



STAFF REPORT

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL
TOM DUBOIS, CITY MANAGER

MEETING DATE: MAY 18, 2026

FROM: DAN LAFONTAINE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT - APRIL 2026 MONTHLY REPORT

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

- Flow meters have been installed in 9 locations around town in the collection system manholes. RH Borden installed flow meters at 6 locations on February 17 and 18, 2026. Smart cover flow meters were installed at 3 locations on March 9, 2026. Due to the late April/May storms the flow meters gathered a lot of very important flow data (after ground saturation). This data is vital to the design of the new WWTP to help reduce costs. The WWTP operators have said that during the storm on April 1 and 2, 2026 we saw over 3-inches of rain in 36 hours. During that timeframe, the flow to the plant was recorded at a maximum of 1,700 gpm (down from 2000+ gpm). This indicates that our I/I reduction projects are having a positive impact on the plant flow and should translate into capital and operational savings with the new plant.
- On May 6, 2026, a team of public works staff and Schneider staff are scheduled to tour Rammco to better understand their operation and discuss operation of the site with the operators.
- Staff have identified 6 project areas of the collection system (based on flow meter data collected in 2024) for I/I projects in 2026. We have identified 3 critical projects (cost estimates are at 500K) to further combat I/I and 3 operational projects (cost estimates are at 300K) that would reduce our operations budget (responding to Sanitary Sewer Overflows). Based on the initial meetings with council and budget projections we assume that the collection system will have approximately 500K to spend on capital projects and the 3 critical projects will be included for 2026. The project locations are below:
 - Area A - Replace 600-feet of 6-inch line (P-132) from City Hall to Walser by open cut
 - Area B - Repair 10-foot gap of 6-inch pipe in the line from MH-97 to MH-99A on Gopher Flat
 - Area C - Partial Replacement of creek line 400-feet (200-feet open cut and 200-feet pipe bursting)

SSMP Activity

Calls for service.

- 4/06/2026 - 440 Hwy 49. City main plugged and spilled, cleared line and remediated spill

Sewer System Cleaning and Maintenance.

- In April 2026 there were 2,933 Lineal feet of pipe cleaned. The total footage cleaned for the calendar year 2026 is 7,510 ft vs 14,676 feet in 2025.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Status:

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

Table 1. Monthly Status of required reporting constituents.

Constituent	Monthly Results	Monthly Limits
Monthly Influent Flow	16.128 MG 0.315 MGD daily avg	0.48 mgd ¹
Effluent BOD, mg/L	<0.5 mg/L	30 mg/l
Effluent Settleable Matter, mL/L	< 0.1 ml/L	0.5 ml/l
Effluent TSS, mg/L	7.4 mg/L	30 mg/l
Total Coliform, MPN	< 1.8 MPN	23 MPN
Sludge Wasted	28,236 gallons	
Rain	9.07 in.	23.31 in. YTD –24.15” Last YTD

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

Plant Compliance Issues: The monthly March 2026 report was electronically submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Operational Strategy Modifications:

- The rag bin was hauled on April 7, 2026
- We continued normal sludge wasting in April with 28K gallons dewatered.
- The new Aerator has been received at the WWTP. The E-pond weeds have mostly died and are starting to break and sink. Operators tried to use the aluminum boat to remove weeds but the boat couldn't move through the top sludge layer. Operators put on waders and walked the pond removing all of the cat-tails and large floating islands. Operators will return to remove more weed islands as needed before the aerator can be installed.
- During the last week of April, operators attended the annual EXPO conference for California Rural Water to brush up on wastewater math and attend talks on current trends in wastewater treatment.
- WWTP design meetings are being held every other week. On April 21, 2026 an alternatives analysis was held to discuss the placement and technology of the plant. Two locations were discussed but due to the extra work required in the flood plain zone an elevated location was chosen to stay out of the FEMA flood zone. MBR was the chosen treatment technology and a discussion was held about a package plant vs a concrete tank

plant. Ultimately, due to the limitations of the package plant wall tank height a concrete plant scored higher and is the most likely alternative. Two vendors are being considered for the MBR plant and will be vetted in the coming month. The team continues to hold bi-weekly meetings and on July 2, 2026 a meeting will be held to discuss the project estimated cost, scope and supply and a preliminary schedule.

Effluent Disposal

- The City opened our valve to begin sending wastewater to Ione on April 1, 2026. The plan was for ARSA to dispose of wastewater for one month and then Ione switch to CDCR wastewater. Due to all the late rains this month, the golf course has not needed to be watered therefore no water has been sent to the golf course from either municipality to date. 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 April 21) the reservoirs have around 310 acre-feet in the ARSA system. We continue to send around 125 gallons per minute from Henderson down the system to Preston and ultimately the Ione golf course. The low flows keep pressure in the water troughs (keeps them from clogging due to low pressure) while holding the majority of the water in Henderson.
- *Henderson Underdrain* – Hydrosiences is currently preparing a technical memo to address DSOD concerns about the underdrain project. In the letter ARSA will ask for the project to be closed without a liner and ROV monitoring. If DSOD accepts this tech memo, Hydrosiences will prepare a final design request for the modifications. The letter should go out in the beginning of May.
- The City is looking into the method to install the longer flow meter into the bowers irrigation system. This will be installed as soon as time allows.
- 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 **twenty (20)** service requests in April:

- Seven were for streets issues
- Five were for facilities issues
- Two were for park issues
- One was for a sewer issue
- One was for a cemetery issue
- Four were for tree issues

Streets and City Right of Way.

- The City engineer is complete with the new design work on the Old Sutter Hill Road overlay project. The Sutter Hill Overlay project contains an overlay of old Sutter Hill Road and an

additive alternative to reconstruct three sections of the road. If bids come in low enough we will add the alternative portion to the contract to fortify the road (essentially increasing the lifespan of the road). The bid package was released on Friday May 1, 2026. The bid schedule is shown below:

Sutter Hill Road - phase of project	Date
Advertise Bid in paper and plan rooms	May 1, 2026 (Friday)
Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting	May 14, 2026 (Thursday)
Open Bids	June 2, 2026 (Tuesday)
Award - Board Meeting	June 15, 2026 (Monday)
Begin Construction	August 2026

Once the construction is finished the moratorium will go into effect on the road for five (5) years. Notices are going out to all affected parties to ensure they are aware of the no dig policy.

- Plans are in effect to do further cleaning of brush on Old Sutter Hill Road by the PW team with the boom truck from the City of Jackson. It is anticipated that the road will be closed for a few days between May 18 and May 20, 2026. PW crew will remove all accessible leaning trees (the ones that Calfire would not drop due to liability concerns). The PW team will work with the Amador Fire Protection Services to remove the trees from the road to either of the growing burn piles.
- On May 4, 2026, a walkthrough was conducted with the City and AWA to review the paving on Broadway, Borgh, and Eureka. The City is currently preparing a punch list to give to AWA on those paving areas. The sidewalk and stem wall were replaced on Broad and Broadway eliminating a tripping hazard.
- On April 13, 2026, Volcano met with the City to inform us that the bids to install fiber through town came in over engineering estimates affecting the ability to install in town. Volcano informed the City that they have two options: Ask for a variance from the current paving standards to use microtrenching or bypass Sutter Creek and install on Hwy 49. The City engineer is gathering information on the variance and will present options to council.
- On March 20, 2026, Public works staff filled potholes on Randolph street. About one-half yard of asphalt patch mix was used to fill in the intersection and potholes.
- 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. AWA is currently scheduling the meeting.
- Potholes - Church Street, Main Street, and Judy Drive. April brought many showers every few weeks that caused most of our pothole repairs to dislodge and need further repair. We

have been trying out new mixes of asphalt patch. We found a very good patch mix that the county uses but it's very expensive (\$75/bag). We will reserve that for repeat offenders. Pictured below of a very large pothole on Ridge road that we filled.



Ridge Road (Pothole first notice and fixed)

- On April 27, graffiti was noticed on a curb across from the Auditorium on Main street. The graffiti was removed within a few days.



Parks and Facilities

- On April 7 and 9, 2026 the Calfire crew was in town working on the minehead and the top of Old Sutter Hill Road. April marks the beginning of the fire season for Calfire so our days of work crews will be limited and sporadic until we get more rain or the fire season ends.
- On April 14, 2026 a large oak tree partially fell down at 115 Rayland. The tree was located in a drainage easement ditch and on its way down hit three other trees that kept the tree partially in the air. On April 18, 2026, Loggin' Logan Tree Service was called in on an emergency basis to drop the tree all the way to the ground and to begin cutting up the massive logs. We can't thank Logan enough for him and his team's fast response and excellent work to eliminate the emergency. Now that the tree has been fully dropped we can wait for the Calfire crew to have the ability to come in and cut up further and haul away. Due to the season it may be a few months before we see any further action. See some pictures of the before and after below:



Large tree that fell onto other trees @ 115 Rayland Drive



Tree dropped to ground and partially bucked up

- Public works is beginning to repair the sprinkler system at Bryson park. Three of the sprinkler heads have been damaged along with a leak near the basketball court. All lines will be repaired prior to watering season.
- The drinking fountain in Minnie Provis park was found to be nonoperational due to the PFAS filter becoming clogged and the push button breaking. Spare parts have been ordered and will be installed as soon as they arrive.
- At the Minnie Provis bathrooms, new mirrors were purchased and installed in both the mens and womens bathrooms prior to the duck race.



- In April the Monteverde store directional sign was reinstalled on Randolph St.
- On January 27, 2026, 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) will be procured and another attempt to locate the leak will be initiated in May.
- On April 7, 2026 a grave was reported as being caved in. Upon inspection it was determined that a sink hole had developed in the grave that needed to be filled in. Public works filled in the grave and a few others in the Cemetery.



