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**STAFF REPORT**

**TO:** TOM DUBOIS, CITY MANAGER  
**MEETING DATE:** DECEMBER 16, 2024  
**FROM:** DAN LAFONTAINE, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR  
**SUBJECT:** PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2024

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

**Executive Summary:** We saw the first taste of winter in November, and we are happy to say that our preparations have worked so far. The good news is that after the storms we have had good weather, which allows the public works team to collect downed leaves (a never-ending battle this time of year) and clear storm drains (a constant battle during winter). Prior to Thanksgiving the public works team performed our annual stringing of the Christmas lights over main street, this time with colored lights. We are also very happy to report that the gateway Sutter Creek sign has been replaced and I think it is a good start to our revitalization of the gateway area. Very soon we will be spreading native seeds to bloom in spring. Looking ahead to next year we have finally received our Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (creek cleaning permit) and have 30 days to respond. We are currently reviewing the permit and will have everything in place by spring of 2025 to do some substantial creek clearing with proper approval. This will help fortify Sutter Creek for years to come.

At the WWTP, in November, we received some of our long-term capital equipment that had been out for repair. We received roto strainers number 3 and 4, the fully refurbished aerator, and a new plug valve for roto strainer number 1 piping. We are currently making plans to reinstall both roto strainers and set the aerator back into the emergency pond to improve the efficiency of our plant and improve our effluent quality. On the disposal side we had an emergency repair at the Vintage Estates property where we replaced 75-feet of 20-inch pipe. This was no small feat, and the work had to be done fast and accurately. We are pleased to say that the repairs went perfectly thanks to the availability of our contractor (Campbell construction) and spare pipe that had been saved previously by our own operators. WGA also reviewed the ROV footage and saw no increase in the degradation of the Henderson outlet pipe from previous years. A letter was sent to the Division of Dam Safety documenting the findings.

**Upcoming:** In the next month PW will continue to maintain the storm drains by collecting and disposing of leaves around town. We will also be working to install the new pieces of equipment at the plant (not a small task). We will be working hard with the police and volunteers to make sure the holiday festivities go on without a hitch and spending some time celebrating the holidays with our families.

**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:**

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*CIP work*

- The list of collection system repairs has been completed. Currently we are working to complete camera inspections of all of the lines that are on the list to make a final determination of repair or replacement. This work should be completed by the end of the year with cost estimates.
- The flow meters collected some good data from the first storm of the season but did not see ground saturation yet. Some of the sensors are not able to transmit data remotely and will be visited to collect the data manually. The contractor has informed the City that they will be switching to a new more robust sensor (stronger ability to transmit data over cell service). They will be working with City staff to facilitate the changeout in January. The contractor has informed us that the transition will not affect our data collection.

*SSMP Activity*

Calls for service

- 11/4/2024; 245 Oak Ct., plugged private lateral.
- 11/7/2024; 217 Sutter View Ct., plugged City main to the pump station.
- 11/8/2024; 70 Randolph St., plugged City main.
- 11/10/2024 110 Raylan Dr., plugged City main.

*Sewer System Cleaning and Maintenance.*

- For November 2024, there was 1,619 feet of sewer line cleaned. The total amount cleaned for the calendar year 2024 is 17,566 feet. The total for calendar year 2023 was 31,023 feet.

**Wastewater Treatment Plant Status:**

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

**Table 1. Monthly Status of required reporting constituents.**

<b>Constituent</b>	<b>Monthly Results</b>	<b>Monthly Limits</b>
Monthly Influent Flow	10.389 MG 0.495 MGD daily avg	0.48mgd <sup>1</sup>
Effluent BOD, mg/L	14 mg/L	30 mg/l
Effluent Settleable Matter, mL/L	< 0.1 ml/L	0.5 ml/l
Effluent TSS, mg/L	14 mg/L	30 mg/l
Total Coliform, MPN	1.8 mpn	23 mpn
Sludge Wasted	48,071 gallons	
Rain	2.90 in.	0.0 in. YTD –27.52” Last YTD

<sup>1</sup> The 0.48 MGD is daily dry weather flow (May through October).

*Plant Compliance Issues:* The monthly October 2024 report was electronically submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

*Operational Strategy Modifications:*

- The rag bin was hauled on November 15, 2024.
- Since the conveyor has been fixed, we were able to resume normal sludge wasting in November with 48K gallons dewatered.
- On November 25, Roto strainers number 3 and 4 were returned to the WWTP. Plans are currently underway to replace roto strainers number 3 and 4 in December and remove Roto Strainer number 2 during that time for repair.
- On December 2, 2024, the Aerator for the emergency pond was returned to the City fully restored. Current plans are to set the aerator in the middle of December.
- We ordered and received a new plug valve for roto strainer number 1. Once roto strainers number 3 and 4 are installed we will work on changing out the butterfly valve on Roto strainer number 1 with the plug valve (to reduce blockages).
- The chlorine pumps (lead and lag) have shown signs of failure (motor overheating and constant tripping). New pumps have been ordered and lead times have been estimated at 3 months. Until then operators will monitor and if necessary, try to rebuild our spare pump (number 2).

## **Effluent Disposal**

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- Bowers and Hoskins irrigation were discontinued for the season on October 31, 2024.
  - Ione has received 250 acre-ft from the ARSA pipeline. Ione is currently evaluating if the remaining 50 acre-ft will be able to be accepted for disposal.
  - On November 11, 2024, Campbell construction performed an emergency repair on the ARSA pipeline in the Vintage Estates area. The repair included the replacement of approximately 75 feet of 20-inch C-900 pipeline. The repair took a few days to complete, see pictures below.
  - On November 25, 2024, HydroScience prepared a draft water balance for the ARSA disposal system which is currently being reviewed by City staff.
  - WGA has reviewed the ROV footage and found no further degradation of the 24-inch Henderson outlet pipe. WGA has recommended that ARSA continue with yearly video inspections as required by the Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) until the outlet can be replaced in a letter dated Nov 15, 2024. The replacement of the outlet is scheduled for fall 2025, currently.
  - 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.
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Pipeline repair, full extent



Top Joint repaired

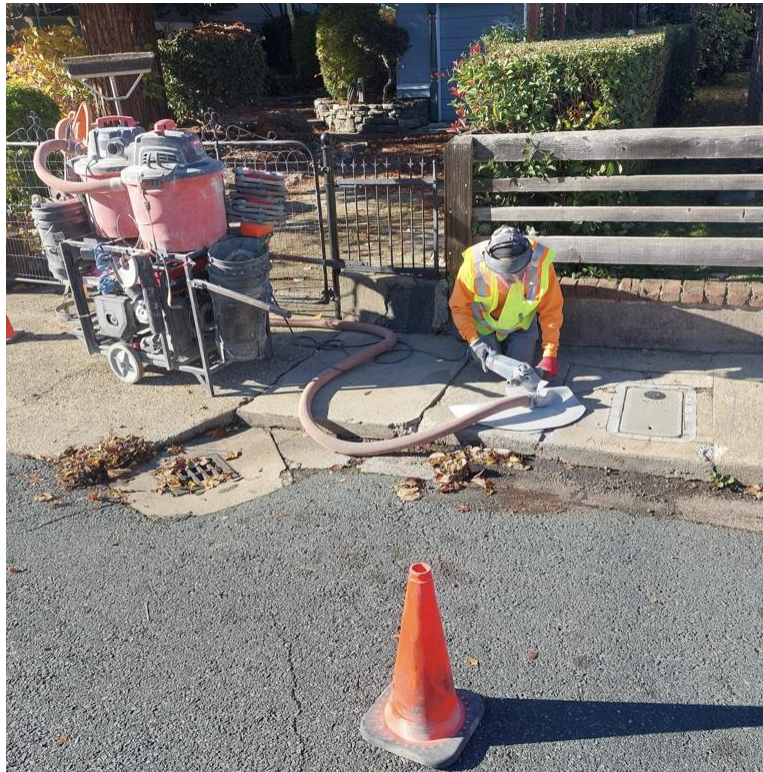
## Streets and City Right of Way.

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- The annual stringing of lights across main street occurred on November 26, 2024, with colored lights across main street. The public works team also put lights on the center park tree and welcomed Santa back as well. We hope this adds to the enjoyment of the residents and tourists around the holiday season.



- On November 27, another round of sidewalk shaving was performed on Broad Street, Boston Alley and Gopher Flat (in between Broad Street and Boston Alley). A total of 56 areas of concern were addressed during the work that day. See a picture of one of those shavings below:



## **Parks and Buildings**

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- The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) has determined that our creek cleaning project requires a Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement (creek cleaning permit) and has sent a draft agreement on Nov 21, 2024. The City has 30 days to respond to CDFW regarding the measures in the draft agreement. City staff are currently reviewing the agreement and will submit a response by the deadline.
- The PW team conducted a site inspection of the flooring in the historic grammar school in the museum room. The floor is becoming soft and spongy and needs to be further investigated. We are devising a plan of attack to investigate the area in between the floor and the ceiling below (thought to be a 12 to 18-inch space) with cameras.
- The Sutter Creek sign at the gateway park has been refurbished and is a welcome sight on our start to refurbishment of the park face. We have bought native seeds to spread along the front of the park to add to the beautification of the park. The seeds are a mixture of wildflower seeds (Native southwest, Perennial Beauty, and monarch butterfly).



## **Service Requests**

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Responded to five service requests in November.

- Four for street issues.
- One was for a sidewalk issue.