



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

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➤ **New Items**

• **New Operational Updates**

- Leaks
  - Water leak repair 429 Chateauguay Dr
  - Water leak repair 436 Oak Meadow Dr
  - Hydrant Repair 127 Grand Rd SW
- Water Billing
  - Anticipated Invoice Cloud “go Live” date is 11/16
  - Shut offs for delinquent payment is scheduled for 10/21
- Southeast Water Tower
  - The water tower painting project wraps up this week and slow fill begins. When samples pass, we will put the tower back online. Expected to get back online the week of 10/21
- Creek Road Lift Station
  - On schedule to start in October.
  - Materials should be arriving on site in the next week or so.
- WRF Upgrade & (Noise Reduction Efforts)
  - Blowers are up and running. Early results are positive.
  - Parts have been ordered to make modifications to the blowers to further mitigate the noise levels. Target date for completion is the end of October.
- WTP1
  - RFQ for Iron Filter Replacement design has been received. Submission review is underway. Firm selection is 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 & (Noise Reduction Efforts)

- The administration met with staff and EPA to discuss a test plan whereas the staff will be lowering the blower settings for an extended period in the evening to give some relief to residents. We will monitor the effect of this test throughout and adjust as needed to stay compliant.
- Acoustic Blankets have been added but fell short of desired results.
- Parts have been ordered to make modifications to the blowers to further mitigate the noise levels. Target date for completion is the end of October.
- The department continues to work on a more permanent solution to decrease the noise levels.

- **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 has been received. Submission review is underway. 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

- Water leak repair 429 Chateauguay Dr
    - Water leak repair 436 Oak Meadow Dr
    - Hydrant Repair 127 Grand Rd SW

- **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.

- Anticipated Invoice Cloud "go Live" date is 11/16

- Shut offs for delinquent payment is scheduled for 10/21

- **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

- Materials should be arriving on site in the next week or so.
- On schedule to start in October.

- Southeast Water Tower

- The water tower painting project wraps up this week and slow fill begins. When samples pass, we will put back online. Expected to get back online the week of 10/21

- Safety Program

- The department requires two safety meetings each month.
  - One is done at 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 run this training.

Respectfully submitted,

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