




Utility Department Monthly Update

MEETING DATE: March 14, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Daniel Saus, Utility Director 

THROUGH: George Garrett, City Manager

SUBJECT: February 2023 Utility Department Update

A. Wastewater Treatment Plants

1. General Issues

- a. Good progress continues for the Chemical Feed Upgrades project. Supply issues remain and will likely cause delays, but I continue 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. **Status remains the same this month.**

2. Odor Complaints / Mitigation

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

3. Effluent Quality Report/Plant Performance

The January 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:

January 2023

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	0.112	<2.0	<2.0	1.60	1.5	0.19	1.71	0.52	0.42
AREA 4	0.400	0.309	<2.0	<2.0	1.85	1.7	3.42	1.24	0.43	0.20
AREA 5	0.450	0.319	<2.0	<2.0	<1.0	<1.0	0.61	0.80	0.39	0.20
AREA 6	0.200	0.084	<2.0	2.2	<1.0	<1.0	1.50	1.06	0.56	0.27
AREA 7	0.200	0.044	<2.0	2.9	<1.0	1.5	1.40	1.04	0.17	0.19

B. Collection System

1. The month of February had normal levels for this time of year.

2. Vacuum Station Salinities for February:
 - a. Vacuum station salinities at the plants were as follows (in parts per thousand): SA3: 2.9; SA4: 2.2; SA5: 3.1; SA6: 1.3 and SA7: 1.9. These values show a minimal level of infiltration. We continue working on a mitigation plan and recently hired two more technicians.

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 5 open code cases in process for failure to connect to the City's central wastewater system, code violations, or expired permits. All of them are residential properties at some point in the foreclosure process.

5. Callouts

- a. From February 1st to February 28th there were 44 documented Call outs for the entire Collections System. Of these, 34 were system generated typically a low vacuum detected at one of our Vacuum Stations. These 34 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. 2-3-23: Backup Area 4. 1750 Manor Ln. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded and inspected the vacuum pit and the cleanout. He found the unit to be in good working order. He let the property owner know to call a plumber.
 - ii. 2-14-23: Backup Area 7. 57537 Gibson St. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded and inspected the grinder pump station. He found the unit to be in good working order. He let the property owner know to call a plumber.
 - iii. 2-16-23: Backup Area 3. 250 23rd St. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded. He found the valve and controller defective and replaced both parts. He put the vac pit back into service. No damage to property.
 - iv. 2-18-23: Backup Area 6. 131 Ave C. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded and inspected the vacuum pit and the cleanout. He found the unit to be in good working order. He let the property owner know to call a plumber.
 - v. 2-20-23: Backup Area 4. 399 50th St. Gulf. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded and inspected the vacuum pit and the cleanout. He found the unit to be in good working order. He let the property owner know to call a plumber.
 - vi. 2-22-23: Backup Area 6. 115 Ave. A. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded. He found the valve and controller defective and replaced both parts. He put the vac pit back into service. No damage to property.

vii. 2-24-23: Backup Area 4. 500 50th St. Ocean. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded and inspected the vacuum pit and the cleanout. He found the unit to be in good working order. He let the homeowner know to call a plumber.

viii. 2-25-23: Backup Area 5. 1882 109th St. Gulf. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded and found the valve and controller defective and replaced both parts. He put the vac pit back into service. No damage to property.

ix. 2-25-23: Backup Area 4. 315 Calzada de Bougainvillea. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded. He found the valve and controller defective and replaced both parts. He put the vac pit back into service. No damage to property.

x. 2-25-23: Backup Area 5. 371 Stirrup Key Blvd. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The tech responded. He found the valve and controller defective and replaced both parts. He put the vac pit back into service. No damage to property.

6. Odor Complaints / Mitigation

We received no odor complaints in February 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 is 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 not yet been accepted by DEO. We are awaiting approval from DEO before we can move forward with the projects.
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.

D. Grants Update Summary

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.