



CITY OF LE SUEUR  
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

TO: Mayor and City Council  
FROM: Richard Kucera, Public Services Director  
SUBJECT: Wastewater Treatment Facility Update  
DATE: For the City Council Meeting of Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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**PURPOSE**

To give City Council an update on the wastewater treatment facility.

**SUMMARY**

During the first quarter of the year the plant is operating as usual. There were a couple days with higher flow, but not near as much as last year's Spring thaw. The new screens in the pretreatment room are a great improvement to the plant's overall process. They are removing more debris and require far less maintenance than the old ones. The operators like them so far.

We are having an issue with rags and "flushable" wipes partially clogging the pumps and check valves at the lift stations. Safety is key and personal protective equipment must be worn at all times. It is especially important with the possibility of Covid 19 in the wastewater. This has been taking away time from normal operation and maintenance of the facility and the system.

Biosolids treatment is operating as normal although there was a small change due to a faulty dosing pump. It is repaired and back in operation. The new centrate lift station is working well. Biosolids were hauled out the week on April 20. Spring is in the air and Summer is right around the corner.

Amid the Covid-19 pandemic, we are working diligently to maintain staff safety with completion of day to day operation, maintenance, and repairs. Below are the projects we have completed, are working on, and/or plan to complete this year.

- Comprehensive CIP-CEP
  - Staff continues to work on a comprehensive CIP-CEP or Asset Management Plan. This will prepare inventory tables of assets, including approximate replacement dates and costs. This plan will assist City Council and staff in making better decisions regarding maintenance of existing assets, rehabilitation of existing assets, replacement of assets, acquisition of new assets, operation of the system and financing long-term capital improvements including setting rates.

- Building B- Biosolids Treatment
  - Building Doors
    - All doors have been repaired and locks work.
  - Vertical Auger
    - Getting quote for whole unit and auger only. A temporary repair was made to the auger last year. When completing, it was found the auger flighting is wearing and a new one is needed to get back to 100%.
  - Dosing Pump
    - The gear box on the new dosing pump failed and was fixed under warranty.
  - Tower Media
    - The media on the tower for the biosolids dryer was replaced.
  - Biosolids Meter
    - The current biosolids meter needs to be replaced. The new meter is here and will be replaced along with a new valve.
  
- Building C- Pretreatment and Wastewater Treatment
  - Ferric Doors
    - The doors for the ferric chloride room are in poor shape. New doors are on order and will be replaced this year.
  - New RAS Pump
    - The old pump was due to be rebuilt and would cost more to rebuild than purchasing a new pump. It is on order and will be installed as soon as it is in.
  - Rebuilding Scum Pump
    - New parts are on order to rebuild the scum pump.
  - Pretreatment Room Garage Door
    - The garage door on the pretreatment room will be replaced this year. The old one is in poor shape due to the atmosphere of the old screens.
  - Aeration Basin 1
    - This basin is down for cleaning and repairs to the air system.
  - Clarifier 3
    - It will be taken down for maintenance. The gear reducer and motor will be changed at that time.
  - pH probes, Dissolved Oxygen (D.O.), Radar
    - Staff is getting prices to install pH probes in the influent and effluent areas of the plant. Currently the pH is only being tested once a day. The D.O. sensor in the effluent channel will be replaced at the same time. Staff is also looking into radar units to measure the levels of the ferric tanks. By adding these, we will have 24-hour monitoring of pH, D.O. and Ferric on SCADA that will aid in operations and staff will be able to see any spikes that are sent to the facility.
  - RAS Gates
    - The Return Activated Sludge (RAS) gates of all 3 clarifiers are failing and need to be replaced. Staff continues to research options for the replacement.
  
- Spring HVAC Maintenance
  - Maintenance is scheduled for April 22 and 23 for all units.

- Roof Evaluation and Maintenance
  - April 2020- This evaluation will give us a baseline of the condition of all roofs. We will be able to create a maintenance schedule moving forward and this will aid in CIP replacement planning.
- Odor Control Media Replaced
  - This is scheduled for April 2020. All media at lift stations and at the plant will be replaced. This is done every couple of years.
- Slip Lining/Spot Repair of Collection System
  - Work will be completed to repair sanitary sewer lines that are failing or have protruding roots. This project is currently out for bids.
- CSAH 22 Project
  - Staff will have considerable involvement in the CSAH 22 project. This will include new water mains and services, new sanitary sewer and services and new storm sewer. Staff will be working with the contractor on a regular basis to maintain services to our residents and businesses.
- Fiber to Lift Station 4
  - The radio communication system in lift station 4 is nearing end of life. Fiber is available and will be run to this lift station. Some replacements of the control panel will be done at the same time.