



**Council Report**  
**City of Pataskala Utility Department**  
**Joe Peterson, Utility Director**

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➤ **New Items**

• **New Operational Updates**

- Leaks
  - No Leaks
- Water Billing
  - Shut offs for non-payment were postponed till next month due to the street fair making it difficult for residents to access the billing department.
  - “Invoice Cloud” weekly updates continue. Project on schedule.
- Scada Radio and Antenna
  - Beginning to work with contractor on Scada Radio and Antenna replacement and implementation.
- Creek Road Lift Station
  - No sitework scheduled for the month of August. On schedule to start in October.
- WRF
  - Blowers are up and running. Early results are positive.
  - The department continues to work on ways to decrease the noise levels. Acoustic Blankets have been ordered and we are waiting for delivery.
- WTP1
  - RFQ for Iron Filter Replacement design will be sent out on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Firm selection expected by late November 2024 and permission to proceed by early 2025.

## **Ongoing Items**

### **Water Reclamation Facility**

- Daily Operations
  - The operators maintain exceptional daily operations of the WRF, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They consistently do an outstanding job of turning the City's wastewater into clean, safe water that is discharged into the South Fork of the Licking River
- COVID-19 Wastewater Testing
  - Pataskala Utility Department is participating in the COVID-19 wastewater testing program.
    - This program was originally created to find evidence of the COVID-19 virus in our wastewater stream.
      - It has now been expanded to also include evidence of the Influenza virus.
    - The results of the COVID-19 wastewater testing are currently being posted to the Ohio Corona Virus dashboard found here:  
<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/wastewater>
- WRF Upgrade
  - Blowers are up and running. Early results are positive.
  - The department continues to work on ways to decrease the noise levels. Acoustic Blankets have been ordered and we are waiting for delivery.

### **Water Treatment Plants**

- Daily Operations
  - The operators maintain exceptional daily operations of both Water Treatment Plants, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They consistently do an outstanding job of providing the City's

customers with clean, safe water that meets or exceeds the requirements of the OEPA.

- WTP 1 Iron Filter 2
  - RFQ for Iron Filter Replacement design will be sent out on September 8<sup>th</sup>. Firm selection expected by late November 2024 and permission to proceed by early 2025.

- **Distribution and Collection System**

- Daily Operations
  - The systems team maintains exceptional daily operations of the entire distribution and collections system, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They consistently do an outstanding job of providing customer service to the residents, maintaining the city's infrastructure, and responding to emergencies of various types.
- Leaks
  - No Leaks

- **Billing Team**

- Daily Operations
  - The billing team does an exceptional job of processing the payments for water and sewer service, scheduling the service work that needs done as well as providing excellent customer service 8 hours a day, 5 days a week.
  - Shut offs for non-payment were postponed till next month due to the street fair making it difficult for residents to access the billing department.
  - "Invoice Cloud" weekly updates continue. Project on schedule.

- **Director**

- WRF Expansion Design

- The concept for the WRF Expansion Design is to break it up into two phases: planning design and final design.
  - To fund the planning design phase of \$500,000, the Utility Department intends to spend \$50,000 out of the Capital Improvements Fund, and \$450,000 from a 0% interest DEFA Planning Loan.
- Once the planning design phase is complete, we will roll the planning loan into a 0% interest DEFA Design Loan for the final design services.
  - The amount of that loan will be determined in the planning design phase.
- Once the final design services are complete, we will roll the design loan into a low interest DEFA Construction Loan.
  - This concept will defer payments until after the construction is completed in late 2028 or early 2029.
  - This concept will also save us approximately \$8,000,000 in interest savings over the bonding concept that the budget was built on.
- Creek Road Force Main Upgrade Project update
  - No sitework scheduled for the month of August. On schedule to start in October.
- Scada Radio and Antenna
  - Beginning to work with contractor on Scada Radio and Antenna replacement and implementation.
- Safety Program
  - The department requires two safety meetings each month.
    - One is done at the team level by the Superintendents covering general safety issues.
    - The second is done with the entire staff.
      - Each month, a different member of the department will lead this training.

Respectfully submitted,

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Utility Director

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