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### ICE RINK DASHER BOARD SPONSORSHIP

Are you a business owner looking for a creative way to promote your business? The Tahoe City Winter Sports Park Ice Rink has Dasher Boards available for sponsorship for the 2019-2020 winter season. Sponsored Dasher Boards are attached to the Ice Rink walls, include

your company's name / logo, and are on display at the Ice Rink for thousands of Winter Sports Park visitors seasonally. Sponsorship is only \$500 and proceeds directly support the Winter Sports Park and TCPUD youth hockey programs. For more information, visit [tcpud.org/sponsorship](http://tcpud.org/sponsorship) or email [bbutterfield@tcpud.org](mailto:bbutterfield@tcpud.org).



### NEW EMPLOYEES AT TCPUD

Earlier this year, the TCPUD welcomed two new staff members. Bryan Collins filled the position of Utilities Operations Specialist I and Wendy Murphy filled the position of Accounting Assistant I. Please help us welcome Bryan and Wendy to the TCPUD!

For emergency, construction, recreation, general public information or announcements, sign up for our E-notices online at [tcpud.org](http://tcpud.org).

**Stay Up-To-Date with TCPUD!**

**View Board Meetings Online** Interested in attending the Board Meetings but can't make it in person? No problem! All TCPUD Board of Directors meetings can be viewed online via live streaming or watch the recorded meeting anytime by visiting [tcpud.org](http://tcpud.org).

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