Resourcing the world

# Building a sustainable future in Rialto, CA

### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Veolia North America delivers water and wastewater services to 100,000 people in Southern California as part of a much celebrated public-private partnership with the City of Rialto, CA, and Rialto Water Services.

The unique 30-year concession agreement has allowed Rialto to accelerate muchneeded infrastructure improvements, while retaining full ownership of water and wastewater systems, water rights and supply, and complete rate-setting authority.

Veolia has been operating in California for 50 years and treating the City of Rialto's wastewater for nearly 20.

Recent improvement projects include a renovation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant, which handles all of the city's effluent. An innovative and prospective capital project currently under design is the installation of a microgrid, which is expected to save the city about \$355,440 a year in energy costs, with an anticipated return on investment in about eight years.



MAXIMUM DAILY

**24 KEY PROJECTS PRIORITIZED** PRODUCTION TO ENSURE SAFE AND RELIABLE 17.603 MILLION GALLONS --- DRINKING AND WASTEWATER SERVICES

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NUMBER OF WATER SERVICE CONNECTIONS: 11.886

## What do our clients have to say?

"The Rialto partnership has delivered strong results for the utility and the city as a whole. The major capital projects rebuilt seriously degraded assets. Utility operations have performed well for the first five years, and a new proactive asset management plan is in place for identifying and prioritizing repairs and upgrades as they arise. Financial performance has been better than planned, and the City of Rialto has received 32% in excess performance dividends in the first five years, allowing it to defer rate increases, fund a conservation program, and add a dedicated utility director."

- Bay Area Council Economic Institute

"As California and the rest of the country contend with a growing number of natural disasters linked to climate change—including widespread power outages and brownouts caused by heat waves and wildfires the resilience offered by a microgrid power source is more important than ever. We recognize that the time has come to invest and think boldly and creatively in protecting our resources. This project represents a great step forward in the way municipalities like ours can take positive steps toward a greener future."

- Rialto Mayor Deborah Robertson



### **Rialto At-A-Glance**







186.5 Miles of Water Main



30

YEAR CONTRACT PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

## **Improvement Projects**









As part of its public-private partnership with the City of Rialto, CA, Veolia North America delivers all water and wastewater services, including billing and customer service, and oversees a \$41 million capital improvement program to upgrade aging facilities. This long-planned upgrade to the infrastructure introduces cost and energy efficiencies for the City, seismic retrofits, improved water supply and wastewater capacity, and brings hundreds of construction jobs to the local economy. All of these projects are completed and we are now working on the next generation of capital projects. Rialto Water Services is working on obtaining financing (through *WIFIA* and *SRF*) to fund and facilitate over \$100 million in future capital projects.

#### SYSTEMWIDE UPGRADES TO SEWER AND WATER SYSTEMS

As part of its concession agreement, Veolia has made—and continues to make—numerous improvements to the City of Rialto's water and wastewater systems. They include retiring four of five obsolete wastewater treatment plants and expanding and updating a fifth, built in 2000. This project was called S1. Veolia implemented a best in class asset management program, updated the SCADA systems, electrical systems, and an automated billing system. In addition, Veolia developed and implemented a robust Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP) to meet EPA standards. Some of the many other improvements included upgrading service lines to copper, replacing hundreds of water meters, replacement of fire hydrants, service valves, water mains, and sewer lines.

#### MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS AT THE RIALTO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Veolia worked with AECOM and W. M. Lyles Co. to uprade and expand the Rialto Wastewater Treatment Plant, which handles all the effluent effluent for the City and its incorporated area. In order for the plant to be used during construction, a new expansion, including new filters and a disinfection unit, was built but kept offline until they could be tied into the influent line. The project was completed on budget and three months ahead of schedule.

#### **DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF A MICROGRID**

The City of Rialto, in partnership with Rialto Water Services and Veolia North America, are designing and installing a microgrid powered through a unique combination of biogas cogeneration, solar power and backup battery storage to supply electricity for the city's wastewater treatment plant. The innovative project, one of the first of its kind in California, is meant to bring the city greater energy independence, resilience and efficiency to protect its essential wastewater treatment system. The microgrid project is expected to cost approximately \$8 million once completed in 2024, with no funding coming from increased taxes in the community. Instead, the funding will be absorbed by the 30-year public private partnership under which the wastewater plant is operated.

#### **AIRPORT REDEVELOPMENT**

As part of the 30-year public-private concession agreement with Veolia, the City of Rialto secured approximately \$35 million in cash for economic development, \$41 million in funding for water and wastewater system improvements, new jobs, and gained the expertise of a professional water company to deliver system and service improvements. As part of the economic development, the City chose to redevelop the Rialto Municipal Airport, which closed in late 2014. The redevelopment project includes commercial property and a 60-acre shopping center, called The Renaissance Marketplace Retail Center. The center, now open, occupies 505,400 square feet of retail buildings and a 14-screen theater multiplex.



### **OUR COMMITMENT TO SERVING THE RIALTO COMMUNITY**

#### **Veolia Recognized for Protecting the Environment**

Veolia North America (VNA) received two elite Top Project of the Year Awards from *Environment + Energy Leader* in recognition of outstanding contributions to the fields of energy and environmental management. The two projects won awards in their individual categories, one for environmental sustainability and the other for energy solutions.

VNA was also recognized for a highly successful, comprehensive energy efficiency project performed by Enovity, VNA's California-based energy services company. The California team worked with Community Regional Medical Center in Fresno to develop and implement comprehensive energy conservation measures, allowing the hospital to reduce electricity consumption by more than 10 percent, resulting in annual cost savings of more than \$600,000 while reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 1,350 metric tons.

Veolia North America was also honored with a 2019 SEAL (Sustainability, Environmental Achievement and Leadership) Environmental Initiative Award for its innovative Hubgrade smart monitoring system, which helps buildings better manage their energy use.

In 2010, Veolia was recognized for its work preserving California's water quality by the California Water Environment Association. (CWEA) and by its Colorado River Basin Section. Veolia Water took home the Collection System of the Year Award for operating and managing the wastewater collection system in Palm Springs. Administered by the CWEA, the award is given to California facilities that achieve "state-of-the-art in wastewater collection" status.

#### Veolia in the Community

We attend and participate in various community events to the help educate citizenry on conservation and water and wastewater treatment. These events include, but not limited to, Earth Day and the Pollution Prevention Fair.



Rialto Water Services and Veolia are committed to providing convenient opportunities for students of all ages to learn about water resources. Partnering with the Rialto Unified School District, Veolia offers a number of ways for teachers and students participate in hands-on experiences designed to educate and inspire them to protect the environment.

Students have an opportunity to learn about how the water and wastewater facilities look and operate to extract, clean and recycle water. Veolia also hosts hands-on activities allowing each student to create their own wells and miniaquifers in a group setting. Periodically, Veolia honors two outstanding high school students with an educational scholarship. The award for two \$2,500 scholarships is sent to a two- or four-year accredited post-secondary institution on behalf of the student.

A subsidiary of the Veolia Group, Veolia North America (VNA) offers a full spectrum of water, waste and energy management services, including water and wastewater treatment, commercial and hazardous waste collection and disposal, energy consulting and resource recovery. VNA helps commercial, industrial, healthcare, higher education and municipality customers throughout North America. Headquartered in Boston, MA, Veolia North America has more than 7,000 employees working at more than 250 locations across the continent.

#### contact

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