

Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District: Future wastewater needs addressed in long-range plan

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MADISON, WIS. - A plan to manage the region's wastewater through 2040 will advance to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources following a hearing and public comment period organized by Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District and concurrence by the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission.

The district's proposed liquid processing facilities plan focuses on future needs of the district and opportunities related to the Nine Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant liquid treatment processes. The facilities plan addresses the need for increased capacity, resiliency and flexibility to manage peak flows.

"Wastewater utilities must plan for success many years in advance to accommodate community development and minimize the impact of large capital projects on ratepayers," said Michael Mucha, the district's chief engineer and director. "The proposed liquid processing facilities plan integrates economic, environmental and quality of life considerations in a way that minimizes total resource expenditures over the project period."

Work on the plan was initiated in 2015 to evaluate peak flow management; wastewater screening and grit removal systems; equipment and processes for biological nutrient removal; and ultraviolet light disinfection equipment. It has been more than 20 years since the district completed a facilities plan for its liquid processing system and much of the existing system is nearing the end of its useful

life.

The plan evaluated future loading conditions based on regional growth and changing precipitation patterns; conducted condition assessments for structures, equipment and controls; analyzed systems for energy efficiency and reliability; and more.

The plan itself does not directly authorize expenditures; instead it provides a recommended schedule for project phasing based on urgency and logistics. Full implementation of the plan through 2040 would cost \$57.1 million in 2017 dollars.

Following a review of the plan by DNR, district staff will return to the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District Commission and request acceptance. District staff will then begin planning for phased implementation. Read the complete plan by visiting madsewer.org and searching “[liquid processing facilities plan](#).”

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Established in 1930 to protect the lakes and streams of the upper Yahara watershed, Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District today serves 26 Madison area customer communities covering some 184 square miles and 360,000 people. The district owns and operates 141 miles of pipe and 18 regional pumping stations that convey approximately 41 million gallons of wastewater to the Nine Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant each day. Organized as a municipal corporation, the district is a leader in sustainability and resource reclamation; its rates are established by the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District Commission.