

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Description of Services/Mission Statement:

The Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA), an enterprise fund, manages the City's sanitary sewer collection system, pumping stations and wastewater treatment facility in accordance with environmental standards and regulations in the most cost effective and responsible manner. Since FY 2000-2001 the Authority has outsourced the operations and maintenance of the system.

Highlights For 2009-10:

- Continued to negotiate an expanded Interlocal Agreement with the Town of Wilton for acceptance and treatment of Wilton effluent.
- Continued implementation of a Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) program and Industrial Pretreatment Program. These programs will reduce sewer maintenance requirements, improve system performance and increase alternative revenues to offset higher operating costs.
- Commenced construction on Phase 1 of the \$145 million wastewater treatment plant upgrade.
- Implemented high strength and combined sewer user charges. Initial billing was accomplished in Spring 2009.
- Continued to improve the existing sewer use charge billing system.
- Continued to expand public outreach through participation with various civic groups and professional organizations and initiated design of a WPCA website.

Goals For 2010-11:

- Continue construction on Phase 1 of the wastewater treatment plant upgrade.
- Complete design of Phase 2 upgrades – low level nitrogen reduction improvements.
- Complete an evaluation of opportunities to employ alternative energies and/or reduce energy costs at the treatment plant.
- Continue development of a comprehensive Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) program and Industrial Pretreatment Program. Evaluate the possibility of being a regional resource for fats, oils and grease recycling.
- Continue to improve public outreach through participation with various civic groups and professional organizations. Complete design of, and activate, a WPCA website.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

- ✓ Residential and commercial usage fees are increasing by 4.4% and 4.6%, respectively.
- ✓ Replacement reserve fund increase to be used for rate stabilization in future years related to the \$41 million Phase 1 treatment plant upgrade. This amount is included in the financial rate model.
- ✓ Revenues from other sources decreased, including investment income, sewer connection fees, septage disposal and contract monitoring reimbursements, primarily because of unfavorable economic conditions.
- ✓ In 2008 the WPCA's South Smith Street plant achieved greater nitrogen reduction levels than required and will receive approximately \$170,000 in nitrogen credits for FY09-10.