



Agenda Memorandum

Contact: Clif Custer

Subject: City Infrastructure/WWTP Capacity

Summary:

The City of Richwood and the City of Clute are joint owners of a wastewater treatment plant in which shares of ownership are represented as 75% ownership for the City of Clute and 25% ownership for the City of Richwood. Ensuring that Richwood does not bare the financial burden for plant expansion, diligence is required to maintain wastewater flows consistent with allotted flows defined within the contractual agreement between Clute and Richwood, or future construction of a Richwood owned wastewater treatment facility should be considered.

Background Information

The current WWTP owned by Clute and Richwood has an operational capacity of 4 MGD (million gallons per day). As defined in the contractual agreement between the two cities, the maximum average daily wastewater flows allowed from either city must not exceed on average $\frac{3}{4}$ of plant capacity from the City of Clute and $\frac{1}{4}$ plant capacity from the City of Richwood.

Although allowed wastewater capacities are expressed in MGD, other factors such as I&I contribute to a city's average daily effluent. For this reason, and from an operational standpoint, Richwood focuses more closely on the city's average percentage of daily plant capacity rather than average daily flows. Since both Clute and Richwood are challenged with I&I within their collection systems and based on past conversations with the City of Clute and Brazos River Authority about the operational capacity of the current plant, it's believed that repetitively exceeding 25% of the plants daily production capacity could lead to imminent arbitration regarding financial responsibility for plant expansions.

Issue:

In 2023 Richwood was responsible for 21% of the WWTP total treatment capacity.

Fiscal Impact:

None

Recommendation:

None

Wastewater Treatment Terminology

Peak Flow - For treatment unit design purposes, peak flow is defined as the highest two-hour average flow rate expected to be delivered to the treatment units under any operational condition, including periods of high rainfall (generally the two-year, 24-hour storm is assumed) and prolonged periods of wet weather.

Inflow and Infiltration - Terms used to describe the ways that groundwater and stormwater enters dedicated wastewater collection systems.