



THE LAWRENCE LIFT

NEWSLETTER

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Thank You,

Scott Salsbery
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ISSUE

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Dear Lawrence Utility Customer,

It is my pleasure to once again report that the water utility's bond rating has received another upgrade, this time moving up one notch from A-minus to A, with a Stable Outlook. This places the water utility in a very good position and translates to over \$3.5-million in interest savings and even more considering the favorable rates it will receive on future bond issues. It is hard to believe that just over 2 years ago the rating was at "junk bond" status and the water utility virtually bankrupt. This is a tremendous financial feat and means that those additional savings can be applied to the water utility's infrastructure improvements program.

City of Lawrence CFO Jason Fenwick has posted the proposed 2020 Civil City budget to the website on the Controller's Office page under "Financial Information". The proposed 2020 Civil City budget is the fourth consecutive balanced budget and maintains a healthy General Fund operating reserve in excess of 20% of budgeted expenditures.



CITY CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING OF RICHARDT WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Speaking of improvements, the Richardt Water Treatment Plant is now completed except for some very minor “punch list” items to clean up. It is very gratifying to see this project finally completed. Not only has the Utility met its goal of restoring the financial stability of the water utility, it is also delivering on the promise made with respect to investment in the City’s water infrastructure. The Phase I Water System Improvements will be completed in the next 4 to 6 weeks and the Phase II Projects are already in design.

Just lately many of our residents and visitors to the City have encountered road restrictions and closures related to road resurfacing projects, such as Sunnyside Road, Oaklandon Road, 75th Street, and Lee Road, which also had an Indianapolis DPW large culvert replacement that had to be completed prior to the resurfacing project. At the time of this writing on September 1, the resurfacing on Lee Road is not yet complete. The Lawrence Street Department is working diligently to complete needed curb inlet repairs before the portion of Lee Road from 56th to 59th can be resurfaced. We appreciate motorists’ patience and cooperation as we complete these repairs and request that speeds in this area, as in all active construction areas, be reduced for the safety of all. Indianapolis DPW is also getting set to perform bridge improvements on the bridge over Indian Creek just east of Sunnyside Road. Travelers should take note of this closure and plan alternative routes such as detouring north or south to Pendleton Pike on Sunnyside or Oaklandon roads.

In the coming weeks, Lawrence residents should also look for traffic restrictions to be in place on Shadeland Way from 56th Street south and west to Mardyke Lane as the water utility installs a new water main to improve flow and hydraulics in this area; water main replacement work on Frank-

lin Road from 47th Street south to roughly 45th Street; and finally, in Richardt Street from 46th to 47th and on 47th from Richardt to Franklin including Payton Street from 47th Street to 48th Street and all the side streets running south from 47th to the dead end between Richardt and Franklin. The work on Richardt Street between 46th and 47th will be completed first in order to be out of this area in time for the commencement of the 47th/48th/Richardt Street Phase I Stormwater Improvements project, which is set to bid in October of this year and be constructed in 2020. The Stormwater Improvement Project is being run by the Indianapolis Stormwater District with funding from Stormwater impact fees paid by Lawrence property owners. Phase II of this project is basically complete with respect to design, but must go through easement and right of way acquisition. We strongly encourage property owners along the north and south sides of 48th Street from Richardt to Shadeland Way, and the north side of 47th Street from Richardt to Shadeland Way, to speedily complete these grants of right of way and/or easement when they are approached by the Project Managers for this project. Timely execution of the required documents will speed up the process of getting these drainage improvements constructed. The water utility is also in the process of designing water main replacement projects in the Brookhaven subdivision, with construction anticipated to start in 2020.


The sewer utility will also be starting some sewer main, manhole and lateral rehabilitation work in the area between 46th and the CSX tracks on the north and south, and Shadeland Avenue and the interstate from west to east. This work will consist mainly of cured-in-place-pipe (pipe-lining), which does not require excavation, but will also include some excavated repairs as well as outright replacement of pipes

too deteriorated to rehabilitate.

As you can see, there is a lot of work coming up soon. This work is necessary and vital to the City in terms of providing safe, adequate and reliable water and sanitary sewer service, but also as a basis for sustaining healthy and vibrant communities as well as attracting new development. There are going to be traffic restrictions and lane closures and sometimes, even total street closures. I know it can be terribly frustrating sometimes, especially when you’re in a hurry, but please remember to slow down in construction zones, observe the signage and traffic flaggers directions and above all, drive safely. Allow yourself extra time to get where you need to go if there is work in your area and plan alternate routes in advance in case you need to use them.

The City’s water and sanitary sewer staff are proud of the service we provide 24/7 to our customers and the efforts we make to improve the City’s water and sanitary operations and infrastructure. We look forward to continuing our robust capital improvements program as well as continuing to seek and develop ways to enhance and improve customer service. We value our customers and pledge to do our best each and every day to serve you.

For those customers used to paying through the Paymentus payment service, please remember that this service is no longer available. The service agreement with Paymentus expired September 1, 2019 and will no longer be used.

Thank you,

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Note The contents contained herein are for informational purposes only and do not constitute legal advice