

West Valley Construction: Saratoga Tanks Replacement Project

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The goal of the construction project was to replace one tank at a time while keeping the site in service to supply customers and their water needs.

The project was a critical part of the water infrastructure as it provides water to customers in the area.

Chris Saul

Division Manager, West Valley Construction

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About

Name: Saratoga Tanks Replacement Project

Location: Grandview Ranch, Pike Road, Saratoga, California

Time Frame: Award 9/2011, Start 12/2011, Completed 5/2013

Project Scope

The project was to replace two existing water tanks with two new welded tanks that hold approximately 1.5 million gallons of water each. Demo of the two existing tanks began in December of 2011 and the project concluded in May of 2013. The two new tanks that were installed in place of the old consisted of one concrete and one welded tank. The project also included the replacement of existing pipelines, electrical and storm drains around the site and on Pike Road.

Pre-planning on this project was more involved than normal. WVC was working with a property owner that had a strong connection with local agencies and leaders. He had a past history of not working well with SJW. WVC was successful in building a working relationship with the property owner while cultivating a professional trust with him to ensure the success of the project. WVC also had various subcontractors that had to be part of the planning. These included a tree removal firm, a demo contractor, a grading contractor, a tank contractor and various inspection agencies.



Challenge

Continued Site Access

One of the major challenges we faced prior to starting the project site was how to perform the job effort without impacting the daily operations and lives of the local residents and property owner.

Solution

On-Site Support

Numerous pre-construction meetings were held with all parties to develop a plan that would have the least impact. Multiple agreements were worked out with various property owners regarding leasing their property during construction and the restoration of properties after the completion. Multiple trees needed to be removed before the project could begin. Before removing the trees a biologist and an environmentalist were brought in to join the project. Both parties had extensive involvement in protecting and relocating various species in the work area.



Project Results



We continue to provide site support to SJW while maintaining an open line of communication with the various owners who may have questions for us. The final result of the project is a definite improvement to the area.

Chris Saul
Division Manager, West Valley Construction



Goals, Requirements, Milestones

The goal of the construction project was to replace one tank at a time while keeping the site in service to supply customers and their water needs. The location site itself was small in size and had very limited access. Saratoga's Pike Road is basically a mile long driveway with numerous residents living along the stretch, which meant that the 18 month construction project was going to have an impact on their daily lives. The project also required the importing of building materials and an extensive off haul on all replaced materials.

Choosing West Valley Construction

WVCC has a history of being the preferred contractor for SJW when the project is challenging and highly visible. We have a proven track record of completing projects of this scope while keeping SJW and their customers as our top priority. Our service solutions bring together any required subcontractors to achieve everyone's goals.