



TOWN OF HULL
Sewer Department

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2021 ANNUAL REPORT

To the Honorable Select Board and Citizens of Hull:

The Hull Sewer Department is pleased to submit our 2021 Annual Report. The Sewer Department operates as an enterprise account and as such is required to raise all revenue to cover operating expenses. These revenues are raised through sewer user fees and permit receipts. In addition, every year we seek out grants to help fund our capital improvements, of which several have been awarded.

Our operations have continued to adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic to provide uninterrupted wastewater service to the Town. We have made considerable progress towards our capital improvements, upgrades, and maintenance goals.

In 2021, the average flow to the treatment plant was approximately 1.48 million gallons per day (mgd) which is down slightly from 1.66 mgd in 2019. The wastewater treatment facility was designed to treat an average of 3.07 mgd.

PERMANENT SEWER COMMISSION

Rick Mattila (Chair), Peter Pyclik, Andrew Grosso. Resigned: Richard Booth. There are presently two vacant positions which are appointed by the Select Board.

SEWER DEPARTMENT STAFF

John Struzziery (Director), Brian Kiely (Assistant Director), Catherine Joaquim (Bookkeeper/Clerk), Michael McDonough (Facility Coordinator).

We also congratulate Carol O'Connor and Terri Berardinelli for their retirement from the Sewer Department. Thank you Carol for your 16 years with the Sewer Department and Terri for your 19 years of service to the Town (6 of which for the Sewer Department).

CONTRACT OPERATOR

Woodard & Curran is our contract operator for the treatment facility and collection system and staffs the facility seven days a week, 365 days per year. Woodard & Curran also provides some of our engineering services related to the treatment facility and collection system.

SEWER DEPARTMENT PROJECTS

Many projects voted at prior Town Meetings are now in motion in various stages of planning, design and construction. Work for the priority projects included:

- **Design**
 - WWTF Coastal Resiliency Measures: CZM Grant-funded project to protect the WWTF from coastal flooding with a berm and gravity wall,

incorporating deployable flood gates at vehicle entrances. Completed June 2021, seeking construction funding.

- Pump Station 9 Replacement: design completed in Fall 2021 for the replacement of the pump station in the Pemberton Commuter Lot. Congressionally directed funding in the amount of \$4.2M is pending.
- Plant Upgrades Project: design progressed on the Influent Pump Room, Secondary Treatment, and Control Building Upgrades. Design is now complete and will be bid Spring 2022.
- **Construction**
 - Effluent Pump Station/Pump Station 5 Upgrades: substantially completed in Fall 2021. Two change orders still open (Primary Influent Gate at WWTF and replacement of Sodium Hypochlorite Tanks).
 - WWTF HVAC Upgrades: contract was bid and awarded in Late 2021, construction to begin in Spring 2022.
 - Sewer system remedial repairs in conjunction with the Town's Roadway Paving Program was completed.
- **Planning**
 - Conducted sewer assessments in advance of the Town's roadway pavement management capital plan. Any corrective actions requiring roadway work were done prior to paving to avoid damage to new finished pavement.
 - Conducted investigations and assessments on the ocean outfall as well as performed remedial repairs to a number of diffusers.
 - Addressing remedial items recommended in the Town-wide Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Survey (SSES).

MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADES

Our Operations and Sewer Department staff routinely maintains and upgrades our treatment facility and collection system to keep our wastewater system reliable, efficient, and resilient to storm events. Our 43 year-old wastewater system needs regular upgrades to replace aging equipment.

Highlighted work items include:

- Diffused aeration system tanks – replaced corroded support hardware and installed new diffuser membranes in both tanks
- New Pumps, valves, and check valves installed in Pump Station #5 (Draper Ave)
- New valves, piping, and check valves installed at Pump Station #4 (Marginal Rd)
- Ongoing Town-owned grinder pump replacements/repairs
- New valves, check valves, isolation gate valve and flow meter effluent pump room
- Aeration system blower room electrical repairs
- A number of sludge pump repairs and replacements due to age and end of service life

OPERATIONS

Due to COVID-19 protocol, we did not perform certain inspections for the safety of our staff and the public earlier in the year. However we are now fully operational for all real estate, second meter, and abatement inspections.

Please read the newsletter that is included with each sewer bill to find helpful hints on ways to decrease your possibility of experiencing a sewer back-up as well as tips and pointers as to what you should and shouldn't discard into the municipal sewer system (please no "flushable" wipes). Also note the new section "Sewerology" where you can learn all about sewer terms, how the system works, and the challenges faced in this industry.

We also once again thank Woodard & Curran our contract operators, the Permanent Sewer Commission, and our office staff. We also thank the Town for your support of our goals and mission to improve the resiliency and reliability of the Town's sewer system for years to come.

Respectfully submitted,



John J. Struzziery, P.E.
Director of Wastewater Operations