

From The Director's Office:

Raw Water Facilities (RWF) Construction Update

The Willamette Water Supply Program, in coordination with Wilsonville, is building improvements in and around the Willamette River Water Treatment Plant. Construction is underway and expected to take four years. Improvements include an improved raw water pump station, a seismically reinforced Willamette Riverbank, increased water intake capacity, a new electrical building, and a new raw water pipeline. Arrowhead Creek park will be restored after construction. Here is a current status of activities:

- Work to stabilize the riverbank has started and continues through March 2021.
- The electrical building foundation pile installation on the upper site has begun and will be completed in January 2021.
- Work to bore the pipeline beneath Arrowhead Creek will begin in January and be complete by July 2021.



*Drill rig for deep soil mixing which will provide seismic stability of
the Willamette River bank.*

Utilities

Not All Wastewater Work Is Underground

When rainy weather arrives, the Wastewater crew focuses on reviewing and organizing past CCTV (closed circuit television) videos inspections of underground pipes.

Previously, the videos were stored away for future reference, but it was a challenge to identify which video clip correlated with a set of documents. So staff is sorting through boxes of files and DVDs - cataloging, storing them digitally, and integrating them into Cartegraph, our asset management software. Soon, a simple search by asset identification number or any manhole number will quickly pull up the relevant video footage.

By having an organized file storage system, the Wastewater crew is able to accurately respond to residents, businesses and contractors. If a customer is experiencing sewer issues, staff can quickly verify the size, location, and condition of connection to the City main.



Kyle Bean at his workstation

Annual Fire Hydrant Maintenance

The Water crew has been focusing their efforts on the annual fire hydrant maintenance program. Every year, a quarter of the hydrants within the City are inspected for function and structure. Each hydrant is fully turned on with all of the ports remaining closed, which pressurizes the hydrant, and it is checked for leaks. Next, the hydrant is turned off and the operator listens for the hydrant to drain out of the “bleeder valves” and depressurize. Once depressurized, the main port of the hydrant is opened to make sure all of the water has drained out.

The structure of the hydrant is verified by inspecting the caps, ensuring the identification number is present, checking the paint, and addressing obstructions around the hydrant, such as vegetation. The final step of the process is placing a reflective “blue dot” in the road to allow fire crews to quickly and easily identify the location of the hydrant.



Steve Gering inspecting a hydrant

Facilities

Leaf Collection

This month, the Facilities crew tackled the removal of fallen leaves accumulating on City properties. Staff used a truck mounted leaf vacuum instead of the tow behind equipment used in the past. The truck mounted setup is safer and more efficient, especially in parking lots and other tight areas. The crew modified the vacuum by adding an adjustable boat winch. The winch supports the vacuum tube at the right height and makes operating the leaf vacuum into a one person job.



Truck mounted leaf vacuum



Raking debris towards the vacuum tube

When a crewmember rakes leaves towards the tube, debris is sucked up, mulched and deposited into a 10 yard box on the truck bed. Mulching maximizes the amount of debris that can fit into the box and minimizes the amount of trips to unload. Once the box is full, the leaf mulch is taken to a local recycling center and made into compost.



boat winch modification

Facilities

City Hall Parking Lot Lights

New dimmable LED lights have replaced 15 year old, 175 watt metal-halide lighting fixtures in the City Hall parking lot. The LED fixtures will light areas previously left dark by the older type of light. Additionally, the new lights go dim when no motion is present and then light up to a set brightness activated by motion.



Out with the old—in with the new

The LED lights will save 16,742 kilowatt-hours of energy annually. This is equivalent to carbon reduction of removing 1.9 cars off the road and \$1,500 in energy cost savings each year. The fixtures are designed to reduce light pollution, making them Dark Sky compliant.



Upgrading light fixtures

Stormwater

Let the November Rain Flow

This November has been one of the wettest in recent years. The crew has been busy with routine catch basin maintenance and clearing outlets of leaves, limbs and other debris to allow stormwater runoff to freely flow within the designated channels.



Checking an outlet



Water flowing

Repairing the Sand Storage Shed

The Stormwater crew repaired the cover and doors to the 'sand shed' which was damaged during the September windstorm. The structure keeps the sand dry and thawed, so it is ready to use for sanding roadways during ice and snow conditions. Frozen sand can clog and damage truck-mounted sanders. The new shed cover will ensure the City is prepared to address slippery conditions on the City's designated Snow and Sanding Routes.



Removing the cover



Finished!

Roads

Incident Response—Hay Bales in Roadway

Robert Todd from Facilities responded to an incident he witnessed while driving. A driver did not anticipate the steepness of the Boeckman Road to Boones Ferry Road turn causing hay bales to fall in the middle of the roadway and stopping the truck in the ditch. After checking in with the driver, Robert started flagging traffic and called the Roads crew for clean-up assistance.

Roads and Facilities crew flagged vehicles for one-way traffic while the City tractor removed the hay bales from the roadway. Staff remained on site to alert drivers to potential hazards as the driver reloaded the truck. Once loading was complete, the crew removed loose hay off from the road and vehicle traffic resumed normal flow.



Lost load

“Do not” Stripe Replaced on Crosswalk Sign

Sign maintenance is very important for public safety. Signs inform vehicle traffic when to look for people crossing a roadway and indicates the appropriate crossing location for pedestrians. A missing “Do not” stripe was replaced on a sign, helping to prevent possible accidents.



Before

After

Roads

Leaf Drop Day

The City of Wilsonville and Republic Services hosted another successful Leaf Drop Day on November 14th. Last month brought high winds, causing leaves to fall in large quantities in a short time. The Leaf Drop day offered an excellent alternative to residents putting them in yard waste bins over many weeks.

This annual event offers an opportunity for residents to drop off excess leaves at a convenient location, the City Hall parking lot, at no charge. Participants are encouraged to bring donations for Wilsonville Community Sharing, a local community food bank and social services referral agency.



Resident depositing leaves

This year, the event was designed to quickly move vehicles through and minimize contact. Progress was slowed by rain, but it was still a successful day. Citizens filled a total 12 bins or 350 cubic yards of leaves. Wilsonville Community Sharing also received generous cash donations that will go back into the community.



Delivering an empty bin



Staff directing traffic

Roads

Holiday Tree

Decorating the Leyland Cypress at the intersection of Boones Ferry Road and Wilsonville Road is a cherished tradition for the Road crew. The community loves the tree and look forward to seeing it light up each year. The Roads crew coordinated with the Parks Department to use an 80 foot boom lift. This made it much easier to decorate the tree with lights and add the finishing touch, a star on the very top.



A view from the top



Installed ribbon

The holiday decorations from last holiday season were showing wear, but the Roads department wanted the tree to be extra merry and bright for 2020. Red ribbon was used to add festive color during the daytime. Twice as many lights were put on the tree this season. We hope the community enjoys the tree and it brightens everyone's day during these challenging times.



Happy Holidays!