

STAFF REPORT

TO: TOM DUBOIS, CITY MANAGER
MEETING DATE: APRIL 21, 2025
FROM: DAN LAFONTAINE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR MARCH 2025

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

Executive Summary: In anticipation of the Duck Race, Public works has been hard at work updating the Minnie Provis park entrance. The new entrance will increase accessibility and fix some tripping hazards that have developed over time. The project will ultimately include a new walkway (installed), a new wall and railing (block wall up, façade halfway done), new decomposed granite base (finished the week of April 7th), a new drinking fountain (on order), new benches (on order) and some new grass and landscaping (to be installed). We hope the community appreciates all the hard work to fast track this project prior to the duck race.

Keeping up with our vegetation management plan, we have begun to spray all the roadsides to keep future vegetation down. So far, we have completed approximately 1/3 of the roads in town. We continue to work with the CalFire crews to clearing a fire break around the old Minehead site. We also managed to clear the drainage ditch that runs from Bryson park to Gold Strike court.

Due to the rains being mostly over for the season we continue to fill potholes around town. We also had some repairs done to our streets with a new crosswalk being installed on Spanish and main street. This area had been identified in our concrete shaving assessment as a tripping hazard and lacked proper drainage which this project addressed. We also had an old, abandoned storm drain that collapsed in a parking lot filled and capped.

We received the flow meter data in March and are working through the data to determine next steps. We also opened the bids for the Henderson underdrain project and anticipate working with the low bidder to set up a contract in the coming weeks.

Upcoming: Bids will be opened on April 22, 2025, to fix seven collection system problems and will begin negotiations with the selected contractor in the next few weeks. We also anticipate to receive comments from the water board on our individual water balances revisions, so we can begin working on the overall joint water balance. We are scheduled to discuss the upcoming replacement WWTP with the water board in April to discuss our options for discharge with a new tertiary plant.

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

- 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). Staff is putting together a targeted list of items to investigate/repair further.
- Plans and specifications for the “Miscellaneous Sewer main Replacement Projects” collection system work are currently out for bid. The engineers estimate for the project was below \$680,000. The preconstruction meeting was held on April 8, 2025, at 10:00 AM. Bids are due to be opened on April 22, 2025 @10:00 AM. Once a contractor has been selected, the City will work to get this project completed prior to the next rainy season.

SSMP Activity

Calls for service.

- 3/14/2025; 205 Spanish St, plugged City Main.
- 3/27/2025; Highland at Old 49 plugged City Main.

Sewer System Cleaning and Maintenance.

- For March 2025, there was 175 feet of sewer line cleaned. The total amount cleaned for the calendar year 2025 is 1,196 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 March 2025.

Table 1. Monthly Status of required reporting constituents.

Constituent	Monthly Results	Monthly Limits
Monthly Influent Flow	14.397 MG 0.464 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	13 mg/L	30 mg/l
Total Coliform, MPN	< 1.8 MPN	23 MPN
Sludge Wasted	9,058 gallons	
Rain	5.57 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 February 2025 report was electronically submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Operational Strategy Modifications:

- The rag bin was hauled on March 26, 2025.

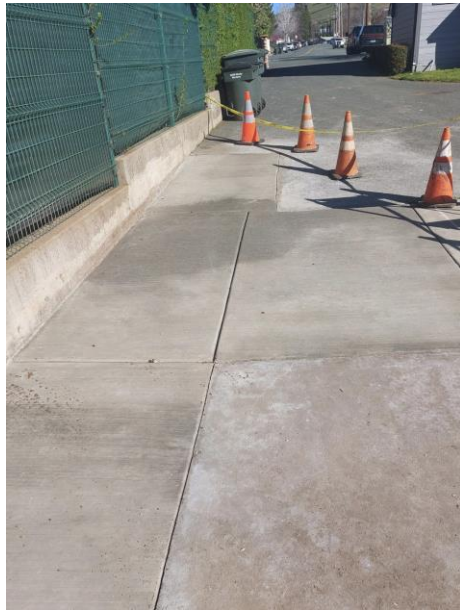
- We continued normal sludge wasting in January with 9K gallons dewatered.
- Roto strainer #3 is currently being installed. New couplers had to be ordered and were received in February. Operators are currently piecing all parts of the roto strainers back into service.
- The Aerator has broken and was pulled this month to investigate. Field fixes have turned out to be unsuccessful and the unit will be returned to the manufacturer to determine the root cause of the issue.
- The second Chlorine tank has been moved into the chlorine building to be plumbed into the process train.
- The chlorine pumps (lead and lag) have shown signs of failure (motor overheating and constant tripping). The new pumps have been received and will be installed in the coming months. In March the pumps operated and did not have to be rebuilt.
- We continue to meet with firms to discuss the new WWTP. Looking at FEMA maps, portions of the existing WWTP may be in the flood plain and is currently being investigated. A meeting has been set up with the permitting team of the Regional Water Quality Control Board to discuss the new WWTP.

Effluent Disposal

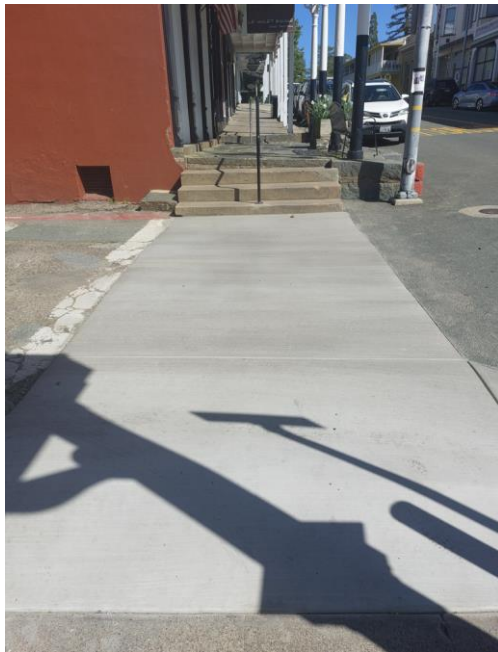
- Bowers and Hoskins irrigation were discontinued for the season on October 31, 2024.
- Ione has received approximately 250 acre-ft from the ARSA pipeline for the 2024 disposal season.
- All parties associated with ARSA are still waiting for comments from the water board on the revisions to the individual water balances before commencing with the joint water balance.
- On March 24, 2025, the permitting team from the Regional Water Quality Control Board toured the WWTP and ARSA. A follow-up meeting has been scheduled to discuss the future wastewater disposal options for the City and ARSA.
- The RFP was sent out in March and five (5) qualified bids were received and opened on April 10, 2025. Bid results were presented to the ARSA board on April 17, 2025, and ARSA will work with the low bid contractor to complete the project this year.
- The replacement flow meter for the Bowers irrigation has arrived and will be installed in the coming months.
- Ongoing maintenance of the cattle water troughs along the pipeline. Irrigation sprinklers and valves are being repaired constantly.
- 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.

- An abandoned storm drain that used to route stormwater from Broad St to Sutter Creek broke through in the parking lot at 50 Eureka Street. Public works had a contractor fill the abandoned storm drain and recap the top with concrete. See pictures below:



- The crosswalk on Main and Spanish had become broken and a tripping hazard. Also drainage from the crosswalk was entering the sidewalk in front of the Copper room (Hotel Sutter) and causing puddling. The new crosswalk eliminating the tripping hazards and fixed the drainage issues. See pictures below:



New Crosswalk



New Drainage

- The public works team has been at work filling potholes on Church Street, Eureka Street, Old Sutter Hill Road, Gopher Flat, Hanford Street, Randolph Street, and Badger Street.

Parks and Buildings

- The City signed the final version of the creek cleaning permit on April 5, 2025. Once we receive the final signed version the Public works department will look into completing all background reports and developing project scopes to fortify our creek. One of the requirements for the creek cleaning permit is obtaining the services of a biologist. The City will be soliciting for the assistance of a biologist in the coming months.
- The Minnie Provis park entrance upgrade is on track to be completed prior to the duck race. We applied for the Amador Community Foundation 10K parks and playground grant to help with the financing of this project. We had a concrete pathway poured and a wall erected to help enhance the accessibility of the park entrance. Approximately 40 yards of decomposed granite has been installed with a bonding agent to keep it in place for years to come. Drainage issues have also been addressed with the installation of a curtain drain from the park to the walkway behind the community center. Next up is a new fountain and new benches being installed along with some new landscaping. We are very pleased with the progress and look forward to using the new entrance during the duck race and for years to come. See pictures of the progress below:



New Pathway



New Curtain Drain



New Wall -not finished (will be covered with stone facade)



Re-Stained Picnic Table



Re-Stained Bench

- In our effort to make Sutter Creek Fire resistant, the City has been working with the CalFire crews to clear some long-standing brush areas on City properties. In March, CalFire crews were present and continued to make a fire break around the Minehead property. We also pulled them off for a few days to clear the drainage ditch from Bryson to Gold Strike Court. See pictures of the completed work below:



Service Requests

Responded to seven service requests in March.

- Three were for street issues.