

STAFF REPORT

TO: TOM DUBOIS, CITY MANAGER
MEETING DATE: AUGUST 18, 2025
FROM: DAN LAFONTAINE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR JULY 2025

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

Executive Summary: We have made some huge steps this past month on some of the major projects that have been in planning. We received two proposals and selected a firm for the new Wastewater Treatment Plant project, we completed approximately one-third of the collection system main replacement project, and emptied Henderson to be ready to begin construction on the Henderson Underdrain. We also submitted our list of mitigation projects to the Counties Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) which will be out in draft form on Friday September 12, 2025, and submitted our priority projects to ACTC for funding consideration (Sutter Hill Road being our top priority). We are also working with AWA to help facilitate their leak detection grant main replacement and working to repair/update any underground utilities in the areas they are fixing the water mains. I think you can agree that the Public works department has been working hard to increase our resiliency well into the future.

Wastewater Treatment Request for Proposals – In July the City received two proposals for the new Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) from Schneider Electric and Optera. The City appreciates the effort that went into the proposals and feels that both firms were very qualified to perform the work. The wastewater committee held interviews with the two firms the week of July 21st and scored the proposals. The City has notified the firms and is working to finalize a contract with the highest scoring firm (Schneider Electric).

The Miscellaneous Sewer Main Replacement Project – Work continues on the 2025 collection system projects as we finish up the first three phases of the project. The crews have finished Areas A (Napa Auto Parts – Installed one manhole), Area F (Greenstone Terrace - Installed one new cleanout, two new manholes and 30 feet of open cut, and approximately 800 feet of pipe bursting), Area B (Raylan Drive - Installed two new manholes and 160 feet of open cut). The crew is currently working on Area E (Old Highway 49 – Highland Drive to Old Sutter Hill Road) where we are installing 1,600 feet of 8-inch sewer mains and installing five manholes).

ARSA Henderson Underdrain Project – The Henderson reservoir is empty, and construction of the Underdrain project will commence on August 11, 2025. A preconstruction meeting was held on

Aug 6th with the Department of Dam Safety representatives, the City and our Resident Engineer (HydroSciences). We anticipate that the project will be completed by the beginning of October.

Upcoming: *Miscellaneous Sewer Main Replacement Project* - Next up will be Area C (Dennis Street – Installing one new cleanout and 400 feet of pipe bursting) which will require a road closure on Dennis Street to non-residents. After Dennis Street we will be moving on to Area D (Sutter Hotel/Fiefield Alley – Installing one manhole and 215 feet of pipe bursting) which will require a road closure on Fiefield Alley. Last will be Area G (Eureka Street at Broad Street – Installing one cleanout and 160 feet of pipe bursting). Area G will not require any road closures. All road closures will begin after 9am to help alleviate traffic. We appreciate everyone's patience with the road closures as we work to upgrade these problem areas in the collection system. This will save the City money for years to come.

Wastewater Treatment Plant – The City is working with Scheider Electric to get a contract in place.

ARSA Henderson Underdrain – Construction will begin on the underdrain on August 11, 2025

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 continues on the 2025 collection system projects as we finish up the first three phases of the project. The crews have finished Areas A (Napa Auto Parts – Installed one manhole). Area F (Greenstone Terrace - Installed one new cleanout, two new manholes and 30 feet of open cut, and approximately 800 feet of pipe bursting), Area B (Raylan Drive - Installed two new manholes and 160 feet of open cut). On Area F additional paving was required due to the existing asphalt being beyond repair and crumbling as soon as we touched the areas. The minimal additional cost to have a driven road was well worth it. On Area B approximately 50 feet of pipe replacement was added to the scope to deal with a siphon and Y-junction with no access that the crew feels contributed to the issues we have been having with sewer spills). The crew is currently working on Area E (Old Highway 49 – Highland Drive to Old Sutter Hill Road) where we are installing 1,600 feet of 8-inch sewer mains and installing five manholes). We understand that school returning on August 13th and are making every effort to have the road reopened for minimal days with school back in session. We appreciate everyone's patience with the road closures as we work to upgrade this critical infrastructure.
- *Upcoming Miscellaneous Sewer Main Replacement Projects* – Next on the list of areas is Area C (Dennis Street - Installing one new cleanout and 400 feet of pipe bursting) which will require a road closure on Dennis Street to non-residents. After Dennis Street we will be moving on to Area D (Sutter Hotel/Fiefield Alley – Installing one manhole and 215 feet of pipe bursting). Area D will require Fiefield Alley to be closed for a few days while the crews set up and pull pipe. Last will be Area G (Eureka Street at Broad Street – Installing one cleanout and 160 feet of pipe bursting). Area G will not require any road closures. All road closures will begin after 9am to help alleviate traffic.
- 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 council by the end of October and finalized before the end of the year.
- The City excavation on Eureka St to replace 120 feet of pipe and install a cleanout halfway down Eureka St. was postponed as priorities shifted to identifying deficiencies in the leak detection areas for the upcoming AWA construction. This work will be accomplished before the rainy season.

SSMP Activity

Calls for service.

- 7/26/25; 101 Boston Alley plugged private lift station, resulting in small private lateral spill.

Sewer System Cleaning and Maintenance.

- For July 2025, there was no SSMP conducted due to other projects that took priority. The total amount cleaned for the calendar year 2025 is 3,837 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 June 2025. On July 15th two proposals were received for the new WWTP. The Wastewater committee (comprised of the City Manager, Public Works Director, Chief Plant Operator, City Sanitary Engineer, City Project Engineer, and Wastewater Operations consultant) reviewed each of the proposals and conducted interviews with each firm on the week of July 21st. The proposals were deemed to be accepted and scored very closely, but Schneider considered all alternatives and scored slightly higher. The City is currently working with Schneider Electric to formalize a contract.

Table 1. Monthly Status of required reporting constituents.

Constituent	Monthly Results	Monthly Limits
Monthly Influent Flow	8.560 MG 0.308 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	19 mg/L	30 mg/l
Total Coliform, MPN	< 1.8 MPN	23 MPN
Sludge Wasted	25,929 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 June 2025 report was electronically submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Operational Strategy Modifications:

- The rag bin was hauled on July 9, 2025.
- We continued normal sludge wasting in June with 26K gallons dewatered. The transfer pump for the polymer burned up and had to be replaced which effected our ability to waste sludge. The transfer pump has been replaced, and normal wasting has been resumed.
- A contract has been signed to receive a new power section for the Aerator. The Aerator diffuser head will be shipped back to the manufacturer for rebuild.
- The second Chlorine tank has been installed and piping connected in the chlorine building. The chlorine line was clogged causing some restrictions in the line. Upon clearing the line, we discovered that the pumps were still running hotter than the old pumps (136° vs 82°). We are talking with the field representative and waiting for correspondence back from the manufacturer.
- Geocon mobilized to the WWTP and conducted 8 test pits on July 21, 2025. Results of the test pits will be incorporated into the design of the new WWTP.

Wastewater RFP updates – In July the City received two proposals for the new Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) from Schneider Electric and Optera. The

wastewater committee comprised of the City Manager, Public Works Director, Chief Plant Operator, HydroSciences (City Project Engineer), City Sanitary Engineer, and City Operations Consultant. The committee held interviews with the two firms the week of July 21st and scored the proposals. The committee scored Schneider as the top proposal and is working with them to get an agreement in place to begin design work. We anticipate that this will take a few months to work out all the details.

Effluent Disposal

- Bowers and irrigation was resumed for the irrigation season on May 27, 2025. Ione has started receiving ARSA water on June 6, 2025, for the disposal season. As of July 31, Ione has received approximately 90 acre-feet of ARSA water.
- *Henderson Underdrain* – Current reservoir levels indicate that ARSA is at deadpan, and the underdrain project is set to begin on August 11, 2025. A preconstruction meeting was conducted on August 6th, 2025, with the City, HydroSciences, Stantec and DSOD. Next will be the issuance of a project schedule and plans to be approved for construction. During the project that City will work with the valve manufacturer to schedule a site visit to inspect the waterman valve and make recommendations to ensure the valve works properly. The City will also look into fortifying the pier to ensure the safety of our operators. The project must be finished by October 1, 2025.
- The manufacturer of the flow meter for Bowers has proposed a shorter spool length with a restocking cost of 2K. City staff are currently investigating if the flow meter can be used in another place to save the restocking fee.
- Progress is being made on the joint water balance, which is due by August 11, 2025. ARSA engineers believe that the joint water balance will be submitted on time.
- 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.

- On July 18, Campbell construction performed investigation of the storm drain and determined that the storm drainpipe was intact and the fill had been washed away. The void space was filled, and the asphalt was patched. See picture of the patch below:

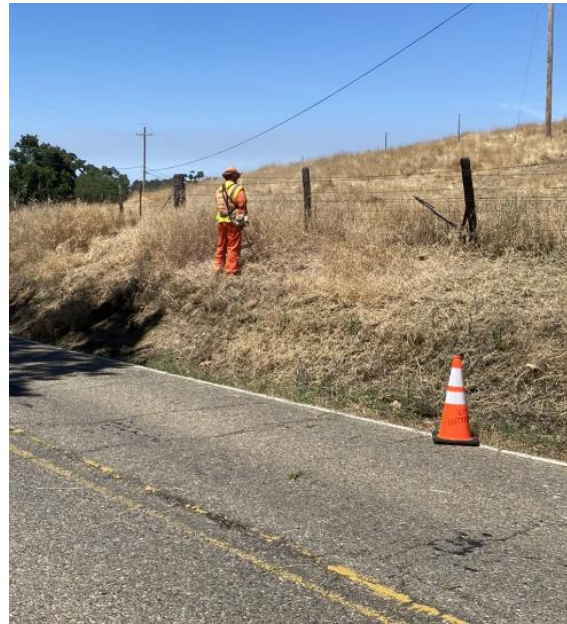


- The City has received preliminary plans from Amador Water Agency (AWA) to do some leak repair work under a grant at Eureka St., Borgh Way, Broadway, and Hayden. Due to the width of Hayden Alley AWA has agreed that a T-trench will not work and the entire road will be repaved. On Broadway AWA has indicated that they will pave half of the road. Staff will present to council a cost estimate to pave the other half of the road at the August council meeting. In addition, the repaving, AWA has indicated that they will replace the hydrant on Broadway and fix the sidewalk around the existing hydrant. The City has issued an encroachment permit for the work and expects the work to be completed by the end of October. 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.

Parks and Buildings

- On July 29, 2025, the City met with Cal OES to finalize the order for the new Early Warning Datacasting Receiver Program. The order was built for two antennas to be installed on the Auditorium and the Community building (on the South side) and three receivers (two for the Auditorium and one for the community center). We anticipate receiving the order in a few months.
- The CalFire crews have had many days of availability to help with fuel mitigation in Sutter Creek in July. The additional number of days is related to the camp having additional crews this year and a reduction of fire calls. In the Month of July, we have cleared the following locations (pictures below):
 - Gopher Flat roadside
 - Rabb Street
 - Spanish and Badger
 - Eureka St
 - Additional clearing at the Mine Head Site
 - Sutter Creek from the Auditorium up through the swimming area.





- Bryson Bathroom – WGA is finalizing the plans for the new Bathroom. Once plans have been finalized the project the City will review, and we will go out for bid.

Local Hazard Mitigation Plan

- Amador County has been working to complete its Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) update (every 5 years). The City has been working as a participating jurisdiction and attending planning meetings as part of the FEMA requirements. The LHMP will be available for public review in draft form on September 12, 2025.
- On July 18, 2025, the City submitted its updated list of Mitigation actions and projects for identifying priority hazards. The list included the following for our participating local jurisdiction. This list can be amended or changed and added to, up to Aug 29, 2025.
 - Dam Failure
 - Henderson Underdrain project
 - Drought and Water Storage
 - The City is looking to provide recycled water to a newly proposed development
 - Earthquake
 - The City is participating in the CalOES pilot program for early earthquake warning (EEW) datacaster receiver pilot program. The City will install two antennas (one the Auditorium and one on the Community Center) and three datacaster (two in the Auditorium and one in the community center)
 - Flood – All
 - The Auditorium and parking lot have a history of localized flooding. The project includes clearing the creek of silt, sediment, organic debris and vegetation and volunteer trees including saplings.
 - Development of a Storm Water Master Plan
 - Multi-Hazard (Climate Change, Drought, Extreme Heat, Severe Weather, Wildfire)
 - Backup generator (Amador Air District compliant) for the Auditorium, community center and WWTP.

- Walking Paths around Sutter Creek with native tree planting to provide shade
- Landslide, Mudslide, Debris Flow
 - Karsan Tributary south slope is failing and needs to be reinforced to prevent further erosion and clogging up of the tributary
- Wildfire
 - The project includes an establishment of a perimeter fire break around the City, identifying overgrown areas of the city with a one-time initial cleaning and ongoing maintenance of the overgrown areas to ensure that fire fuels are removed from the areas.