



STAFF REPORT

TO: TOM DUBOIS, CITY MANAGER
MEETING DATE: JULY 20, 2026
FROM: DAN LAFONTAINE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR JUNE 2026

Objective: The objective of this staff report is to provide a monthly status update regarding activities within the Public Works Department.

Collection System Status:

CIP work

- In June the public works team with our sanitary engineer began work on a new Sanitary Sewer Management Plan update. The current plan was last updated in 2020 and had an internal audit in 2023. This plan will update our current plan to align with the current regulatory mandates of the Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for sanitary sewer systems (Water Quality Order No. 2022-0103-DWQ). The updated plan will update the chain of command and public notice methodology, capture capital improvements to the collection system (digital computerized maintenance system and capital projects from the last 3 years), incorporate the updated Emergency Response Plan and create a more robust sewer pipe blockage control program. Performance indicators will also be tracked with new data (2023-2026) to track Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) improvement.
- The sanitary engineer has begun getting plans and specifications together on the 2026-2027 collection system projects. We anticipate that this project will be ready for bid in September. The streambed alteration agreement that the City entered into with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife will be the first project under this permit as the majority of the work will occur in the banks of the streambed. As specified previously the project locations are below:
 - Area A - Replace 600-feet of 6-inch line (P-132) from City Hall to Walser by open cut
 - Area B - Repair 1 foot gap of 6-inch pipe in the line from MH-97 to MH-99A on Gopher Flat
 - Area C - Partial Replacement of creek line 400-feet (200-feet open cut and 200-feet pipe bursting)

SSMP Activity

Calls for service.

- 6/12/2026 - 40 Church street Street, City main plugged, cleared and remediated spill.

Sewer System Cleaning and Maintenance.

- In June 2026 there were 100ft Lineal feet of pipe cleaned. The total footage cleaned for the calendar year 2026 is 7,840 ft vs 14,676 feet in 2025.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Status:

The WWTP did not meet all the effluent quality discharge requirements for the month of June 2026. BOD sample results were reported on June 24, 2026 at 32 mg/L which exceeded the 30 mg/L. Based on the influent sample result on June 24, 2026 of 850 mg/L the removal efficiency was above 85% (96%). This effluent violation occurred due to a high influent result not due to a plant performance issue. Excess influent BOD will most likely lead to the formation of a pretreatment program. This is currently being discussed with Schneider as we work through the new WWTP design.

Table 1. Monthly Status of required reporting constituents.

Constituent	Monthly Results	Monthly Limits
Monthly Influent Flow	9.472 MG 0.314 MGD daily avg	0.48 mgd ¹
Effluent BOD, mg/L	32 mg/L	30 mg/l
Effluent Settleable Matter, mL/L	< 0.1 mL/L	0.5 ml/l
Effluent TSS, mg/L	11 mg/L	30 mg/l
Total Coliform, MPN	< 1.8 MPN	23 MPN
Sludge Wasted	21,052 gallons	
Rain	0.0 in.	32.80 in. YTD –24.15” Last YTD

¹ The 0.48 MGD is daily dry weather flow (May through October).

Plant Compliance Issues: The monthly May 2026 report was electronically submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Operational Strategy Modifications:

- The rag bin was hauled on May 19, 2026
- We continued normal sludge wasting in May with 21K gallons dewatered.
- Rotostrainer #4 has broken the end of the shaft and has been taken offline. The drum will need to be removed and taken to a machine shop for welding. A mini-ex will be rented for one week in July and used to remove the drum so it can be repaired at a local machine shop.
- During the mini-ex rental in July, the new Aerator will be installed into the E-pond. A cage will be installed with the Aerator to prevent any remaining weeds from being sucked up into the Aerator. It is anticipated that the Aerator will be operational at the end of July.
- Public works has made contact with a second chemical supplier (Univar) and has gotten some very promising cost comparisons. The following chemical cost comparison are listed below:

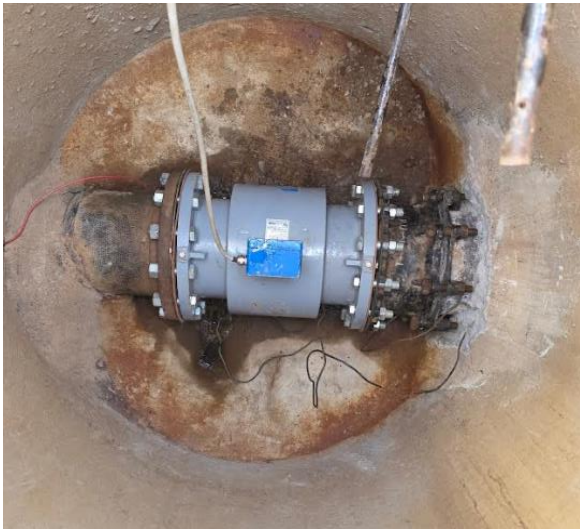
Chemical	Thatcher	Univar
Sodium Hypochlorite (Chlorine)	\$5.80/gal	\$3.70/gal
Ferric Chloride	\$1.04/lb	\$0.79/lb

There are some capital improvements requirements that the company is requesting such as a digital level sensor and additional signage for the hypo tanks. The CPO is currently addressing these items and we will be switching over to the new company as soon as our capital improvements are signed off by the new company. Typical usage is around 75 gallons per day or 2,250 gallons per month so at a cost savings of approximately \$2.10/gal our chemical costs will be reduced by approximately \$57K/year.

- On July 2, 2026 - Schneider presented the phase one technical deliverable. The presentation discussed installing a new MBR plant in the middle section where the current wastewater office sits. The plan included discussions on FEMA, CEQA, Grant funding, permitting, design choices and value engineering. Public works along with Schneider will present a full update at the next council meeting.

Effluent Disposal

- Wastewater will be sent from each jurisdiction for a few months to ensure that both parties are able to dispose of all their wastewater. Currently (as of June 30) the reservoirs have around 273 acre-feet in the ARSA system. As of June 1, 2026, Ione took CDCR wastewater up until July 1, 2026 when Ione switched back over to ARSA wastewater. During the month of June we continued to send around 125 gallons per minute from Henderson down the system to Preston to keep the water troughs live. Flows will be increased during July to send approximately 600 to 700 gallons per minute to Preston.
- *Henderson Underdrain* – On May 8, 2026 the City submitted a technical memo to address DSOD concerns about the underdrain project. In the letter ARSA asked for the project to be closed without completing the liner and one follow up ROV monitor. If DSOD accepts this tech memo, Hydrosiences will prepare a final design request for the modifications. To date ARSA has not heard back from DSOD and is still awaiting a response.
- Campbell construction along with the public works crew mobilized to Bowers irrigation to install the longer flow meter and a bypass valve. The job was completed in a few days and the flow meter was wired in a few days after. The flow meter is working and we are able to determine flows to Bowers irrigation.



- Public works mobilized to Preston Forebay to determine the status of the pier valve. Upon investigation the pier is not being properly supported on both sides and cannot safely be utilized anymore without refurbishment. Due to the pier being unsafe the Preston forebay has been emptied until engineering can come look at it and ARSA can discuss options. See the splintered pier leg below:



- Ongoing maintenance of the cattle water troughs along the pipeline are occurring.
- Daily flow checks and level readings
- Weed and rodent abatement at the three reservoirs.
- Send weekly updates to the Regional Board on reservoir levels and volumes.

Service Requests

Responded to eleven (4) service requests in June:

- One was for a streets issue;
- One was for a pool issue;

- One was for a park issue;
- One was for a sewer issue;

Streets and City Right of Way.

- Campbell has been accepted as the lowest responsible qualified bidder on the Sutter Hill Road overlay. Campbell is working on a contract with the City currently but has indicated that construction will begin on July 27, 2026. The City also attended the ACTC board meeting to ask for extra money to shore up the difference between the planning level estimates which were used to secure funding and the bids. The ACTC board .
- On June 17, 2026 public works and the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District met on Sutter Hill road with a chipper to take down some dead or dying trees that were hanging over Old Sutter Hill Road. The City wants to thank the Fire Protection District for all their help on this project and looks forward to working together more in the future. Downed trees were either chipped up and sprayed as base cover or hauled to a burn pile.



- On May 4, 2026, a walkthrough was conducted with the City and AWA to review the paving on Broadway, Borgh, and Eureka. The City prepared a punch list and gave that to Amador Water Agency (AWA). To date the punch list items are being addressed.
- On June 16, 2026 a tree was removed from the pump station road to allow the homeowner to install solar. The tree was shading the roof impeding the solar cells production rate. Also a dead tree was removed on Meadowcrest road in the center divide.
- During April confirmation samples were taken from Elm Street and tested positive for free and total chlorine. Discussions between AWA and the City are being conducted to get a field visit to determine the best course of action.
- Potholes - Old Sutter Hill Rd, Church Street, Spanish and Hanford had potholes that were filled in June. The roads with more traffic (Church and Spanish) got the new water activated asphalt patch. The lower traffic roads (and Old Sutter Hill due to upcoming construction) got the less expensive asphalt patch. Public works is determining where to use the water activated asphalt patch (very expensive) and where to use the normal asphalt patch from Lowes and or Campbell (much cheaper).

- On June 30, 2026 PG&E filed an encroachment permit to relocate a gas line on gopher flat road that had been installed through the existing storm drain. The gas line looked old and rusted and had become a safety hazard that could break with any large storm that came through. Public works notified PG&E a few months ago and we are grateful that PG&E is correcting this issue.



- The City has contacted a contractor to obtain a formal quote to restripe gopher flat. Once the road has been re-stripped a speed table will be purchased and installed to help with speeding.

Parks and Facilities

- The pool contractor has finally received the missing part for the diving board. They have assured us that they will be able to install the new part and replace the diving board by the middle of July.
- During the past year the City has been working with a private donor to remove the Minnie Provis Playground bark and install a rubberized surface. As the first phase of this project the private donor wanted to replace parts of the playground. Public works worked with the donor and the manufacturer of the playground to identify the parts that need to be replaced. In June an order was placed to receive the misc parts. Shipping will be in 4 to 6 weeks and after that public works will close the playground structure and install the new parts.
- The City's heat and air contractor came to the site to look at the installation of an HVAC system in the auditorium. A new power drop will most likely be required to accomplish this as the existing panel is fully occupied. A proposal will be sent to the City in June and reviewed. The contractor had an alternative solution to the Auditorium. A quote for two new swamp coolers with automatic timers was sent to the City to give a low cost option. The current swamp coolers are rusted and falling into disrepair and are not reliable anymore. The City will review the swamp cooler proposal along with the new AC quote prior to making a determination.
- On January 27, 2026, A-1 leak detection was onsite to help Public works determine the location of the water leak at the Center park. The technician could not find a “smoking gun” during his inspection. Public works recently became aware that until this leak can be stopped the drinking fountain at miners bend will be non-operational. Public works installed stub-ups and gauges and tried to locate the source of the leak. Due to the leak being bigger than expected, the gauges that were bought were not sensitive enough to determine the location of the leak. Smaller gauges (0-10 psi) have been procured and another attempt to locate the leak will be initiated in July.