



May 8, 2019

TO ALL PARCEL OWNERS WITHIN THE LPWWA SERVICE AREA:

Please note that this letter covers an update for everyone, items that property owners in Phase 1 need to do and items that those that are not in Phase 1 need to do. So please read everything so you don't miss what might apply to you.

La Plata West Water Authority (LPWWA) is pleased to present this community wide update of our efforts to bring a reliable domestic water system to you! Construction is complete for the Phase 0 Raw Water Pipeline from the Intake Structure at Lake Nighthorse to the water treatment plant at Lake Durango, and pumping has occurred several times.

Late last fall, Williams Construction Company began installation of the 8" main line near the top of Blue Hill and got nearly to the intersection of Highway 140 by December 21, 2018, with the installation of that line. During that time, work proceeded quickly in parcel owner easements, and more slowly and expensively in the county right-of-way. Breaking for the holidays and weather conditions since then have precluded ongoing construction until conditions stabilize. Construction on piping has resumed as of this letter. All documents and contracts have been completed with Great Plains Construction to construct the Blue Hill water storage tank, with plans to start that portion of the project this month! Substantial completion of the whole project is scheduled for November 15, 2019, shortly after which we should be able to start providing safe and dependable water for all in Phase 1 that have subscribed.

In the meantime, LPWWA is opening a new campaign for interested folks in Phase 1 to sign-up now as there is still capacity in the pipeline to accommodate many more new water-users. The monthly base cost is **currently estimated** at \$115 for each subscription. With a renewed focus on the original goal of 200 subscribers for Phase 1, 40 to 50 additional subscribers could help reduce monthly costs for everyone, including those currently signed up. If the following conditions exist for your property, the subscription cost will be \$10,000, with an option to pay as little as \$3000 with the balance to be paid over 5 years, interest free.

- 1) Your meter pit would need to be directly adjacent to or across a county road or state highway from a currently designed pipeline.
- 2) The location for your meter pit is within the area of the completed environmental/cultural survey per federal requirements. Please contact LPWWA for verification.
- 3) At least 35 new Phase 1 subscriptions for \$10,000 are received by LPWWA on or before June 30, 2019, that comply with conditions 1 and 2 listed above.

For those within Phase 1 that do not meet the three above conditions, you can sign up for a follow-up phase that will be comprised of those within Phase 1 for which an additional environmental/cultural survey will need to be completed and meter pits will be installed after the initial project has been completed. If your location does not comply with 1 and 2 above, there will likely be additional costs above the \$10,000 subscription fee for line extension construction and material costs, easement or right-of-way associated costs and a proportional share of the cost of the environmental/cultural survey, but we will approach these additional sign-ups in a collective fashion to bring down costs for those who sign up under these circumstances prior to October 15, 2019. Please contact any board member listed below, or call **970-403-5790**, for more information.

LPWWA recently asked a group of community members to a Future Phase Focus Group meeting to gather information and ideas for expanding the next areas of the water system. Several hours were spent to efficiently plan for marketing a sign-up process for additional subscribers, creation of a master plan to may include services such as fire suppression, and possibly including other utilities such as natural gas and fiber optics companies, planning of the water dock location and layout, and usage by the



community, river crossings, and densities of taps per mile versus miles per tap to make the expansion feasible. Any input from anyone else would greatly be appreciated also, so please don't be shy, and help us make this happen!

LPWWA needs your help in determining the next areas that could be considered for water distribution outside of Phase 1. Please fill out the survey as explained below if interested in getting water, and even if you are not, we would like your opinion.

Please understand that it is a challenging process to contact everyone in the potential service area, so having correct contact information for each property owner is crucial to this process. Please provide this information in one of two ways. The easiest way is to fill out the survey discussed below. Email is the most efficient way for us to communicate with you and will be our main method of communication going forward. If you do not have or do not use email, please call 970-403-5790, and leave a message with your preferred mailing address and/or phone number.

LPWWA SURVEY (takes less than 5 min to complete)

The survey has four parts. The first part is to make sure we have the necessary information to contact you. This is very important. The second part consists of several questions to determine your interest in receiving safe reliable water. In the third part are questions on your use of the Marvel Spring and a possible water dock with water supplied by LPWWA. The fourth part relates to other utilities you might be interested in.

The survey will be what we use to help determine the most likely next areas people are interested in water service. Failure to fill out the survey indicates to us that you are probably not interested in potable water coming to your property at this time and you are not interested in further communications from LPWWA at this time.

The next areas with the strongest positive response to this survey are the areas we will concentrate on to extend the system. The more interested landowners in your neighborhood the better chance you have of a water line being extend to your area, so we encourage you to speak with your neighbors and make sure they fill out the survey and show their interest.

WHERE TO FILL OUT SURVEY

Please fill out one survey per mailing address. The survey information you've provided will be analyzed on **June 14th**, please respond promptly to help us plan your (our) water future.

IF YOU HAVE INTERNET: To fill out the survey go to lpwwa.org website, or type in this link <https://bit.ly/2DHbhju>. On the right column of the home page, click on **CLICK HERE TO TAKE SURVEY**: You will be taken to the survey and when finished being sure to click **SUBMIT** at the bottom of the survey.

IF YOU DON'T HAVE INTERNET: Please find a friend, relative, or go to the Fort Lewis Mesa School Library, where you can use the computer and internet. Otherwise please call board member Ken Spence at 970-759-7082, and he will mail you a survey or you can answer the questions on the phone with him.

Thank you and With Water in Mind,

LPWWA Board of Directors

Roy Horvath: 749-1181, Ken Spence: 759-7082, Mardi Gebhardt: 749-1949, Barb McCall: 247-7956, Frank Smith: 759-3961, Paul Gray: 259-2683, Deb Flick: 769-5839, Kevin Mallow: 563-0220