



## Utilities Department Status Report for Feb. 2026 (covering Jan. 2025)

PROJECT/ CATEGORY	STATUS
WTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No storm related problems.</li> </ul>
WWTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No storm related problems.</li> <li>River pumping station continues to function well. The contractor has some punch list items to finish.</li> <li>CITI is nearly done with the WWTP Control Network Stability and Modernization Project. All that is left is minor testing and housekeeping.</li> <li>Jeff and Terry submitted flow projections along with other impacted utilities for UNRBA to make case for getting additional nutrient allocation from DEQ. The latest from DEQ was not favorable as they spoke to the EPA and made some initial decisions without providing the additional data requested. More meetings to be held.</li> </ul>
West Fork of the Eno Reservoir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The reservoir is WFER is down 3.2 feet from the normal Phase 2 pool elevation.</li> <li>Schnabel Engineering submitted a scope and fee for dam spillway evaluations that is under review. The scope covers assessing the spillway for Chantal damages and some other items of note from the October inspection report, but also takes us through bid phase in any subsequent mitigation efforts.</li> </ul>
Misc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Lawndale sewer rehabilitation project will now begin in February.</li> <li>Adron Thompson renovations received several bids and Engineering Services is assisting with bond issuance for the debt financing. Staff are going to begin moving to a leased space at Cornerstone Ct.</li> <li>Manhole #85 and about 60' of the 6" force main have been replaced from the Cemetery PS at Corbin and Churton St. The force main was in dire need of cleaning as the "gunk" reduced its size to about 4" from 6".</li> <li>Mayor Bell assisted in connecting the town manager and utilities director with a legislative counsel person at Southern Environmental Law Center who was inquiring to him about available funds through the <a href="#">Water Resources Development Act</a>. Preliminary discussion was held to determine if feasible and a path forward. This effort would provide us an authorization for funding through the program but the town would still need to go through the process to apply to receive the funds.</li> <li>There is still no word on the BRIC funding restoration or if outstanding requests for reimbursement will be honored. An easement status update on the two BRIC projects is part of the 2/9 meeting.</li> <li>Staff are working with the USDA-RD program rep to set up a kickoff meeting for the \$1M award for the chlorine change over project. An RFQ for design services is being drafted.</li> </ul>
Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are fully staffed except for a Utility Maintenance Tech position which is posted and now extended for additional applicants.</li> <li>Two staff are away on approved medical leave.</li> <li>Jeff Mahagan became a grandfather on 1/1.</li> <li>Corwin Hess became a father on 1/20.</li> </ul>