The implementation of the Nitrate Program, described below, calls for the construction of sewer mains and laterals to serve over 5,600 parcels. The first phase of this large-scale project includes the Lassen Avenue corridor (Project Area 1N). To date, this portion of the project is 90% complete, providing the opportunity for over 1,000 households to connect to city sewer. The enclosed brochure has been developed to assist property owners through the process of connection. As construction wraps up in Project Area 1N, the second phase of construction, the Chapman-Mulberry Neighborhood (Area 1S), is gearing up. We are planning to release the bid documents by the end of the year, and anticipate construction in Area 1S beginning Spring 2010. Prior to construction, property owners and tenants will be invited to attend a neighborhood meeting to provide detailed information on construction in their neighborhood. Project Area 2N (East Avenue/Cohasset Road area) will be the third area of construction. Design is currently underway, and construction is anticipated to begin in Spring 2013. To obtain future newsletters in electronic format contact jmacarthy@buttecounty.net.

Sewer installation in Project Area 1N, which includes the Lassen Avenue corridor, is nearing completion. In order to assist property owners through the process of sewer connection, a Neighborhood Connection Workshop has been scheduled for October 22, 2009 at the Our Divine Savior Catholic Church Parish Social Center located at 566 East Lassen Avenue at 6:30pm. During the workshop property owners will receive information on the benefits of sewer connection, the step-by-step process for connection, and available types of assistance. Property owners within Project Area 1N will be receiving additional information on the workshop as the meeting date approaches.

Project Updates

We are planning to release the bid documents by the end of the year, and anticipate construction in Area 1S beginning Spring 2010. Prior to construction, property owners and tenants will be invited to attend a neighborhood meeting to provide detailed information on construction in their neighborhood. Project Area 2N (East Avenue/Cohasset Road area) will be the third area of construction. Design is currently underway, and construction is anticipated to begin in Spring 2013. To obtain future newsletters in electronic format contact jmacarthy@buttecounty.net.

About the Project

The Chico Urban Area Nitrate Compliance Program (Nitrate Program) was developed in response to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board’s Prohibition Order No. 90-126 issued on April 27, 1990, which prohibited waste discharges from individual septic systems within the Chico Urban Area. The Order affects nearly 12,000 dwelling units. The County of Butte, City of Chico, and Chico Redevelopment Agency (Agency) have worked together to find a means to provide public sewer facilities to which citizens could connect in order to comply with the Prohibition Order. Project planning costs have been funded with County Service Area 114 revenue dedicated to this project. The costs of construction will be funded with a $38 million loan from the State Water Resources Control Board, which will be repaid with tax increment revenue received by the Agency. This loan has already been approved through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund which is dedicated to addressing water quality issues.