



TOWN OF
HILLSBOROUGH

Utilities Department Status Report for Aug. 2023 (covering Jun./Jul. 2023)

PROJECT/CATEGORY	STATUS
WTP	<p>We have had a raw water pump out of service and recently repaired. Parts were the delay. A finished water pump is out of service due to valve issue. We are waiting on the vendor to come out to service the pump and have two other pumps we can use.</p> <p>The 2022 Water Quality Report was released. We hope you saw it and like it.</p>
WWTP	<p>The annual wastewater quality report is being prepared. A server failed so that is being worked on. Backup files were put on another server. A new controller is being installed at River Pumping Station.</p>
West Fork of the Eno Reservoir	<p>The reservoir remains around 48.5 feet. Phase II normal pool is 53 feet. Clearing of brush and trees has been completed at the end of the spillway. The rotting railroad tie steps leading to our tower walkway will be replaced in a few weeks with concrete steps.</p>
Water Restrictions	<p>We are on Stage 1 low flow water withdraw restrictions as of Sunday July 23. Withdraw from the Eno is limited to 1.510 mgd unless the town releases more to make up the difference. Our recent week demands have been between 1.5 and 1.9 mgd. Our minimum release requirement is 1.0 cfs but we have been releasing between 2.5 cfs and 2.7 cfs due to additional demand and low flow in the Eno.</p>
Orange St. Sewer	<p>The town has completed replacement of 40s era Orangeburg pipe off W. Orange St near Warner Ln. We added a private service replacement that would have been cut off with the realigned replacement. There remains a section within the street that was unknown, and quotes are being obtained to replace that.</p>
Elizabeth Brady Pumping Station Pumps	<p>Both pumps have been replaced with new impeller sizes and are pumping at a higher rate and a spare pump with new impeller size is at the shop when needed. One of the pump variable frequency drives is not working. A vendor is coming out next week to assess the issue. Parts, including a spare drive, are on order.</p>
Developments	<p>The Lawrence Road project was voted down by the County.</p> <p>Staff is still working with developers of Forest Ridge, Collins Ridge, Harmony at Waterstone and Fiori Hill to get through town acceptance or warranty phases. Attorney to assist in Forest Ridge and Fiori Hill. We are also working with UNC hospital on some water and sewer lines they never had the town accept.</p> <p>Collins Ridge granted a master plan and Phase 1B modification. Master plan revision includes a \$15K donation for sewer flow monitoring. Phase 2 Special User Permit is also active. WSECs for Phase 1B and James J Freeland Memorial Drive water main are expired and need to be renewed.</p>
Fiber Installs	<p>There was a large water main break from LUMOS subcontractor on 7/27 that resulted in a 30' drop in our north tank and several thousand gallons of water loss. Subcontractor did not promptly call in the damage. We are working through a damage reimbursement claim.</p>

Lawndale Rehab Project	This project was bidding with funds from our ARPA direct allocation until a few days ago. See below. The project is to rehabilitate most of the sewers by cured-in-place lining with a few excavations to fix point repairs.
Funding Opportunities	<p>So many!</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We had a big surprise in the middle of bidding the Lawndale rehabilitation project. We learned we were the last project to be awarded a State Revolving Fund loan of \$1.16M with 50% principal forgiveness (i.e., no repayment of \$500K). This project was slated for ARPA funds. We are pivoting to complete a bunch of state paperwork to take advantage of this money at not only a low interest, but also the principal forgiveness. 2. The contract with Hazen & Sawyer on Water System Master planning is routing. This is a \$100K state Asset Inventory and Assessment (AIA) grant. 3. We also have received \$70,000 in AIA grant funds to perform a technical evaluation of Hasell St tank and US 70A Watermain Replacement. We need to go back out for proposals on this project due to insufficient submittals. 4. We received some guidance on the OWASA Booster pumping station STAG award. Still need to work through this. A formal application is required. In the meantime, we finally got word of a FORMAL BRIC award on this project. We *think* we can use STAG as a match! 5. Nothing on the FEMA BRIC award for River Pumping Station yet. We are hopeful this will be following on the heels of the above formal award paperwork. 6. We submitted the Eno River Interceptor project to Rep. Meyer's office. Have not heard anything.
System Development Fee Analysis	The system development fee analysis report is posted for public notice. The 45-day notice will be complete by September 11 board meeting where a public hearing and adoption is expected. A presentation of the analysis is planned for the WSAC/BOC joint meeting on August 28. The report and comment contact can be found on the website.
Easement Mowing	Spring easement mowing is essentially done except for a few spots that were too wet to access. No complaints this spring!
Bill Format	Discussion with financial services and communications has started about that and some language changes. No movement on this.
Staffing	The new night water plant operator passed his C Surface exam and is operating the plant alone now and doing very well. The utility maintenance supervisor position was posted on 7/26/23 and will be posted for a month. We had a utility maintenance technician quit without notice and the position posting just closed. The applicant pool does not look promising, so it may need to be reposted.
Water and Sewer Advisory Committee (WSAC) Activities	WSAC is meeting bimonthly. A special meeting regarding backflow was held June 13. Recommendations regarding backflow prevention for existing in ground swimming pool owners will be brought forth to the board at the joint meeting with the board on August 28 at the board workshop. WSAC will also recommend to the board a rate structure analysis for institutional customers. There is one out of town member vacancy.