



TOWN OF
HILLSBOROUGH

Utilities Department Status Report for Apr. 2026 (covering Mar. 2026)

PROJECT/ CATEGORY	STATUS
WTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff is working on the formal application to USDA-RD for the chlorine disinfection conversion project. • The USDA-RD program reps for the \$1M award for the chlorine change over project are allowing the town to move forward with the same engineer for the design phase as who was selected by quals-based selection for the feasibility study. A scope and fee are being prepared. • Several citizens, including two BOCC members, toured the plant during the public tour. Questions about PFAS, data centers and fluoride were posed. • Several cybersecurity bulletins have been issued from
WWTP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The spring public tour was successful, with five citizens attending. As always, it's super fun to show folks the wastewater plant. • The River Pump Station work continues with upgrades for safety and security. In March, we installed a new air louver that opens automatically when the exhaust fan comes on. The exhaust fan now comes on automatically when the light is turned on. These are features we did not have before, but very much needed for employee safety. We also upgraded the safety exit lights so that the inside of the pump station will have lots of light in the event of a power outage. Navigating the spiral stairs in the dark was a daunting experience. Next month we plan to install new safety rail, have the security system put back on-line, and complete some needed housekeeping issues. • The state came to the wastewater plant for an inspection. I believe the inspectors were very impressed with our plant and operations.
West Fork of the Eno Reservoir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reservoir is at 49.07' as of 4/2/26. Normal Phase 2 pool elevation is approximately 53'. • A scope and fee from Schnabel Engineering to evaluate spillway and drainage concerns has been received and we are working to get Phase 1 of their scope under contract. • An updated Emergency Action Plan is almost finalized as required by the state. This will be distributed to key stakeholders when complete and accepted by the state. • A request has been received by the Association of State Dam Safety Officials, Inc. to tour the reservoir in September 2026 as part of their annual conference.
Misc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lawndale sewer rehabilitation has begun starting with cleaning and televising the sewers. Next will be mainline sewer lining and then lateral work. • The USDA-RD program reps for the \$1M award for the chlorine change over project are allowing the town to move forward with the same engineer for the design phase as who was selected by quals-based selection for the feasibility study. A scope and fee are being prepared. • The BRIC program has been reinstated at least for our Phase 1 work (design and permits). Meetings are being coordinated for the property owners and stakeholders impacted or having interest in the two BRIC projects. Utilities Director Strandwitz met with the Starfield HOA members and is answering follow up questions. She also left a message with the school board Chief Operations Officer and is awaiting a call back. A meeting is scheduled with River pumping station stakeholders on April 24. We are continuing as planned at the moment and receive frequent updates from our state contact. • A Community Project Funding request for FY27 through Valerie Foushee's office was submitted for the Hasell St. Water Tank Replacement and Expansion. No word yet on status. • Staff welcomed Representative Renee Price for a tour of the WFER and water plant. Mayor Bell accompanied. • Hydrant flushing will continue through April 15 and it is going well.



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Staffing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are fully staffed except for a night water plant operator. Interviews with 5 – 6 applicants are underway.• New employee Jacob Butler started on Monday 3/23/2026 with Lacy's team. The C&D division is again fully staffed.• Staff is assisting with updating the town's emergency response plan where needed.• Staff is working on budget and grant/loan paperwork requirements.
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