



# Public Works

## Monthly Report

Administration ♦ Airport ♦ Engineering ♦ Maintenance ♦ Parks & Open Space ♦ Wastewater

June 2020

Wastewater Promotes Haring 2  
EMS Wastewater Certification 2

### Maintenance

#### Maintenance crews support shelter site development

Personnel from surface maintenance and wastewater have provided ongoing logistical support in coordination with the Emergency Operations Center during the pandemic. Crews from the Roosevelt Yard acquired the materials needed for shelters from various departments and lo-



cations within the organization. Crews then convened at the Amazon and Hilyard Center lots and Peterson Barn to install pier blocks and large platforms for temporary shelter during COVID-19. Once the platforms were in place, tents, canopies, fencing and residents completed the sites.

Surface staff also reacted quickly to a request for protecting these locations during a brief but heavy windstorm. We secured all site tent canopies with twine and sandbags, which kept them safe and useable during the storm.

These sites have recently been relocated. Crews have sanitized and collected site materials and moved the shelters to a new location at Skinner City farm. They also performed a site shift at Peterson Barn and are poised to assist in a future move

from Peterson Barn to a location that is still pending.

Every good shelter site needs stability and we at Public Works are proud to have literally helped provide a solid foundation for this project.

### Engineering

#### Stormwater Permit Updated for Review by DEQ

The City of Eugene manages the community’s publicly-owned stormwater system – including street gutters, curb inlets, catch basins, manholes, pipes and roadside ditches – with the primary goals of reducing the risk of flooding and providing clean water downstream for people, wildlife and fish. Stormwater runoff is regulated under the federal Clean Water Act via a permit which, in Oregon, is administered by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

DEQ issued Eugene its first permit in 1994, re-issued it in 2004 and 2010, and is set to renew the permit again by the end of 2020.

The overall intent of the permit is to reduce pollution in stormwater runoff in order to protect and improve the quality of downstream waterways which, in Eugene, include Amazon Creek and the Willamette River.



Curbside rain gardens (at right) are one of several systems used to slow heavy rains and keep pollution out of local waterways

continued...

Trends from over 20 years of sampling data indicate that water quality is improving, but our waterways are still not meeting several water quality standards. The next iteration of the permit will set the stage for the City’s stormwater management program activities for the next five or more years and will reflect higher expectations for pollution reduction. Teams of staff and managers, including the Public Works Stormwater Management and Stormwater Policy teams, are involved in reviewing and commenting on the draft permit. Later this summer, a public review process of the draft permit will be conducted by DEQ. For more information on Eugene’s stormwater permit, go to: <https://www.eugene-or.gov/476/NPDES-Municipal-Stormwater-Permit>

---

## Wastewater



### **Josh Haring Promoted to Equipment Maintenance Lead**

Josh Haring accepted the position of wastewater equipment maintenance lead. Josh began his career with the City of Eugene at the Wastewater Division as an equipment maintenance worker III in 2007. In 2018 he began an acting-in-capacity (AIC) role as the maintenance lead. He has been married for 12 years and has two sons and one daughter. When he is not at work, Josh enjoys spending time with his family, boating, camping and spending time outdoors. Congratulations Josh!

### **Wastewater’s EMS Program Audit Done Remotely**

This year, the Environmental Management System (EMS) surveillance audit of the Wastewater Division was successfully conducted remotely using Microsoft Teams. This included document review, staff interviews, and tours of the Biocycle Farm, Willakenzie Pump Station and the new Environmental Water Quality Laboratory. The audit resulted in continued certification and high praise. The auditor’s evaluation specifically noted that “Despite the impacts of COVID-19 on the City of Eugene wastewater facility—which resulted in major changes in health and safety measures—the treatment plant is working effectively and efficiently. The facility has implemented a considerable number of improvements for the environment and the EMS is being maintained effectively. All of their 2019 objectives and targets have been successfully achieved.”

This is a team effort—great job Wastewater staff!

