



STAFF REPORT

TO: TOM DUBOIS, CITY MANAGER
MEETING DATE: OCTOBER 19, 2026
FROM: DAN LAFONTAINE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER 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

- The City is preparing plans and specs for the collection system work in the creek. The plans include approximately 1,000 feet of sewer mains in Sutter Creek. Surveying has been completed of the creek piping and plans and specs are being developed. Once those are developed the City will engage with an environmental consultant to begin obtaining permits for the work in the creek. Permitting for the creek will cost a significant amount (over 150K estimated) leaving approximately 350K for I&I projects in the current fiscal year. Public works will identify other priority projects for repair and discuss with the Sanitary engineer..
- Schneider advised the City to collect 7 days of composite sampling at Ramco and the influent of the WWTP. Composite samplers were installed on September 28, 2026 and will collect 15-min samples (96 aliquots in a 24 hour period) and a composite sample will be collected daily. Influent samples are typically sampled for BOD, TSS, TKN, and total alkalinity. This round of sampling the design team added COD, Ammonia, total phosphorus, and TDS (fixed and volatile) to further analyze the waste streams. Results should be in at the end of October and can be correlated to determine if similarities exist.
- One of the stipulations of the new SSMP (published in July 2026) was to create an active public education and outreach program to promote the proper disposal of pipe blocking substances commonly referred to as Fats Oil and Grease (FOG). Public works is preparing a list of documents to inform the public why a FOG program is necessary, information about the proper handling and disposal of FOG for residential and commercial users. The program will also contain visual aids and links to other FOG program educational tools.

SSMP Activity

Calls for service.

- 9/25/2026- 460 CA-49, sewer was noticed in the cleanout, upon investigation it turned out to be a private lateral issue.

Sewer System Cleaning and Maintenance.

- In September of 2026 there were 450 Lineal feet of pipe cleaned. The total footage cleaned for the calendar year 2026 is 15,126 ft vs 14,676 feet in 2025.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Status:

The WWTP met all the effluent quality discharge requirements for the month of September 2026.

Table 1. Monthly Status of required reporting constituents.

Constituent	Monthly Results	Monthly Limits
Monthly Influent Flow	9.591 MG 0.320 MGD daily avg	0.48 mgd ¹
Effluent BOD, mg/L	24 mg/L	30 mg/l
Effluent Settleable Matter, mL/L	< 0.1 ml/L	0.5 ml/l
Effluent TSS, mg/L	12 mg/L	30 mg/l
Total Coliform, MPN	< 1.8 MPN	23 MPN
Sludge Wasted	34,362 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 August 2026 report was electronically submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Operational Strategy Modifications:

- The rag bin was hauled on September 1, 2026
- We continued normal sludge wasting in September with 34K gallons dewatered.
- The manufacturer informed the City that the replacement parts for Rotostrainer #2 and #4 have been fabricated and they are going to deliver the parts by the end of September. Once received operators will work to reinstall the parts and resume full operation prior to the rainy season..
- The Aerator has been running daily from 7am to 4pm during the hours of operation at the plant (to keep electricity costs low and verify that weeds are not being sucked up into the aerator).
- On September 9, 2026 - Wolf Environmental Lining Systems (the installation contractor) came to the site to perform an inspection. Some holes were noted from debris being thrown from the freeway bypass that ripped the liner. Those holes can be repaired and once repaired the inspector informed us that since the liner was constructed from HDPE it had another 100-year of life left. The E-pond has been lowered to 4-feet to allow the liner contractor to return to the site and repair the holes he found in the liner. We anticipate the repair occurring in October 2026.
- Univar came back onsite on September 10, 2026 to verify the repairs/upgrades to the chlorine storage tanks. Univar has approved deliveries and the City placed an order on September 24th for 1,800 gallons of hypo. During the fill up only 1,050 gallons of hypo could be

delivered. Deliveries will be scheduled in the future to maximize the volume the system can accept (typically around 1,500 gallons).

- On September 22, 2026 - The City and its WWTP design consultant met with the Region 5 Water Quality Control Board to discuss the design of the new WWTP and present an updated timeline for the project. The overall project was discussed with the board including design, schedule, and permitting. The board was generally pleased with the progress of the project and suggested that they may be willing to provide a letter of support. This letter would be presented to any funding agencies to aid the City in gaining financing for the project. A follow up meeting was scheduled in March of 2027 (6 month check in).

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 Sept 30) the reservoirs have a combined 90 acre-feet in the ARSA system, approximately. Ione switched back to ARSA wastewater for the month of September on September 1, 2026. Flows were increased during September to send approximately 400 to 500 gallons per minute to Preston. September ends the typical hot summer months and moving forward in October Ione will take CDCR water from October 1 to the 15th and ARSA water from October 15 to the 31st. As long as the weather holds up (no rain), ARSA will be at our target volume by the end of October.
- *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. DSOD responded that they would like to have an ROV inspection before they make any determination on the project. We are currently scheduling the ROV inspection for October and will send the CCTV of the underdrain to DSOD after completion.
- Hydrosiences mobilized to Preston forebay to discuss engineering solutions to the Preston forebay outlet valve. The valve cannot be fully opened or closed (per request of DSOD) and a solution needs to be identified to fix. Upon inspection the Preston Forebay pier is unstable and not safe to walk upon. The City has requested drawing from DSDO on Preston Forebay and is waiting to review those.
- 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 thirteen (13) service requests in August:

- Eleven (11) were for streets issues;
- Two were for a facility issues;
- One was for a sewer issues;

Streets and City Right of Way.

- During the resurfacing of Hayden the culvert that runs along the East side of Hayden broke under the asphalt. As a result of the culvert breaking underground a hole developed in the new asphalt. Public works contracted with Konieczka Concrete to perform the repair. Since the culvert is underground and not designed for continuous use it necessitated a confined space entry. Public works utilized blowers to flush the space and performed hole watch duties while Konieczka entered and performed the repair. Once the culvert was repaired underneath, concrete could be installed on top. Once dried a fresh patch of asphalt was installed on top. See pictures of the hole and the completed repair below:



Culvert hole



Repaired (9/14/26)

- Speed cushions arrived on September 17, 2026 and are scheduled to be installed in November. Public works has installed outlines on Gopher flat for the possible locations (two sets of two). We encourage all residents that may be affected by the new speed cushions to check out the marks and send comments to the Public works director @ dlafontaine@cityofsuttercreek.org.
- After the tremendous amount of growth this season a few stop signs became covered from tree limbs. Public works cleared tree limbs from Broad and Randolph and Gopher flat around the post office.

Before and After on Broadway

- A resident notified Public works about a sidewalk that had cracked @ 121 Broad Street. Public works removed the broken concrete and repaired the broken piece but it was observed that the sidewalk in the area has lifted and when cars park on the curb the sidewalk breaks. Many more cracks exist and will need to be repaired until the sidewalk in the area can be replaced. This section of sidewalk will be placed on the Capital Improvement Plan for funding in the next budget cycle.
- Numerous potholes were reported in the month of September. Public works filled potholes on Eureka St., Patricia, and Nickerson. On Nickerson only one very deep pothole was filled in, it appears that almost half of the road is failing prematurely and needs to be dug out and filled. Public works will add this to its list of partial road repairs that will be added to a larger job like Sutter Hill when hot asphalt can be obtained and installed at a much lower price. See pictures of some of the potholes that were filled in September below:



- Public works had a few hours at the end of September to repaint some fading pavement markings around Lorinda and Opal. We will return in October to complete more markings on side streets off Old 49.



Pavement Marking “STOP” on Lorinda and Old 49



Pavement Markings “STOP” on Lorinda and Opal

- Dannco began construction on the low-income housing project on July 2, 2026. The project was paused due to issues with the retaining wall subcontractor. As soon as those issues are worked out construction will resume.
- 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. No update has been received on a possible field visit date.

Parks and Facilities

- Creek Cleaning will occur the week of October 20th. The department of fish and game has issued code 1610, which allowing local jurisdictions the opportunity to perform emergency creek maintenance to prevent flooding under the Governor's recent state of emergency in preparation for the upcoming winter. The City met with a biologist on September 23, 2026 to go over the scope of the creek cleaning. The Biologist gave us a short list of avoidance and minimization measures (AMM's) to incorporate into the creek work such as to minimize equipment crossings in active channels (if we must cross to perform the crossing perpendicular to the direction of flow), minimize potential sedimentation by compacting any areas of temporary disturbed soils, haul debris out of the stream zone, and re-fuel

outside of the active streams. The creek cleaning will remove saplings and any stumps or protrusions that have accumulated silt over time. The work will remove debris and open up the creek to minimize any potential flooding this winter. The creek cleaning is expected to take two weeks.

- The pool closed on August 9, 2026. We thank everyone for coming out to the pool this season and appreciate any feedback on the season for how we can improve the facility for next summer. The new three-way valve for the pool was ordered and arrived. This will be installed prior to the next pool season. On one of the last days, the Water polo team identified a chlorine smell in the chemical room. Upon inspection it turns out that the chlorine pump had failed and burnt the electrical wiring. Upon inspection the impeller had worn through the veins causing no water to be moving which deadheaded the pump and caused it to burn up. A new impeller was ordered and installed but the housing for the pump was not usable. Public works has ordered a new housing for the pump and will repair the pump when that part comes in.
- Installation of the replacement of the playground parts will occur the week of October 5, 2026. Public works will close the playground structure until the replacement parts can be properly installed. We anticipate having the park structure open by the 9th of October prior to the weekend. We appreciate everyone's understanding during this closure.
- Fall is just around the corner and the Pumpkins are back out and around City hall and throughout Downtown. We wish to thank Amy with the Antique Gardner for her assistance in the arrangement of the pumpkins (they look fantastic!).
- The replacement swamp coolers were installed on August 3 through 5th, 2026, just in time for the Ragtime Music Festival. Upon installation of the units and running them overnight the temperature in the Auditorium is much cooler. Based on resident feedback and temperatures of the Auditorium during the hottest part of the days, the swamp coolers (with the option to rent portable A/C units) have satisfied patrons of the Auditorium. Procurement of further bids for a new A/C unit have been cancelled.
- Work is progressing on the pump track at Bryson park. The team has installed dirt in the pump track area and has a layout that it is currently testing. Public works sprayed the grass in between the mounds to help delineate the track. Soil binder will be ordered in October and given to the Amador Trail Stewardship.
- 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. The investigation will continue when time permits.
- Miners Bend - The beautification of the park ran into a delay in September when the supplier of crushed brick informed a volunteer that the material will not be available until the end of October at the earliest. Once the brick is available it will be purchased and installed hopefully before the fall rains
- Calfire was onsite in September and the first week of October to clear the creek. They spent time at the flushing dam bucking up logs that had logged on the upside of the dam. The crew cleared the creek from the flushing dam to Badger street bridge. Now that the creek has been

cleared it will allow public works to identify stumps and samplings to remove during the October creek emergency work. See pictures of the cleared creek below:



