



Public Works

Monthly Report

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Wastewater



National Recognition for Excellence in Wastewater Treatment

The Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC) has, once again, been recognized by the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) and has earned NACWA's Platinum Peak Performance Award. This annual award program recognizes facilities for excellence in wastewater treatment as measured by their operational performance and compliance with their discharge permits. The MWMC earned the Platinum 14 Award, which recognizes the excellence of the Wastewater Division for 14 consecutive years of 100 percent compliance with its permit effluent limits. Achieving perfect compliance included meeting more than 1700 measured compliance limits throughout the year. Clean water is a precious resource, and along with returning clean water to the Willamette River, the Wastewater Division values protecting public health and being sound stewards of the environment.



Operations Manager News



Michelle Miranda has been promoted to Operations Manager. Michelle had managed the division's environmental services, plant operations, and biosolids management work sections in an acting-in-capacity role for the past two years. Michelle's education and experience include a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Willamette University, a certificate in public administration, and 26 years of wastewater work experience with seven years of supervisor and managerial experience. Michelle also serves as a director on the board for the Oregon Environmental Laboratory Association.

Environmental System Audit Results in Recertification

The Wastewater Division completed an ISO:14001 Environmental Management System full recertification assessment audit. No corrective actions or opportunities for improvement were identified. The audit was successfully conducted remotely using Microsoft Teams over three and one-half days. The audit included document review, staff interviews, and tours of the wastewater treatment plant, Biocycle Farm, Willakenzie pump station and the environmental services building. The audit resulted in recertification and high recognition of the division's environmental performance and continuous improvement projects.



Airport

Avelo Airlines Inaugural EUG Flight

The Eugene Airport welcomed budget airline Avelo on May 12th. Upon landing at the EUG Airport, Avelo Airlines was greeted with a water cannon arch provided by Fire Station 12. Arriving and departing passengers received swag bags courtesy of Travel Lane County, airplane cookies from the airport and pizza provided by World Wide Flight Services. The non-stop flight to Burbank will operate four days a week departing EUG at 9:55 a.m.



Parks & Open Space

Mother's Day at Hendricks Park



Hendrick's Park has been part of countless Mother's Day traditions for decades and this year was no different. In the weeks leading up to it, staff and volunteers could be found in every nook and cranny of the park working to prepare.

The Volunteer Program hosted the first parkwide volunteer May Day celebration with simultaneous projects in the Rhodie Garden, Forest and Picnic Area. More than 40 volunteers worked to spruce up the park while celebrating the fullness of spring.

The following Tuesday, volunteers transformed the lower part of Barto's Path from a weedy jungle to a showy garden bed. Other volunteers mulched up a storm and worked in the picnic area.

When Mother's Day finally arrived, Hendrick's Park was buzzing with families enjoying the spring blooms. To help accommodate the influx of traffic on Mother's Day, staff turned Fairmont Blvd into a one-way road and worked on-site to help assist with traffic flow and parking.

Centro Latino Draws Inspiration from Celebrated Artists for Whale Painting

In May, Centro Latino Americano's Mentores para Jovenes (Youth Mentorship Program) let their artistic energy flow as they painted the whale and stingray sculptures.

The group looked at the painting *Portrait of Martín Luis Guzmán* by Diego Rivera, an interpretation of Frida Kahlo's *Tree of Hope* by Arturo Martinez, and a hand-woven, Incan embroidery for inspiration. These art pieces influenced their use of geometric shapes and a bright color palette that resulted in a fun design for the well-loved play area.



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This event ties into a broader focus on equity in the Parks Volunteer Program. We recognize the complex historical ways Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) relate to the outdoors and specifically parks. By partnering with more BIPOC-led organizations, we aim to increase the overall engagement in parks by the BIPOC community, and cultivate their sense of belonging in our park system.

Earlier this year we partnered with the NAACP to plant trees on MLK Day, and we look forward to partnering with the Kalapuya tribe this summer for the Great Willamette River Festival as we honor Kalapuya ilihi, the ancestral homeland of the Kalapuya people.



Maintenance

Surface Maintenance Continues Repairs and Support



Surface maintenance has been fully operational during the pandemic. Exceptional service and safety continued to be our priority even during a short period with reduced staffing. We've been on-site and fully staffed since June 2020, focusing on street and sidewalk programs.

Whether surface maintenance completed the overlay, contracted an outside company, or partnered with Engineering through the enhanced street repair program, 2.69 lane miles will be completed by the end of the fiscal year. Utilizing the gravel street partnership program, resurfacing two gravel streets has been scheduled. With the property owners at two locations paying for the materials (Arden Place and E. 28th), surface maintenance is providing the labor, equipment, and administrative costs to resurface a total of two-tenths of a lane mile of gravel streets. The Roosevelt Yard had its share of asphalt improvements as well. This was an excellent opportunity to fire up our paving equipment and get the team rolling again for the upcoming asphalt season.

This truly has been a unique and challenging year. Surface maintenance rose to the challenge and continue to be exceptional partners in the Yard. We've gained skills in camp clean-up and sweeping over this last year, but we're settling back into our normal programs ready for the year to come.



Engineering

New Senior Application Support

Alex Roy recently joined the Engineering Division as a senior application support technician. He previously worked with Broadcast Software International for 17 years in various roles that started with end-user support, moving up to tech support supervisor and application developer. Alex has a bachelor of science degree in information technology from Oregon Institute of Technology where he focused on business analysis and application design, databases, and networks.

Alex was born and raised in Eugene, and currently lives in Springfield with his wife Vanessa and three cats, Thundercat, Indie, and Filbert (he's a nut born in Springfield). His interests include computer programming, home theater and hi-fi, home improvement projects, sports cars and EVs, camping, and he is a little bit of a foodie and oenophile.
