



RESILIENT

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL
2020 ANNUAL REPORT



WHO WE ARE

Water Pollution Control (WPC) is the City of Cleveland's sewer maintenance division and stormwater manager.

WHAT WE DO

WPC cleans and maintains a network of sewers, system connections and other ancillary components that facilitate the free-flow and transfer of wastewater. Our work helps sustain Cleveland's 1,436 miles of sewer lines, more than 43,500 catch basins/storm drains, 12 pump stations and two stormwater basins.

The City has both combined and separate sewers, covering a drainage area of approximately 75.6 miles, of which approximately 6.8 square miles drain into natural waterways, including Lake Erie and the Cuyahoga River. Combined sewers (91%) carry stormwater and wastewater to three treatment plants. In separate sewers (9%), stormwater travels untreated to nearby waters.

We also educate the public on best practices to reduce water pollution. One way we do this is by inviting residents to tour our stormwater demonstration project at the WPC Kirby Road Facility, where there are two rain gardens, a bioswale, pervious pavers in our parking lot and three cisterns that collect and hold 15,000 gallons of rain water that is reused for irrigation and to wash equipment.

Cleveland is a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4s) city designated by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. WPC has the authority to enforce EPA stormwater regulations and laws designed to eliminate illicit discharges.

OUR VISION

WPC is an innovative steward and leader in the stormwater and wastewater industry and a model customer service provider.

OUR MISSION

To provide superior leadership, excellent customer service, and innovative stormwater and wastewater infrastructure management for a safe and sustainable environment.



FRANK G. JACKSON
Mayor

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

In March 2020, I declared a Proclamation of Civil Emergency to help mitigate the duration, severity and impact of the coronavirus in the City of Cleveland. The City moved to an essential workforce and refrained from allowing public access to certain city buildings in order to help ensure the safety of employees and the general public.

Water Pollution Control (WPC)—an essential service—continued meeting the needs of residents and visitors throughout 2020. They maintained and repaired Cleveland’s sewer infrastructure and managed stormwater runoff to protect the health and safety of the public.

It was important to strategically establish a safe workspace for employees while maintaining quality of life for our residents. WPC’s customer service lobby remained open and provided in-person services with the assistance of installed glass separators; inspectors responded to sewer-related complaints while maintaining social distance and dispatchers continued to guide crews to planned and emergency work sites.

The COVID-19 pandemic made 2020 a year like no other, resulting in significant changes to how we live, work and do business. However, we worked to ensure service delivery to all Cleveland’s residents.

Sincerely,

Frank G. Jackson,
Mayor

MESSAGE FROM CITY COUNCIL



KEVIN J. KELLEY
Council President



BRIAN KAZY
Council Member
Utilities Committee Chairman

Cleveland City Council is proud of the hard work and dedication of all Water Pollution Control employees in what was truly an extraordinary year. In many cases they risked their own health and well-being during a pandemic to provide an essential City service that our residents expect and deserve.

Our City's sewer infrastructure was cleaned daily and maintained in other ways. Crews demonstrated flexibility, especially when they had to immediately change course and quickly respond to sewer-related emergencies and stormwater runoff concerns that could impact local water quality and quantity challenges.

We did miss seeing WPC employees out in neighborhoods participating in public education events. The division's new website, however, is easy to navigate and helped us all get our questions answered with ease.

Council, residents and businesses in our 17 wards applaud WPC for continuing to make customer service a priority.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin J. Kelley". The signature is written in a cursive style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

Kevin J. Kelley,
Council President
Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Kazy". The signature is written in a cursive style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

Brian Kazy,
Chairman, Public Utilities

OUR LEADERSHIP



ROBERT L. DAVIS
Public Utilities Director



RAMONA LOWERY
Water Pollution Control
Commissioner
Promoted from
Deputy Commissioner
July 2020



RACHID ZOHAIB
Water Pollution Control
Retired Commissioner
July 2020

Water Pollution Control (WPC) worked incredibly hard during 2020's uncertainty and unprecedented challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure sewer maintenance operations remained as normal as possible. We demonstrated our resilience in the face of adversity. WPC was the eye of the storm.

We maintained a high level of service because of our ongoing commitment to planning and preparedness, and being customer-focused. We made adjustments, including reducing crew sizes, staggering 10-hour work days, adding more personal protective gear and alternating office staff between remote and in-office work. We implemented vigorous safety and sanitation protocols inside the office as well. We installed kiosks to measure temperatures of employees and visitors, added Plexiglas between work stations and conducted multiple daily office sanitizing. Of course, we require all employees to wear masks while at work.

What 2020 taught us is that we truly are stronger together. We looked out for each other. We remained diligent, making achievements in the midst of the pandemic. The number of house connections repaired increased and the time to complete those jobs was quicker compared to 2019.

Another significant accomplishment for WPC was keeping contractors on schedule during the height of the pandemic. The division's largest capital improvement project to date, the \$15 million East 185 Street and Marcella Road Relief Sewer Project, was completed in 2020. The year-long project, which required underground micro-tunneling, reduces street and basement flooding in Ward 8. Relocation of the Spring Brook Culvert for the East 85 Street and Chester Parkway Sewer Project for \$4.9 million was another relief sewer capital improvement WPC accomplished during 2020.

A newly designed website and new external building signage, both incorporating our redesigned logo, debuted at our Kirby Road facility during 2020. To keep employees connected and informed, LED monitors were used to share important information, including promotions, retirements, and accolades from residents.

While the threat of COVID-19 lingers, we keep striving with the 2020 national mantra: "We're all in this together." Resilience is about enduring and continuing to bounce back after taking a punch.

To all of the WPC employees, we commend your hard work and commitment to delivering exemplary service to Cleveland residents. Thank you!



2020 WPC HIGHLIGHTS & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

East 185 Street/Marcella Road Relief Sewer Project

Water Pollution Control's largest sewer project to date was designed to reduce basement flooding in Ward 8 on the city's east side. The \$15 million project required micro-tunneling to install approximately 5,200 feet of relief sewer along East 185 Street and Marcella Road to accept excess flow from the existing sanitary sewer during wet weather. The project was completed on time in December 2020. The East 185 Street/Marcella Road Relief Sewer Project is an important community and environmental investment. As infrastructure ages, rehabilitating and replacing sewers and their connections is vitally important.

WPC Website Redesign

WPC completed a full overhaul of its website, adding more resources and making it more user-friendly and visually appealing.

Internal Information Monitors

A LED monitor was added to keep WPC employees up to date on important work-related information, including safety and Human Resources issues and industry standards. This is important because the majority of WPC employees work in the field without access to computers. The internal monitor is in addition to the lobby monitor that was installed in 2019 to welcome and engage customers and other visitors to WPC.

Supervisory Control & Data Acquisition (SCADA) Upgrade

WPC completed a two-year, nearly \$1 million upgrade of control equipment and monitors for its 12 pump stations, which raise water to a higher level until it can be released to prevent flooding. The stations were rewired and tagged and new equipment and software was installed, to optimize performance and speed of monitoring and transferring data to WPC.

East 37 Street Pump Station And Force Main

A new underground pump station was installed and approximately 1,000 feet of 8-inch force main was replaced. The original pump station and force main were built in 1963.

COVID-19 Protocols

During the 2020 Coronavirus pandemic, WPC enacted many new protocols/procedures to keep employees and visitors to its facility safe. The protocols include purchasing items for daily temperature checks, installing hands-free faucets and toilets, sanitizer dispensers and refill stations, face coverings, gloves, signage and more.

East 85 Street/Chester Avenue Sewer Project

WPC began the replacement of about 500 feet of combined main sewer on East 85 Street and about 900 feet of combined main sewer on Chester Parkway and relocated a culvert.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Water Pollution Control's sewer maintenance unit is an essential frontline public service that most people do not think about until streets flood or wastewater backs up into their basements. During the 2020 pandemic workers remained on the job and fulfilled all operational goals and emergency demands.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	2020	2019
Linear feet of sewer lines cleaned	195,441	309,036
Linear feet of sewer lines televised	190,629	236,678.4
Number of catch basins inspected	15,308	25,627
Number of catch basins cleaned	8,393	13,176
Response time during working hours	52.25 minutes	43.37 minutes
Response time during off hours	57.83 minutes	47.4 minutes
Number of house connections repaired	302	283
Average time to complete catch basin repairs	18.2 days	21 days
Average time to complete house connection repairs	2.8 days	3.2 days
Total completed sewer maintenance work orders	6,358	7,135

CAPITAL SPENDING

PROJECT NAME	2020 EXPENDITURE
East 185 Street and Marcella Road	\$7,593,751
East 85 Street	\$2,258,200
Catchbasins & Manholes	\$519,814
East 105 Street	\$910,333
East 37 Street Pump Station	\$968,320
Fulton Road	\$143,560
Rehabilitating and Relining Sewers	\$1,432,954
General Engineering Services	\$88,486
Pavement and Drainage Improvements Phase II	\$427,269
Program Management Team I	\$953,155
Pump Station Generator	\$6,768
East 131 Street	\$86,464
SCADA	\$384,097
Sewer Connections	\$520,585
Sewer Installations	\$1,714,491
Equipment/Vehicle Upgrade	\$737,261
TOTAL	\$18,745,509

FINANCIALS

The following tables are from Water Pollution Control's (WPC) financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2020 and December 31, 2019. Statements of cash flows show the exchange of money between the division and others, such as customers and suppliers. The statements also outline the state of the division's overall net assets. To view the city of Cleveland's entire financial audit report, visit the Ohio Auditor of State's website at www.auditor.state.oh.us. To view the WPC 2020 annual report online and to learn more about the sewer maintenance division, visit www.clevelandwpc.com.

STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES & CHANGES IN NET POSITION 2020 and 2019

	(In thousands)	
	2020	2019
OPERATING REVENUES		
Charges for services	\$29,392	\$32,176
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	29,392	32,176
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Operations	13,636	14,297
Maintenance	9,516	10,097
Depreciation	4,721	5,861
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	27,873	30,255
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	1,519	1,921
NON-OPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE)		
Investment Income	223	875
Interest Expense	(1,199)	(694)
Amortization of bond premiums and discounts	269	273
Gain (loss) on disposal of assets	(2)	(2)
Other	19	34
TOTAL NON-OPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE), NET	(690)	486
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE CAPITAL AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS	829	2,407
Capital and other contributions	3,678	3,713
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION	4,507	6,120
NET POSITION, BEGINNING OF YEAR	109,933	103,813
NET POSITION, END OF YEAR	114,440	109,933

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

2020 and 2019

(In thousands)

ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
CAPITAL ASSETS	2020	2019
Land	\$295	\$295
Land Improvements	188	156
Utility Plant	215,167	191,672
Buildings, structures and improvements	11,475	11,475
Furniture, fixtures, equipment and vehicles	16,610	18,578
	243,735	222,176
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(135,804)	(133,571)
	107,931	88,605
Construction in Progress	22,315	25,863
CAPITAL ASSETS, NET	130,246	114,468
RESTRICTED ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,651	5,863
Accrued Interest Receivable	0	6
TOTAL RESTRICTED ASSETS	2,651	5,869
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	78,511	79,530
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	1,538	1,222
Receivables		
Accounts Receivable - net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$2,870	133,091	118,643
Unbilled Revenue	1,947	1,935
Accrued Interest Receivable	0	29
Due from other governments	538	250
Due from other City of Cleveland departments, divisions or funds	29	40
Materials and Supplies	701	659
Prepaid Expenses	65	69
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	216,420	202,377
TOTAL ASSETS	349,317	322,714
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension	1,632	4,121
OPEB	1,076	539
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	2,708	4,660

(In thousands)

NET POSITION, LIABILITIES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

NET POSITION	2020	2019
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$83,751	\$77,238
Restricted for Capital Projects	18	250
Restricted for Debt Service	2,672	2,657
Unrestricted	27,999	29,788
TOTAL NET POSITION	114,440	109,933
LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS-EXCLUDING AMOUNTS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
OWDA Loans	12,974	5,215
OPWC Loans	17	22
Accrued Wages and Benefits	180	180
Revenue Bonds	33,522	34,426
Net Pension Liability	9,849	13,840
Net OPEB Liability	6,715	6,425
TOTAL LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS	63,257	60,108
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	1,138	1,636
Customer Deposits and Other Liabilities	181	198
Payable from Restricted Assets	1,538	1,222
Accrued Wages and Benefits	1,211	1,149
Due to other City of Cleveland Departments, Divisions or Funds	2,707	2,688
Amounts due for billing on behalf of others	163,107	149,209
Accrued Interest Payable	188	190
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt, Due Within One Year	1,020	814
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	171,090	157,106
TOTAL LIABILITIES	234,347	217,214
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension	2,191	210
OPEB	1,047	17
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	3,238	227

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

2020 and 2019

(In thousands)

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2020	2019
Cash Received from Customers	\$27,255	\$31,764
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	(11,175)	(9,212)
Cash Payments to Employees for Services	(9,628)	(10,667)
Cash Receipts on Behalf of Other Communities	401,522	0
Cash Payments on Behalf of Other Communities	(401,987)	0
Agency Activity on behalf of NEORSD	0	(3,547)
Other	492	(74)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	6,479	8,264
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from Sale of Revenue Bonds, Loans and Notes	8,127	5,369
Acquisition and Construction of Capital Assets	(19,657)	(19,723)
Principal Paid on Long-Term Debt	(802)	(614)
Interest Paid on Long-Term Debt	(1,718)	(766)
Capital Grant Proceeds	3,391	3,721
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(10,659)	(12,013)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest Received on Investments	265	957
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	265	957
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(3,915)	(2,792)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	86,615	89,407
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	82,700	86,615

RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) OPERATING ACTIVITIES

(In thousands)

	2020	2019
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	\$1,519	\$1,921
ADJUSTMENTS		
Depreciation	4,721	5,861
(INCREASE) DECREASE IN ASSETS		
Accounts Receivable, net	(14,448)	(8,425)
Unbilled Revenue	(12)	(92)
Due From Other City of Cleveland Departments, Divisions or Funds	11	(13)
Materials and Supplies, net	(42)	(68)
Prepaid Expenses	4	(3)
(INCREASE) DECREASE IN DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension	2,489	(1,992)
OPEB	(537)	(32)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	(498)	970
Customer Deposits and Other Liabilities	(17)	8
Accrued Wages and Benefits	62	12
Due to other City of Cleveland Departments, Divisions or Funds	19	103
Amounts Due for Billings on Behalf of Others	13,898	5,339
Net Pension Liability	(3,991)	5,730
Net Opeb Liability	290	1,115
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension	1,981	(1,791)
OPEB	1,030	(379)
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS	4,960	6,343
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	6,479	8,264
SCHEDULE OF NONCASH CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE RELATED TO CAPITAL ASSETS	1,538	1,222



WATER POLLUTION CONTROL
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