



Costa Mesa Sanitary District

....an Independent Special District

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The Costa Mesa Sanitary District has received 3 distinct awards for excellence and accountability in serving the community!



At the California Special District Association's (CSDA) 2012 Annual Conference in San Diego, the Costa Mesa Sanitary District was the recipient of three prestigious awards. The District received the **"District of Distinction"** from the Special District's Leadership Foundation that recognizes special districts for their prudent fiscal practices and sound policies in areas of governance, transparency and continuing education. (Shown in photo: Board members, starting from left, Vice President Jim Ferryman, President Bob Ooten, Director Art Perry and Board Secretary, Mike Scheafer.)

The District also received the **2012 McMurchie Excellence in Safety Award** as a result of its low loss ratio (no workers' compensation claims in the last five years) for the Workers' Compensation Program from the Special District Risk Management Authority.

The third award the District received at the conference is the **2012 Innovative Project of the Year** from CSDA for being the first public agency in California to use a new technology for assessing the condition of sewer force mains. The District partnered with a company called Pipeline Inspection and Condition Analysis (PICA) that provides direct condition assessment of pipelines through the use of in-line inspection tools. Their tools use electromagnetic technology that does not require the sensors to be in contact with the pipe wall while inside the pipe. PICA's unique patented technology can measure the remaining wall thickness in cast-iron, ductile-iron and steel pipelines. This technology was used on two of the District's force mains and identified several areas within the pipelines that had significant corrosion causing the wall thickness to be less than twenty percent. With this information, the District's Board of Directors took immediate action by appropriating \$700,000 to repair the two lines, thus avoiding any potential disasters such as a mainline break. District Engineer Rob Hamers stated that he has waited over 30 years for tools like the ones from PICA. He compares the PICA technology to be equivalent to the invention of the calculator for engineers. The Costa Mesa Sanitary District's is demonstrating its



commitment to being proactive rather than reactive to protecting the public's health and the environment by rehabilitating its sewer force mains before they fail.



Protecting our community's health and the environment by providing solid waste and sewer collection services.