



## **AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**CONTACT:** CLIF CUSTER

**SUBJECT:** LIFT STATION #6 FORCE MAIN REPAIR

### **SUMMARY:**

The section of wastewater force main originating from lift station #6 that crosses Oyster Creek has become compromised due to the age of the force main piping. It is the opinion of Public Works that replacement of the section of force main piping that crosses the creek is required immediately. Replacement of the force main piping is the only path forward that can ensure continued transference of Richwood's wastewater to the WWTP while remaining compliant with TCEQ regarding the containment of wastewater within collection lines.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Shortly after the passing of Hurricane Beryl, Public Works employees noticed a compromise within the force main piping of lift station #6 that crosses Oyster Creek. The location of the compromised piping resulted in the discharge of untreated wastewater into Oyster Creek. The realization of the compromised force main piping compounded by implications of introducing untreated wastewater into a waterway resulted in an immediate emergency repair of the compromised section of piping.

Systematic failure of force main piping within this section of pipe continues. Public Works continued efforts to isolate leaks has been unsuccessful due to the continued degradation of the piping within this section of force main.

### **ISSUE:**

Without a large-scale repair resulting in the full replacement of the lift station #6 force main that crosses Oyster Creek, further violations for illicit wastewater discharge are believed to be imminent. In addition to this it is the opinion of Public Works that any other repair effort other than full replacement will ultimately result in inflated financial commitments to provide further repair to the force main piping in the future, as it is the opinion of Public Works that other sections of piping will begin to fail.

Early estimates for full replacement of the force main were based on the selected contractor assuming responsibility for the replacement of the pipe and Richwood Public Works assuming

responsibility for bypass pumping operations. Upon speaking more in depth with the City of Clute regarding the way the station is bypassed, concerns have been expressed regarding the discharge piping material and manner of routing discharge piping to a final discharge location. These concerns are validated due to discharge piping needing to cross areas of heavy traffic, and the mere distance between the bypass pump and the final discharge point. To ensure Richwood can accommodate all concerns in the interest of public health and safety, estimates for both pipe replacement and pumping operations will be requested from contractors.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Based on the current situation, any previous estimates provided to Council through weekly updates should be considered irrelevant. Public Works is currently working on collecting estimates from contractors that include an all-inclusive repair for piping and pumping.

Richwood's current financial position within the Capital Improvements line item within the Enterprise Fund totals \$600,000.00. Currently, it is assumed that estimates for the repair of the lift station #6 force main will exceed \$150,000.00.

**RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the Public Works Director to solicit bids and select lowest responsible bidder, for repair to Lift Station #6 in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00**