

Utilities Monthly Report

September 2024

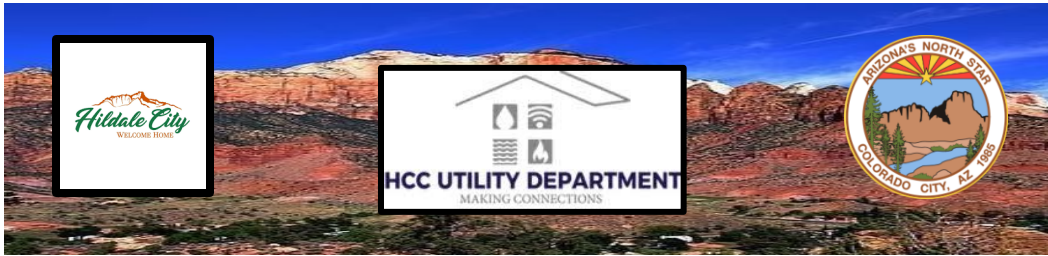
Gas Operations:

Natural Gas

The Utility Crew met with the Fire Department Staff to do a Joint Gas Emergency Response training. The training was successful in coordinated chain of command and practicing emergency procedures in a Simulated Live Environment (SLE) on a broken gas main line. This has improved inter-departmental communication, and we are looking forward to continuing training in the future.

Gas staff delivered and hooked up one (1) propane tank for customers. Staff installed 2,800 feet of two (2) inch gas main line that will serve the Sentinel Subdivision on West Mohave Avenue and Juniper Street.





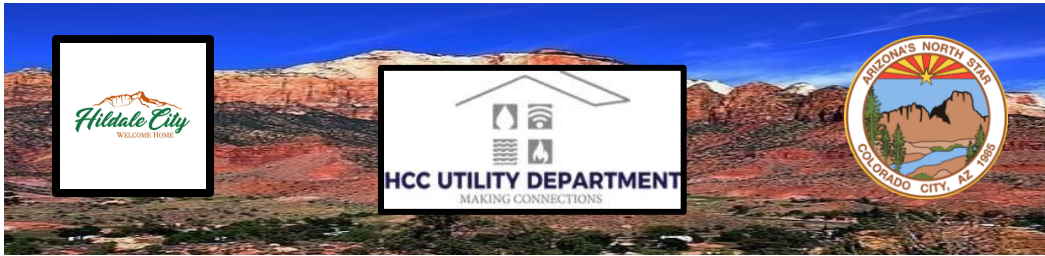
Propane Service

Gas Staff delivered 4,958 gallons of propane to tank customers in August.

Sewer Operations:

The crew has been doing maintenance and replacing worn parts on the Vac Truck. This will enable the staff to continue sewer mainline cleaning.





Water Operations:

Staff replaced an old failing fire hydrant on 1145 North Canyon Street with a new one. Staff have been upgrading meter barrels and clearing the dirt that has been filled in around the water meters to make them easier to read. Staff replaced two (2) leaking water valves with new ones. This will decrease some water loss at the Water Treatment Plant.





Well 17

Staff placed weed resistant fabric and gravel in the well yard. Also, the crew installed a casing vent to allow air into the well column as the ground water fluctuates and are now working on the security fence around Well 17.





Administration:

Work is almost finished on the \$1.4 million Colorado City Mohave County ARPA Grant for Water Improvements. The Raw Water main is installed and will be connected to the system when the water usage reduces, and we can shut down wells to connect the lines to the new main. Well #26 has been completed and is capped until funding is available for the electrical work, pump and motor for the well. The well was test pumped and is estimated to provide between 70 – 90 gallons per minute (gpm) or 100,800 – 129,600 gallons per day. The equivalent of serving about 100 residential houses per day. Well #25, at the Water Treatment Plant site, has been drilled to over 300 feet and the 18” casing installed. Once the well is drilled and the water tested, the well will be capped until funding is available for the electrical work, pump and motor installation.

Permitting is still being worked on with our engineer and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) and Utah Division of Drinking Water (DDW) for the Academy Well and Well #17. Due to a lack of permitting when the original system was installed, we are providing water treatment and blending data to ADEQ and Utah DDW along with receiving the proper permits. In addition, the Water Treatment Plant was not permitted and is now being permitted through ADEQ and DDW. This permitting work is being done through ADEQ and a Grant from the Technical Assistance program for about \$150,000.00.

Discussions have started with Centennial Park about the expansion of their Wastewater System and the impact it will have on our current Lift Station and Force Main. We met with the engineer and are waiting on a Scope and Fee to do the work. For Phase I we will select an Engineer to conduct a study and make a recommendation for changes to the current system. We are negotiating an Interagency Agreement (IGA) with Centennial Park for payment of the study.

WIFA has introduced a new Water Program with a \$2.0 million Grant and up to \$3.0 million Loan. We have a list of projects from the Water Master Plan and from internal reviews which are not Impact Fee eligible to submit for the \$2.0 million grant.



The newly revised Water Rate Increase was adopted by both Councils and went into effect in September 2024, which will be seen on October 2024 water bills. The rate increase was the first water rate increase since 2014, (ten years) and will be implemented over the next four (4) years. The work was completed by the Rural Corporation Assistance Company (RCAC) through a Grant from the USDA-RD for over \$75,000.00. There was no cost for the study by the community.

Under the new Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) revised Lead and Copper Rules, the water system had to conduct and create an inventory of the water service lines to each building we serve. The deadline was October 16, 2024, for sending the results to the EPA. Sunrise was hired, through a contract with DDW, as a grant to our Utility Department of \$100,000.00 to set up the inventory criteria and do the work on most of the reporting. Utility staff completed the filed verification of over 85% of the required survey. The report was submitted to the EPA, by Utilities, on October 9, 2024. This was the first step in the new EPA rule requirements. The next phase will be determined based on the results of the inventory. It is the agency's intent to have all lead removed from water systems by 2030. We have received a Grant for Phase II to cover all the work required. The amount of the grant would be at least \$150,000.00.

PFAS treatment funding from the EPA are available for doing pilot cleaning of the wells which tested positive for PFAS this year. We will work with EPA and DDW to implement the treatment. All costs will be covered by an EPA Grant of at least \$1.0 million.

Utility staff assisted Mayor Jessop, Economic Development Director Lawrence Barlow, City Manager Eric Duthie and our consultant in filing for the CIB Grant for Utility improvements around the Maxwell Park area and into Maxwell Park, as part of the overall improvements for Hildale and the community.