




Utility Department Monthly Update

MEETING DATE: November 14, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Daniel Saus, Utility Director 

THROUGH: George Garrett, City Manager

SUBJECT: October 2023 Utility Department Update

A. Wastewater Treatment Plants

1. General Issues

- a. Good progress continues for the Chemical Feed Upgrades project we are finally nearing completion but dragging on because of supply issues.
- 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. Unfortunately, the status remains the same this month.

2. Odor Complaints / Mitigation

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

3. Effluent Quality Report/Plant Performance

The September 2023 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:

September 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	0.102	4.55	<2.0	4.95	1.6	1.60	1.24	1.55	0.65
AREA 4	0.400	0.281	2.7	<2.0	3.45	2.4	0.99	1.00	0.49	0.40
AREA 5	0.450	0.361	<2.0	<2.0	1.80	0.9	0.99	0.73	0.62	0.48
AREA 6	0.200	0.091	3.80	<2.0	<1.0	<1.0	0.97	1.36	<0.04	0.42
AREA 7	0.200	0.044	4.10	2.7	1.10	1.5	1.28	1.23	<0.04	0.14

B. Collection System

1. The month of September had extremely high flows because of the rainfall we received and the king tides happening at the same time.

2. Vacuum Station Salinities for September:
 - a. Vacuum station salinities at the plants were as follows (in parts per thousand): SA3: 4.5; SA4: 4.8; SA5: 6.38; SA6: 2 and SA7: 3.15. These values show a minimal to moderate level of infiltration.

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 only 2 open code cases in process for failure to connect to the City's central wastewater system, code violations, or expired permits.

5. Callouts

a. From October 1st to October 31st there were 76 documented Call outs for the entire Collections System. Of these, 63 were system generated typically a low vacuum detected at one of our Vacuum Stations. These 63 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. 10-6-23: Backup Area 5. 476 West 105th St. Ocean. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The Tech responded and inspected the Vac Pit and Cleanout. He found the Valve and Controller to be bad in the Vac Pit. The Tech replaced both the Controller and Valve then proceeded to put the unit back into service. No damage to property.

ii. 10-6-23: Backup Area 5 Remote. 243 61st St. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The Tech responded and inspected the Vac Pit and Cleanout. He found the unit to be in good working order. Homeowners Issue. He let the Homeowner know to call a plumber.

iii. 10-7-23: Backup Area 5. 2918 Dolphin Dr. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The Tech responded and inspected the Vac Pit and Cleanout. He found the unit to be in good working order. Homeowners Issue. He let the Homeowner know to call a plumber.

iv. 10-10-23: Backup Area 7. 12399 O/S Hwy. The Tech responded and inspected the Grinder Pump Station and Wet Well. He found the Wet Well full of water and had it pumped down. The Stators were bad in the Station. He replaced the Stators and put the Station back into service. No damage to property.

v. 10-14-23: Backup Area 7. 57493 Goodley St. The Tech responded and inspected the Grinder Pump Station and Wet Well. He found the Wet Well full of water and had it pumped down. The Stators were bad in the Station. He replaced the Stators and put the Station back into service. No damage to property.

vi. 10-14-23: Backup Area 5 Remote. 676 96th St. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The Tech responded and inspected the Vac Pit and Cleanout. He found the Valve and Controller to be bad in the Vac Pit. The Tech replaced both the Controller and Valve then proceeded to put the unit back into service. No damage to property.

vii. 10-15-23: Backup Area 5. 107 Stirrup Key Woods Rd. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The Tech responded and inspected the Vac Pit and Cleanout. He found the Valve and Controller to be bad in the Vac Pit. The Tech replaced both the Controller and Valve then proceeded to put the unit back into service. No damage to property.

viii. 10-15-23: Backup Area 4. 1400 Westward Ho Ln. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The Tech responded and inspected the Vac Pit and Cleanout. He found the unit to be in good working order. Homeowners Issue. He let the Homeowner know to call a plumber.

ix. 10-19-23: Backup Area 4. 856 Copa d'Oro East. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The Tech responded and inspected the Vac Pit and Cleanout. He found the Valve and Controller to be bad in the Vac Pit. The Tech replaced both the Controller and Valve then proceeded to put the unit back into service. No damage to property.

x. 10-20-23: Backup Area 4. 101 Calle Ensueno. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The Tech responded and inspected the Vac Pit and Cleanout. He found the Valve and Controller to be bad in the Vac Pit. The Tech replaced both the Controller and Valve then proceeded to put the unit back into service. No damage to property.

xi. 10-21-23: Backup Area 4. 677 48th St. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The Tech responded and inspected the Vac Pit and Cleanout. He found the Gravity Lateral on the City side to be clogged. He jetted the clog out with the City Jet/Vac Truck and put the unit back into service. No damage to property.

xii. 10-21-23: Backup Area 5. 103 Stirrup Key Woods Rd. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The Tech responded and inspected the Vac Pit and Cleanout. He found the Fernco fitting had come loose. He replaced the fitting and put the unit back into service. No damage to property.

xiii. 10-27-23: Backup Area 5. 107 Stirrup Key Woods Rd. The MOD phone received a call about a backup at the property. The Tech responded and inspected the Vac Pit and Cleanout. He found the Valve and Controller to be bad in the Vac Pit. The Tech replaced both the Controller and Valve then proceeded to put the unit back into service. No damage to property.

6. Odor Complaints / Mitigation

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

C. Plant Upgrades & Construction Projects (No changes this month)

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. The flood wall is out for bids. The electrical upgrades are also out for bids.
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 but FDEP has required us to complete a permit renewal application which we have submitted.

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.