

## Collection Systems Committee

Report to BACWA Board

Committee meeting on 05/08/2025

Executive Board Meeting Date: 06/20/2025

Committee Chairs: Tyree Jackson (Oakland)  
and Dana Lawson (Central San)

### Committee Request for Board Action: None

35 attendees from 17 member agencies participated in-person at Central San in Walnut Creek.

**Committee Leadership:** Co-chair Tyree Jackson welcomed Dana Lawson, Senior Engineer at Central San, as the committee's new co-chair.

**Tour of Central San's Collection System Operations Facility** - Staff from Central San provided a tour of the facility's unique training capabilities for collection system maintenance, including:

- **Spill Simulator** for training staff to estimate spill volumes and flow rates. The simulator uses potable water, and can be set to a wide range of flow rates and different manway covers that are specific to the Central San system (e.g., manhole/rodding inlet covers, private cleanout; pick hole/no pick hole).
- **Cleaning Practice** - short stretches of fake sewer pipe are available for practicing rodding and hydro-flushing, which are the two methods that Central San crews typically use for cleaning.
- **Clear Pipe** - a short stretch of clear plastic pipe allows crews to view the tools in action.
- **Manhole Entry** - an above-the-ground cutaway manhole enables confined-space entry training.
- **Creek Cleanup** - crews can practice using equipment to contain and clean up a sewer spill to surface waters, including deployment of a [Water-Gate™](#) flexible barrier.

After the tour, Central San's GIS Analyst Mike Matthews shared information about Central San's mapping interface and computerized maintenance management system (Cityworks) for maintenance planning, asset management, and sewer work permitting. Central San crews use iPads that are synced to Cityworks each morning, so maintenance record-keeping is paperless.



### Announcements

- On Thursday May 29<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM, the Summit Partners will host a webinar on Sanitary Sewer Systems General Order (SSS-WDR) implementation. [Register here.](#)
- Agencies that use the pesticide [Insecta](#) for roach control in manholes should be aware that this product contains chlorpyrifos, which can cause effluent compliance problems due to its toxicity at very low levels. If your agency uses this pesticide, please contact [Mary Cousins.](#)

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 14<sup>th</sup> - Virtual