



STAFF REPORT

TO: TOM DUBOIS, CITY MANAGER
MEETING DATE: JANUARY 20, 2026
FROM: DAN LAFONTAINE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2025

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

- *Miscellaneous Sewer Main Replacement Projects.* – Work has been completed as of September 22, 2025 on the 2025 collection system projects. The project replaced 230 lineal feet of 4-inch, 1,144 lineal feet of 6-inch, and 1,975 lineal feet of 8-inch collection system piping. The project also installed 6 manholes and 1 cleanout. The contractor has performed the CCTV of the collection system and the City has reviewed all of the footage and has no issues with the installation after the manhole fixes. Repaving was done in some additional areas and some general cleanup is left to do. The contractor faced some delays in the final issues with the project due to availability. The contractor is working with AWA to complete their leak detection work prior to the January 2026 deadline.
- Staff have identified several areas of the collection system (based on flow meter data collected in 2024) for I/I projects in 2026. APS Environmental was onsite December 8 through the 10th to perform CCTV work on the suspected mains. APS encountered some areas of the mains that needed additional cleaning. Based on the results of the camera work, the City may re-clean and have APS return or add the sections to the project list.
- The backup pump for the pump station has arrived and is ready to be installed. Installation will be completed as soon as time permits.
- A boundary map for the collection system was uploaded to CIWQS (California Integrated Water Quality System Project) that was due January 1, 2026. The City also uploaded the annual reports for 2024 and 2025.

SSMP Activity

Calls for service.

- 12/1 - 220 Highland Dr. - private lateral issue
- 12/11 - 66 Badger Rd - private lateral issue
- 12/15 - 40 Church Street. - City main in backyard plugged and spilled, cleared and remediated spill

- 12/21 - 44 Badger Rd. - City Main in backyard plugged and spilled, cleared line and remediated spill
- 12/29 - 110 Ridge Rd. - City main plugged and spilled on shoulder of Ridge Road, cleared line and remediated spill. Filed report with CAL OES due to volume of spill.
- 12/31 - 44 Badger Rd. - City main in backyard plugged and spilled, cleared line and remediated spill. Plug was in another segment of the main line from the issue on 12/21.

Sewer System Cleaning and Maintenance.

- In December 2025 there were 2,851 Lineal feet of pipe cleaned. The total amount cleaned for the calendar year 2025 is 14,679 ft. The total cleaned for the calendar year 2024 is 19,207 feet.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Status:

The WWTP met all the effluent quality discharge requirements for the month of December 2025.

Table 1. Monthly Status of required reporting constituents.

Constituent	Monthly Results	Monthly Limits
Monthly Influent Flow	12.634 MG 0.408 MGD daily avg	0.48 mgd ¹
Effluent BOD, mg/L	26 mg/L	30 mg/l
Effluent Settleable Matter, mL/L	< 0.1 mL/L	0.5 ml/l
Effluent TSS, mg/L	16 mg/L	30 mg/l
Total Coliform, MPN	< 1.8 MPN	23 MPN
Sludge Wasted	47,011 gallons	
Rain	3.80 in.	24.15 in. YTD -27.52” Last YTD

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

Plant Compliance Issues: The monthly November 2025 report was electronically submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Operational Strategy Modifications:

- The rag bin was hauled on January 6, 2026.
- We continued normal sludge wasting in December with 47K gallons dewatered.
- The new Aerator has been received at the WWTP. The E-pond weeds have been sprayed and have started to die. Once the clumps of weeds have all been killed, operators will try to use a hook to “fish” the weeds to the side so we can remove the weeds.
- The addition of the third rotostrainer has proved helpful to reduce load to the rotostrainers in the first bay (majority of solids are removed from those two primarily). This was evident in Dec when we had over 4-inches of rain in a few day period.
- WWTP design meetings are being held every other week. The City has begun uploading all data pertaining to the RFI from Schneider. Monthly flow rate data from 2015 to 2023 and daily flow data from 2024 and 2025 was uploaded to the sharepoint site along with rainfall data from the past 10 years. Influent samples were requested

to be taken with the 24-hour composite sampler with the addition of TKN and TSS. These constituents were previously only sampled for in the effluent and will be added to the analytical suite in either late December or early January. A 24-hour composite sample is also being requested for all effluent samples.

- Data loggers were installed by RBI in the influent, effluent and the creek on November 17 and 18th. These data loggers will capture the temperature of all streams for permitting the effluent stream for the new WWTP.
- On December 11, 2025, The City hosted a regional math refresher class at the Auditorium for a CRWA instructor. Two of the Public works employees took advantage of this free training to prepare for impending operator certification tests.

Effluent Disposal

- Bowers and irrigation resumed for the irrigation season on May 27, 2025. Ione has started receiving ARSA water on June 6, 2025, for the disposal season. On August 26, 2025, Ione stopped receiving water from ARSA. As of August 31, 2025, Ione has received approximately 250 acre-feet of ARSA water. Bowers irrigation was shut down on November 3, 2025.
- *Henderson Underdrain* – As of the end of December Henderson dam has resumed normal operation. All above ground pipes are installed with one temporary piece (14 feet) which can be removed very easily when the dam is empty next season (weather dependent). The underdrain pipe was cleaned and a few pieces of delaminated steel exist in the pipe. The plan is to resume cleaning next summer and install a CIPP liner.

All of the pier support parts were received in late November early December and on December 2 the City and Campbell construction began the installation. Brackets and threaded rods were installed on the bottom two levels along with a new staff gauge.



- One I-beam and two well casings were installed as an additional support to the end of the pier. This will help to align the waterman valve stem. With the support in place the valve was aligned and the valve is now operational and can close up to ___ gallons per minute, a vast improvement to the old alignment.



Now that the dam is fully operational again as of the middle of December, the project will be paused until after winter (anticipate fall of 2026) so that the wastewater can be drained and the pipe can be cleaned again and a new CIPP liner installed.

- On December 30, 2025, the manufacturers representative came and collected the flow meter with the wrong spool lengths for return. We hope to have the right one back in the first half of 2026 to install at Bowers.
- A follow up meeting for the joint water balance was scheduled for January 26, 2026 @10am..
- Ongoing maintenance of the cattle water troughs along the pipeline are occurring during the underdrain project. Irrigation sprinklers and valves were being repaired constantly (only at Bowers irrigation).
- Weed and rodent abatement at the three reservoirs.
- Send weekly updates to the Regional Board on reservoir levels and volumes.

- Daily flow checks and level readings.

Streets and City Right of Way.

- Work is proceeding with the leak detection and main repairs to the water system around town. AWA is working with Sorraco to fix mains on Old Rte 49, Hayden Alley, Broadway, Borgh and Eureka Street. The City is working with AWA and Sorraco to mitigate many field issues associated with crowded utilities underground (as expected). The City understands that this work is a large inconvenience to our residents but is working with AWA and Sorraco to minimize the duration of the inconveniences. AWA has received an extension and has given the City the following update. The crossings at Hanford (Main St.), Hayden and Broadway should be completed by the middle of January. Eureka St will begin after finishing up the other streets. At the completion of all the water lines paving will be completed when weather cooperates (above 50°).
- A pothole was filled on Lincoln ave.



- The City engineer has been given the green light to begin design work on the Old Sutter Hill Road overlay project. The design is coming along and a survey was conducted along Old Sutter Hill Rd in December. The City will explore the idea of providing sidewalks on Old Sutter Hill road and provide cost estimates to council in early 2026. We plan to begin construction in late spring early summer of 2026.
- In mid December the public works team was assisted by two local helpers in the fight against falling leaves. These two pushed fallen leaves out of the gutters and into piles along their street. This allowed public works employees to gather the leaves with minimal effort. In recognition of their hard work the PW team purchased some new

small tools for the helpers (shown below). We appreciate all that everyone in the community does to help out.



- Encroachment permits were issued to CIVN on November 18, 2025 for their fiber installation. We are currently waiting for CIVN to inform the City when construction will begin.
- On December 19, 2025 in the afternoon Public works was contacted by a council member that lived on Spanish street that the hillside on the school property was leaking and the hillside was beginning to slide onto Spanish street. A private water lateral (School district responsibility) developed a leak and began eroding the hillside. Public works contacted Campbell construction (emergency contractor) to assist with the cleanup. Public works worked into the night to remove the washed down hillside from Spanish street and closed the sidewalk. The sidewalk will remain closed for a while until the hillside can be stabilized.



(Hillside collapse due to water leak on school property around 280 Spanish Street)



(Sidewalk Closed on Dec 19th)



(Sidewalk Left closed on Dec 20th as precautionary measure until hillside can be stabilized)

Parks and Facilities

- The CalFire crews returned in December to finish off clearing Sutter Creek. The crews started with bucking up a tree that fell above the foundry that blocked the path of the creek.



After the tree was dealt with, the crew resumed clearing from Main street all the way to the WWTP.





- On December 2, 2025, The City met with a contractor to discuss the Monteverde Store repair. The contractor looked over the job, took some preliminary measurements and they are in the process of building a quote for the work. Once the quote is reviewed, Public works will determine if a short term solution is needed to get through the winter. PW checked the skunk traps a few times in December but the traps that were deployed did not yield any results. Upon talking with the tenants, it was discovered that the space heater is tripping the breaker in the office. Upon inspection the breaker size is correct

- and it was determined that the breakers are old and wiring does not appear to be up to current code. An electrician will be contacted to get a quote to rewire the panel.
- On December 2, 2025, A&M Heating and Air installed a new 4-ton AC handler and heat pump unit for the upstairs of the Grammar school. We believe that this will help with the comfort of our tenants for many events to come. The system will need to be optimized in the coming months to ensure all vents are producing heat and air properly.
 - John Allen construction is currently looking for an opportunity to begin the work in the Bryson Park Bathroom Expansion Project.