



STAFF REPORT

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

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

Executive Summary: As fall begins we are beginning to wrap up some major milestones for the Public works department. The miscellaneous sewer main replacement project is nearing the end and the contractor is cameraing the lines and finishing up the punch list items around town. Overall the project has been a huge success and we could not have gotten this done without the excellent work that Sorracco has done on the job handling many issues thrown their way. We are also in the middle of the Henderson Underdrain Project. The sludge issues have been handled as the rip-rap wall is holding everything back. The deteriorating pipe that was to be removed has proven harder to remove than initially thought. The contractor is looking at ways to remove the remaining pieces of pipe. We also had a lot of help from Cal Fire crews as they were able to clear the carpenters hall drainage ditch, Bryson drainage ditch, Amador Trail, some work at Preston and began to clear the flushing dam of some large logs that fell over the past year. The public works team also replaced approximately 120 lineal feet of collection system piping and installed a cleanout on Eureka St. We also cleared some of the drainage ditches around town from silt that had been accumulating and was in danger of filling up our storm drain pipes. The removed solids will be relocated as soon as we receive samples back to ensure the dirt is clean. See more details of the major projects below:

The Miscellaneous Sewer Main Replacement Project – 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 is working on getting camera footage of the replaced lines and a punch-list of items to finish up for final payment. The project will be completed around the end of October.

ARSA Henderson Underdrain Project – DSOD has directed the contractor to remove the remaining pieces of ductile iron pipe still in the underdrain concrete encasement. Cleaning of the ductile iron pieces from the concrete encasement has proved more difficult than originally thought and the contractor is still working on how to get all of this removed. Construction will continue through October as we race to finish the work before sustained inclement weather arrives for winter.

Detailed Summary: Below is a detailed summary and/or status of the main PW responsibilities; Collection System, Wastewater Treatment Plant, Effluent Disposal, Streets and City Right of Way, Parks and Buildings, and Service Callouts.

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 is getting ready to camera the lines.
- RH Borden presented the results of the collection system flow meters from the sewer manholes in March. Generally, the results show that infiltration is occurring in four of the basins located downtown in varying degrees. The assessment also found some manholes that have signs of degradation (not properly sealed from groundwater). With the spill in the creek last month and pending repairs, staff is putting together a targeted list of items to investigate/repair further for next year’s collection system repairs. This list will be presented to the council by the end of the year.
- The City repair of 120 lineal feet of collection system piping on Eureka Street was installed on September 11, 2025. Work was performed by the public works department with assistance from Campbell construction. Once the line was installed a cleanout was located in the middle of Eureka Street. With the improvements to the piping (removing different size piping to one common uniform size), the public works crew was able to hydrojet the original blockage fully out of the collection system piping on Eureka Street. The repair is fully complete and operational.



- After the Pump station failure in September, Staff ordered a new backup pump for the pump station. The pump is scheduled to arrive in the first week of October. Once the pump has been received staff will schedule a time to install the new backup bump.

SSMP Activity

Calls for service.

- September 17; 140 Eureka St. Water around cleanout, water was from the jetter that cleaned the line
- September 24; 340 Gopher Flat Rd. Plugged manhole, found rootball in the manhole blocking the outlet. Removed roots and hydro cleared the line. Also found leaking AWA line next to the manhole. Notified AWA.
- September 29; 57 Boston Alley, plugged City main.

Sewer System Cleaning and Maintenance.

- In September 2025 there was 979 Lineal feet of pipe cleaned. The total amount cleaned for the calendar year 2025 is 9,353 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 September 2025.

Table 1. Monthly Status of required reporting constituents.

Constituent	Monthly Results	Monthly Limits
Monthly Influent Flow	9.481 MG 0.316 MGD daily avg	0.48 mgd ¹
Effluent BOD, mg/L	13 mg/L	30 mg/l
Effluent Settleable Matter, mL/L	< 0.1 ml/L	0.5 ml/l
Effluent TSS, mg/L	22 mg/L	30 mg/l
Total Coliform, MPN	< 1.8 MPN	23 MPN
Sludge Wasted	23,562 gallons	
Rain	0.00 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 August 2025 report was electronically submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Operational Strategy Modifications:

- The rag bin was hauled on October 3, 2025.
- We continued normal sludge wasting in August with 24K gallons dewatered.
- The Aerator has been shipped back to the manufacturer to receive a new power section.
- The second Chlorine tank has been installed and piping connected in the chlorine building. We are now able to receive one full tanker which will reduce mobilization

costs. The chlorine pump manufacturer is issuing an RMA and we should have the pump returned shortly.

- Weeds were pulled from the contact chamber and we will schedule sweetpea to come remove any sludge in the chamber. Once the sludge has been removed we will drain the chamber, pressure wash and apply a new coat of paint.
- The wastewater contract was signed in September 2025. Regular bi-weekly (every two week) meetings will begin in October to discuss the assessment.

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.
- *Henderson Underdrain* – The underdrain project commenced on August 18, 2025. On September 9th ARSA and the contractor met with DSOD to go over progress and the initial pipe cleaning. DSOD indicated that the ductile iron pipe (DIP) needed to be fully removed prior to DSOD being able to review the technical specifications of the CIPP. NorCal returned on September 15th to try and hydro the remaining pieces of DIP from the underdrain. The water power was not powerful enough to remove all of the old DIP so NorCal returned on September 24th to use a swale and chain to break the DIP and remove it. During the September 24th site visit some of the ductile iron pipe fell off and logged the equipment in the pipe. To retrieve the equipment a confined space entry will most likely be the selected remedy. Campbell is currently working with NorCal to schedule a pipe entry in October. Once the pipe has been cleaned a video can be sent to DSOD for review.
- The manufacturer of the flow meter for Bowers has proposed a shorter spool length with a restocking cost of 2K. City staff reviewed using the existing flow meter at the Preston Forebay but due to the size of the existing pipe the flow meter would not be feasible in that section of the pipe. The City has elected to pay the restocking fee and once an RMA has been received the existing flow meter will be returned to the manufacturer.
- The joint water balance was submitted on August 8, 2025. The technical memo concludes that both the City of Ione WWTF and the Combined System indicated there will be excess effluent volume from both system's respective water balance calculations.
- 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. A large Oak was limbed up around Henderson by the CalFire crews.
- Send weekly updates to the Regional Board on reservoir levels and volumes.
- Daily flow checks and level readings.

Streets and City Right of Way.

- AWA has received bids for their leak detection work on September 12, 2025. The low bidder for the project is Sorraco. Based on their additive alternative for the work to be done on the Broadway storm drain and overlay of ½ of the road the cost to the City is estimated to be \$61,650 (under the approved 70K). The City has sent formal notice to AWA that the work is approved and both the City and AWA will work with Sorraco to complete the work. Per the grant, all work must be completed by the end of the calendar year.
- The City has received bids to fix the gutter on David drive and is waiting for the contractor to find time in the schedule to begin this repair. We hope to have this repair done before the rainy season.
- On September 11, 2025, a small fire broke out due to a broken PGE power pole due to a worn out capacitor bracket. The fire was reported to the Sutter Creek Fire Protection District and was contained and extinguished shortly after. Huge thanks to the Fire Protection District for keeping the homes on Oro Madre safe.
- On September 23, 2025, City crew mobilized to the ditch below Old Sutter Hill Road (across from Miners Bend) to remove debris and soil from the drainage ditch. Over the past 10 to 20 years, silt has accumulated, almost blocking the entrance to the drainage ditch under Old 49. Spoils from the drainage ditch were piled on the side of Old 49 to allow drainage prior to removal. This helps keep the weight down so less dump truck runs are needed to relocate the spoils. All dirt will be removed by the end of November (or prior to the rainy season). See pictures below:



Miners Bend

- On September 26, 2025, city crews mobilized to the ditch below Amador trail to remove debris and silt from the drainage ditch. Over the last 10 plus years, silt has accumulated in the drainage ditch blocking the flow of storm water under the road. Spoils from the ditch were piled on the side of the road to allow drainage to occur prior to removal.



Amador Trail

Parks and Buildings

- The CalFire crews returned in September and made further progress in cleaning out vegetation and preparing our creeks for winter. During the month crews were able to clear the carpenters hall drainage ditch, Bryson drainage ditch, Amador Trail and got to the Bryson drainage ditch, some work at Preston and began to clear the flushing dam of some large logs that fell over the past year. We are grateful to all the assistance they provide and made some real headway this year. See some pictures of the results of the crew's hard work below:.



Bryson Drainage Ditch



Carpenters Hall Drainage Ditch

- The Mizzeti house had some maintenance done to seal under the roof. During the spring of 2025, birds nested under the roof causing a multitude of problems. In anticipation of this occurring again to prevent infestation, spray foam was used to seal the cracks to prevent animals from nesting in the future.
- Public works was allowed to gain access to the Auditorium basement and replaced the door and lock at the back entrance.
- Bryson Bathroom – WGA has posted the plans and specifications for the Bryson Bathroom on September 19, 2025. A pre-construction meeting was held on October 2, 2025 with 8 contractors in attendance.
- The City had a contractor perform an inspection of the swamp cooler in the Auditorium on September 18, 2025. The contractor will present options to replace the swamp cooler and or air conditioning.