




Utility Department Monthly Update

MEETING DATE: February 14, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Daniel Saus, Utility Director 

THROUGH: George Garrett, City Manager

SUBJECT: January 2023 Utility Department Update

A. Wastewater Treatment Plants

1. General Issues

- a. The work continues for the Chemical Feed Upgrades project. Supply issues remain and will likely cause delays, but I am keeping my fingers crossed for an on-schedule completion.
- b. We advertised the notification of “Intent to Issue” for the WWTP operating permits for Service Areas 3, 4, & 6 and remitted the proof to FDEP. The issuance of our permits is still on hold.

2. Odor Complaints / Mitigation

- a. We received no odor complaints for the treatment plants in January.

3. Effluent Quality Report/Plant Performance

The December 2022 wastewater facility performance chart is shown below because the January numbers are just being tabulated. The plant permits now require AWT compliance and the operations staff is doing an amazing job as reflected in our effluent quality as shown below. (Effluent results are always a month behind due to sampling, shipping, & lab reporting)

**City of Marathon WWTP's Plant
Performance Data for:**

December 2022

Parameters:			CBOD mg/L		TSS mg/L		TN mg/L		TP mg/L	
WWTP	Permit (MGD)	MADF (MGD)	Monthly Average (6.25)	Annual Average (5.0)	Monthly Average (6.25)	Annual Average (5.0)	Monthly Average (3.75)	Annual Average (3.0)	Monthly Average (1.25)	Annual Average (1.0)
AREA 3	0.250	0.116	2.1	<2.0	2.3	1.47	0.07	1.76	0.23	0.41
AREA 4	0.400	0.353	2.45	<2.0	4.95	1.6	0.83	1.02	0.10	0.20
AREA 5	0.450	0.347	<2.0	<2.0	1.65	<1.0	0.67	0.80	0.23	0.20
AREA 6	0.200	0.102	3.05	2.2	1.65	<1.0	1.08	1.03	0.14	0.28
AREA 7	0.200	0.045	2.20	2.9	2.60	1.5	1.00	1.00	0.09	0.21

B. Collection System

1. The month of January had high flows, but they are returning to normal levels for this time of year.

2. Vacuum Station Salinities for December:

- a. Vacuum station salinities at the plants were as follows (in parts per thousand): SA3: 4.2; SA4: 5.6; SA5: 6.1; SA6: 2.1 and SA7: 3.4. These values show a moderate level of infiltration, and we are working on a mitigation plan and looking for staff.

3. Wastewater System Connections

- a. The City's wastewater system parcel connection rate is currently standing at approximately 100%. (Only customers that are in code or do not have a certificate of occupancy are not connected)

4. Code Compliance

- a. There are still currently 6 open code cases in process for failure to connect to the City's central wastewater system, code violations, or expired permits. 5 of them are residential properties at some point in the foreclosure process. The other is for failure to connect for an offshore island.

5. Callouts

- a. From January 1st to January 27th there were 20 documented call outs for the entire collections system. Of these, 15 were system generated typically a low vacuum detected at one of our Vacuum Stations. These 15 call outs did not result in any inconvenience to our customers in any way as the problems were detected and remedied by collections/maintenance city staff before these problems could become a nuisance to the homeowners or residents at these locations.

- b. The other call outs were as follows:

- i. 1-8-23: Backup Area 15 Remote. 6495 O/S Hwy. Taco Bell. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded and inspected the vacuum pit and cleanout. He found the unit to have a bad valve and controller. He replaced both components and put the unit back into service. No damage to property.

- ii. 1-14-23: Backup Area 5. Backup Area 5. 10976 3rd Ave Gulf. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded and inspected the vacuum pit and cleanout. He found the unit to be in good working order. He let the homeowner know to call a plumber.

iii. 1-16-23: Backup Area 4. 124 Calle Ensueno. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded and inspected the vacuum pit and cleanout. He found the unit to have a bad valve and controller. He replaced both components and put the unit back into service. No damage to property.

iv. 1-17-23: Backup Area 4. 669 Corte del Brisas. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded and inspected the vacuum pit and cleanout. He found the unit to be in good working order. He let the Homeowner know to call a plumber.

v. 1-18-23: Backup Area 5. 10885 4th Ave Gulf. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded and inspected the vacuum pit and cleanout. He found the unit to have a bad valve and controller. He replaced both components and put the unit back into service. No damage to property.

6. Odor Complaints / Mitigation

We received no odor complaints in January for the collection system.

C. Plant Upgrades & Construction Projects

1. Due to the permitting issues for the Area 3 WWTP Upgrade project taking almost 3 years and with COVID delays and inflation, the project costs for this project have increased significantly. I've requested finance to investigate if we can transfer the ACOE grant money from the Area 6 Sludge Processing Facility project to this project. The Area 6 project would then be put on the back burner until more funding is received.
2. A CDBG-DR Grant has been received for electrical upgrades, vacuum monitoring system, and flood wall at Area 6 plant. Design is at approx. 90%. We completed environmental assessment which has slowed our progress considerably. We are awaiting approval from DEO before we can move forward with bidding.
3. The design for the Area 3 WWTP expansion is nearly completed and permitting through FDEP is underway at this time. We advertised the notification of "Intent to Issue" for the WWTP operating permits for Service Areas 3, 4, & 6 and remitted the proof to FDEP. The issuance of our permits is still on hold.

4. We received an RAI for both the Area 6 WWTP permit renewal and the one for Service Area 4 WWTP that were like the one for Area 3. We have now received confirmation from FDEP that our responses to the RAI's were complete and we are awaiting the final outcome from FDEP.

D. Grants Update Summary

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