



To: Mountain Regional Water Administrative Control Board Members  
From: Sam Grenlie, District Engineer  
Jessica DiCaprio, Staff Engineer  
Date: January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
Re: 2026 Capital Project Preview

### **Background**

This report provides a preview of Mountain Regional Water Special Service District's (MRW or the District) planned capital projects for 2026. Following a successful 2025 where the District managed over \$5.1 million in project budgets, the 2026 project list is more ambitious – primarily drive by three large construction projects.

Projects are grouped by tier based on size and complexity to ensure appropriate oversight:

- **Tier 1:** Large-scale, bid construction projects with a contract amount of 5% of the District's annual operating budget or greater; these require quarterly Board updates at a minimum.
- **Tier 2:** Moderate-sized, bid construction projects with partial external management support; these receive an annual Board summary at a minimum.
- **Tier 3:** Internally managed system upgrades and construction; these receive Board updates as necessary.

The following previews show planned scope, budgets, and schedules for the 2026 projects.

### Tier 1 Projects (criteria listed below):

Quarterly Board updates minimum.

Contract amount 5% of District annual operating budget, or greater.

Generally large, bid construction projects with external management support.

### **Signal Hill Water Treatment Plant (SHWTP) Optimization Project**

This project retrofits and optimizes the existing SHWTP to increase firm production capacity from 2.6 million gallons per day (mgd) to 5.4 mgd. The design transitions the facility to direct filtration, expanding coagulation and flocculation capacity while removing sedimentation to minimize footprint without adversely affecting water quality.

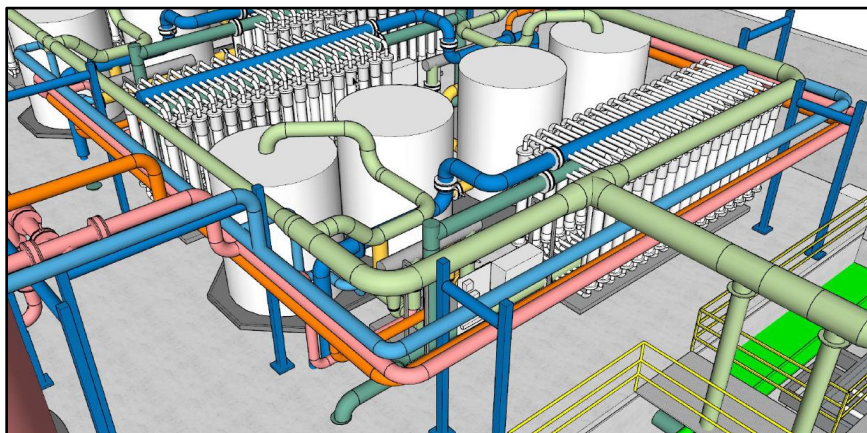
#### Key Design Elements

- Pretreatment: Installation of a pumped flash mix system and conversion of existing basins into flocculation stages with vertical mixers.
- Membrane Filtration: Replacement of four existing skids with four new 1.8-mgd modular skids and the addition of a dedicated off-skid clean-in-place (CIP) tank.
- GAC Polishing: Addition of a third Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) train (two contactors) within a building extension to meet finished water goals.
- Chemical Building: Construction of a new purpose-built chemical facility southwest of the existing plant to provide safe, centralized storage.
- Solids Handling: Repurposing existing basins for equalization and thickening, including the installation of a new belt filter press and conveyor system.

**Budget:** \$37,020,244 (30% contingency included), to be updated at 60% milestone.

**Schedule:** Construction Notice to Proceed targeted September 14, 2026.

**Status:** Progressing towards 60% design, with a Board Presentation in February.



Model of the proposed membrane configuration.

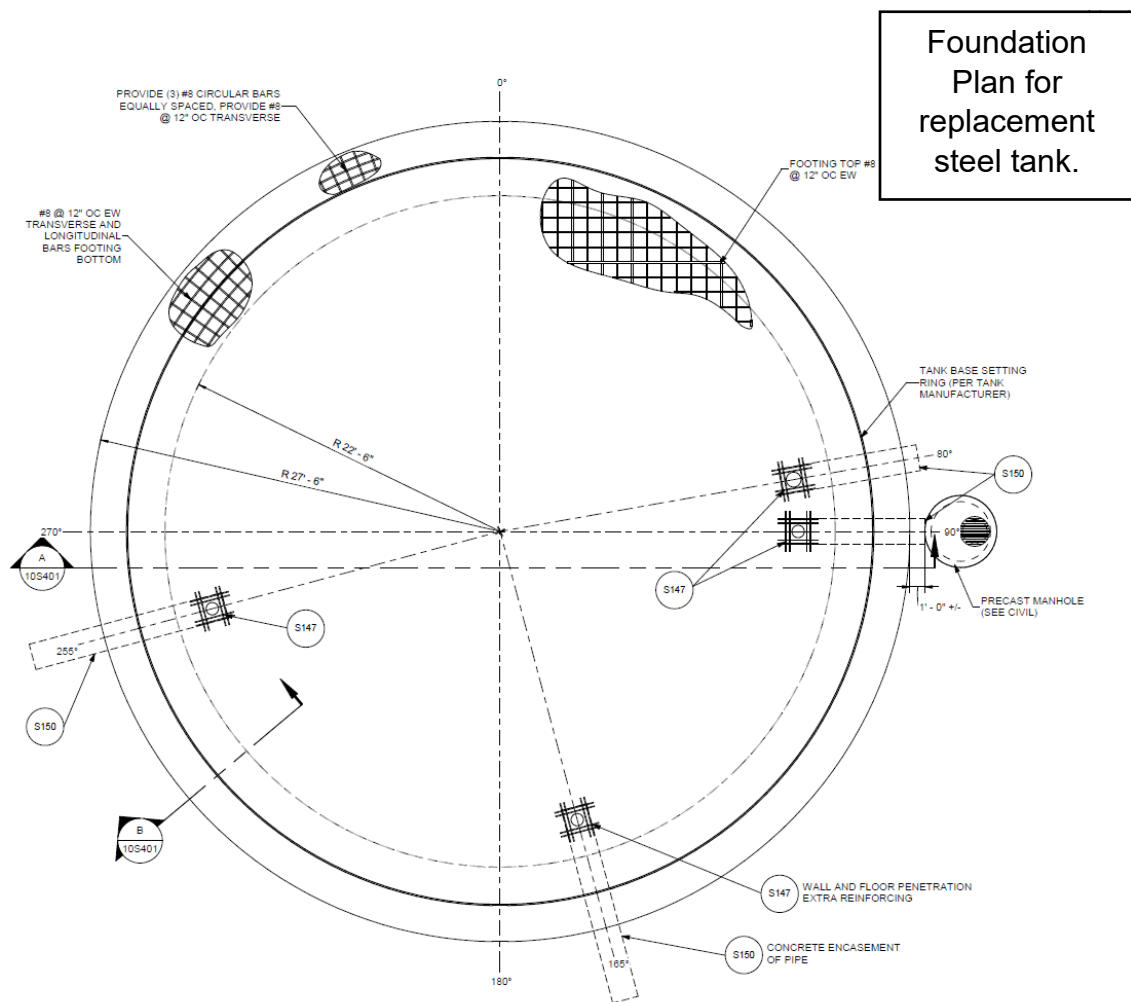
## Canyons Tank Replacement

The Community Water Tank Replacement project will address a critical infrastructure risk by replacing an aging and deteriorating steel water tank located in Willow Draw, near the Canyons Village base area of Park City Mountain. The existing tank has reached the end of its service life, and its deteriorating condition presents a risk of failure. This project includes the construction of a new, upsized 500,000-gallon steel tank on a new concrete footing with minimal associated civil improvements. Upsizing the tank will restore system storage capacity after a neighboring tank failed. This tank is essential storage for the White Pine Tank Zone and allows for the wholesale connection to nearby Vail owned lodges.

**Budget:** \$1,447,310 is lowest received bid.

**Schedule:** Final Completion is October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**Status:** Construction contract to be awarded at January Board Meeting.



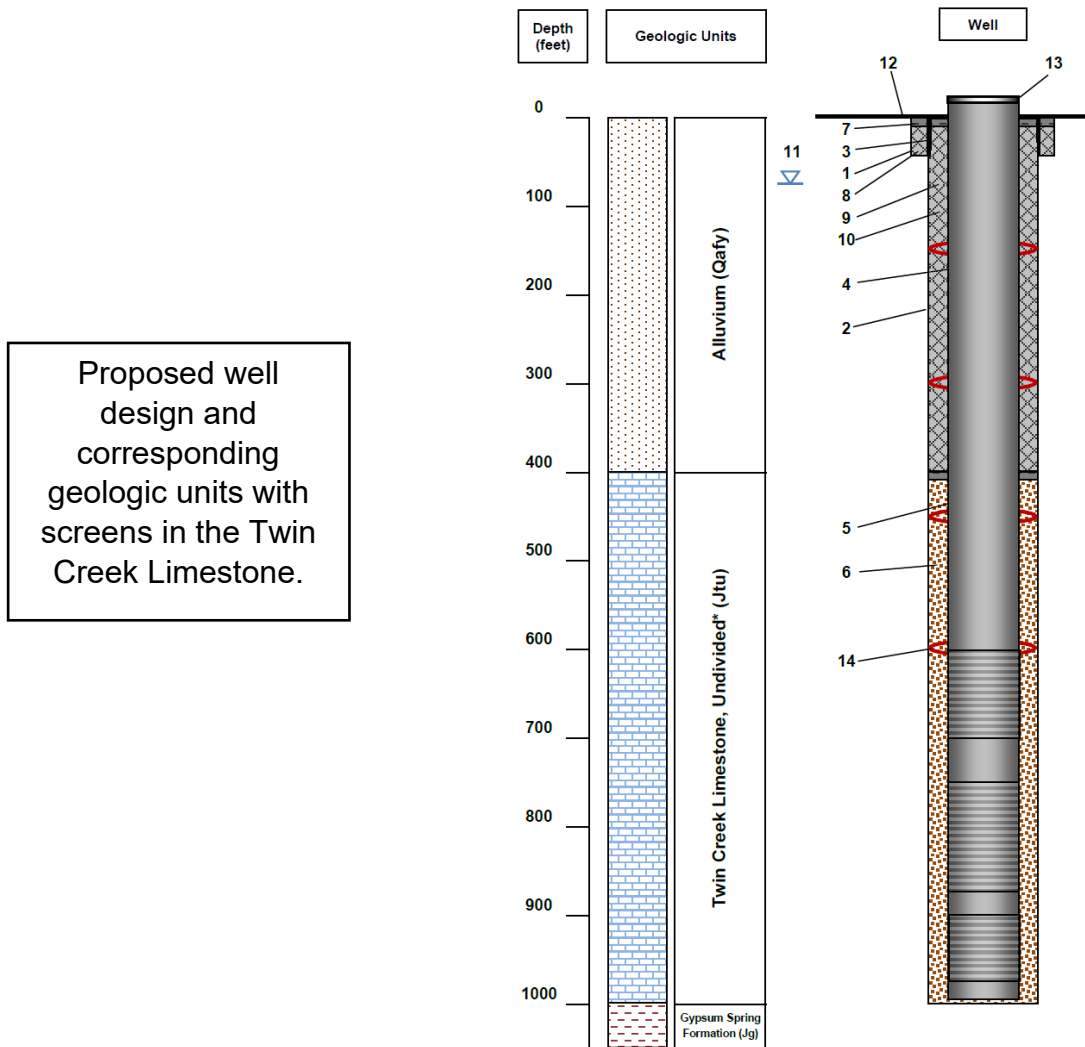
## Old Ranch Well No. 17

The Old Ranch Well No. 17 project directly addresses the critical need for new source development, as identified in the District's 2022 Master Plan, in advance of the future Water Treatment Plant expansion. This new well will be drilled at the existing Old Ranch Booster Pump Station site, a location selected for its geology and operational advantages. The project can leverage existing infrastructure, including power and the pump station structure, reducing overall costs. Its strategic position will allow water to be pumped directly into the Atkinson Tank zone, enhancing supply reliability and operational flexibility.

**Budget:** \$1,423,000, combined design proposals and construction estimate.

**Schedule:** Substantial Completion August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

**Status:** Bid Documents issued January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026.



**Tier 2 Projects** (criteria listed below):

Annual Board summary, updates as necessary.

Moderate sized, bid construction projects with partial external management support.

**Browns Canyon Connection Betterment**

This project is continued from 2025, and is a District-funded betterment tied to Promontory’s extension of Painted Valley Pass to Browns Canyon Road. As part of this development work, Mountain Regional is upsizing approximately 5,800 linear feet of water line to 12-inch PVC to enhance system capacity and regional connectivity. Construction is being performed by MVC Construction under contract with Promontory, with District inspection support provided by MRW staff.

All water lines have been installed and successfully pressure tested, allowing Promontory to hit their paving deadline. Two above-ground control valve structures required for full system operation are nearing substantial completion.

**Budget:** \$255,000 (no anticipated changes).

**Schedule:** Managed by Promontory, anticipated completion 2026.

**Status:** Control valve buildings nearing completion to allow system to operate.



Mechanical piping and control valves under construction at a control valve structure.

### Tier 3 Projects

Annual Board summary at a minimum.

Mountain Regional internally managed system upgrades and construction.

#### **Lake Well Rehabilitation**

The Lake Well Rehabilitation project will maintain well efficiency and upgrade critical control systems. The scope includes scheduled preventative maintenance, consisting of well brushing, bailing, and a video inspection to ensure the long-term health and productivity of the well structure. The project will replace key electronic components that have reached the end of their useful life. This includes a new Variable Frequency Drive (VFD), which controls pump speed, and new Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) hardware, which enables remote monitoring and control.

Blackhawk Well 2R was rehabilitated in 2025, and the SCADA panel was also found to be in need of replacement. This will be tackled concurrently with the Lake Well.

**Budget:** \$108,750, internal MRW estimate.

**Schedule:** End of year 2026.

**Status:** Electrical and communication equipment under procurement.

#### **Signal Hill Water Treatment Plant (SHWTP) SCADA Panel Upgrade**

The SHWTP SCADA Panel Upgrade is a critical preparatory project for the facility's future expansion. The existing SCADA panel is at maximum capacity for both control inputs and outputs, thus it cannot support the additional controls required for the planned WTP upgrades. To ensure uninterrupted service during the larger construction phase, this project will proactively replace the panel and controls in advance. The new, expanded panel will be designed, built, and installed by the District's established electrical and control engineers, aiding integration and preparing for a successful expansion project.

**Budget:** \$200,000, MRW internal estimate.

**Schedule:** Planned for fall installation prior to larger mobilization.

**Status:** Chris Braun is managing the effort with SCADA integrator, SKM.

## Atkinson Well 2 Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR)

This project targets the restoration of Atkinson Well #2, which has experienced declining production due to water quality. The 2026 focus includes a recharge pilot study to inject surplus treated surface water during low-demand months (November–April) for recovery during peak summer periods.

- **Emergency Infrastructure Replacement:** Following a mechanical failure, the well requires a full pump replacement as well as a new SCADA panel and controls to restore and modernize operations.
- **Injection Infrastructure:** Retrofitting the well with a 2-inch PVC and stainless steel eductor pipe set to a depth of 205 feet to facilitate aquifer recharge.
- **Mechanical Improvements:** Targeted injection rates of 200 to 300 gpm, through mechanical modifications to be performed by MRW staff.
- **System Monitoring:** Advanced SCADA integration will provide real-time water level data and automated shut-offs to prevent over-pressurization of the aquifer.

**Budget:** \$150,000, MRW internal estimate.

**Schedule:** Pilot targeted to begin 2026, post irrigation season, for a 3-year duration.

**Status:** Currently under review by the Division of Water Rights.

Mechanical piping with sketched modification to inject treated surface water into the well.

