



TOWN OF HULL
Sewer Department

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2023 ANNUAL REPORT

To the Honorable Select Board and Citizens of Hull:

The Hull Sewer Department is pleased to submit our 2023 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 low-interest loans and grants to help fund our capital improvements, amounting to over \$16.5M the past five years.

In 2023, the average flow to the plant was approximately 1.48 million gallons per day (mgd) which is up from 1.35 from 2022. The reason for this increase in flow is likely due to additional infiltration and/or inflow into the system since there was over 20 inches more rain in 2023 compared to 2022. The Wastewater Treatment Facility was designed to treat an average of 3.07 mgd.

PERMANENT SEWER COMMISSION

Rick Mattila (Chair), Peter Pyclik (Vice-Chair), B. Scott Taylor, and Paul Norton.
Resigned: Andrew Grosso. There is one vacant position on the Commission. Please consider being a member and send a letter of interest to Lori West, the Town Clerk, at lwest@town.hull.ma.us.

SEWER DEPARTMENT STAFF

John Struzziery (Director), Tom Molinari (Assistant Director), Catherine Joaquim (Bookkeeper/Clerk), and Michael McDonough (Facility Coordinator). Tom Molinari, who had previous experience as a Town Engineer in Hingham and Marshfield, was hired as the Assistant Director in August 2023. Brian Kiely resigned as Assistant Director in June 2023.

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. This is Year 9 of their 10 year contract. We expect to issue an RFP for O&M Services for the plant in 2024.

SEWER DEPARTMENT PROJECTS

Many of our priority projects have started construction or are about to. We have two other projects that are in the grant approval stages with MassDEP and FEMA. We are anticipating approval of both those projects this year.

- **Construction**

- WWTF HVAC Upgrades: This project, which is part of the bigger Influent Process and Control Building Upgrades Project, was completed in November 2023. This project relocated essential electrical and control equipment to the second floor of the wastewater facility to protect them from future flooding concerns.
- Influent Process and Control Building Upgrades Project: This is the Sewer Department's largest project with replacements and upgrades of the major influent and control building systems in the wastewater facility. This project is funded by FEMA, MassDEP, and the \$9.5M Bond approved at the June 2020 Town Meeting. Construction started in 2023 with an expected completion date sometime in late 2024.
- Ocean Outfall Rehabilitation Project: The Ocean Outfall was installed over 44 years ago and needs to be restored to its original condition to ensure reliability, public health, and environmental integrity. Semper Diving is the awarded contractor and started work on the Outfall in December 2023. This project is expected to be complete by April 2024. It was partially funded by an ARPA grant through Plymouth County.
- Pump Station 9 Replacement Project: The replacement of Pump Station 9, located in the municipal parking lot across from Hull High School, was bid in the fall of 2023. D & C Construction, the awarded contractor, is set to begin work in Spring 2024. We anticipate the completion of this project in the summer of 2025. The Pump Station 9 Replacement Project is partially funded by a \$2M Federal Stimulus Grant.

- **Pending Projects**

- Sewer Asset Management Program: In August 2023, we submitted an application to the MassDEP for \$250,000 for our Sewer Asset Management Program. This program will help inventory, map, and assess the condition of sewer laterals and mains throughout Hull. We anticipate grant approval of this program by March 2024.
- Coastal Resiliency Berm Project: An application was submitted to the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Program (HMGP) for our Coastal Resiliency Berm Project. This project will create a combination of vegetated earthen berms and gravity walls around the wastewater facility to provide a flood barrier protecting the plant. We anticipate grant approval sometime in 2024.

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.

Highlighted work items include:

- Purchase of sewer inspection pole camera for previewing sewer conditions from manholes.
- Grouting and sealing of Pump Station 3 to prevent Inflow & Infiltration (I&I)

- New gas metering system installed in Grit Pump Room and Headworks
- Installation of new rebuilt motor for Influent Pump #2
- Collaboration with Weston & Sampson Engineers for inspection and cleaning out of low-pressure system areas where residences have grinder pumps.

OPERATIONS

In 2023, we conducted the following inspections:

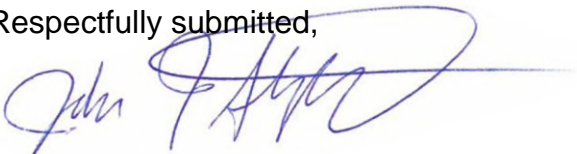
- 116 sump pump inspections (time of home sales), generating \$5,800
 - Identified 3 illicit sump pump connections to the sewer which were all corrected.
- 13 new property inspections which generated \$21,000 in sewer rehab fund revenue
- Sewer inspections for private properties
 - 14 second meter inspections, generating \$700 in revenue
 - 40 sewer permits generating \$5,590 in revenue

In addition, we responded to 2 sanitary sewer overflows, 22 resident backup calls, inspected 18 loud manhole frame and covers called in by residents, marked out 477 DigSafes, and responded to 24 grinder pump calls.

We also responded to a sewer collapse at the corner of Nantasket Avenue and Edgewater Road in June 2023. This project took several weeks to complete with a new sewer pipe installed and the line flowing freely.

We 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