

What's In The Works

City of Belton Public Works Department

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Second Annual Citizen Appreciation Fair



Public Works in conjunction with all the other City departments held its second annual Citizen Appreciation Fair, Creating a Lasting Impression, on May 10, 2012, at Wallace Park. The High School Jazz Band entertained the over 500 citizens who came out to enjoy a free hotdog, chips, cookie, and a drink. Mayor Odom greeted our citizens and conducted the raffle of items that were donated by local

businesses, engineering companies, and City departments. The raffle also generated two large barrels of food and over \$120 for the local food pantries. The PW second grade coloring contest resulted in so many great works of art that it was difficult to choose who would get first place, but we want to thank everyone who participated. The public works staff, as well as some of the City's engineering partners, handed out pamphlets and were available to discuss Capital Improvement Projects, future water and sewer needs, the development of the Storm Water Master Plan, and water quality. Children could play in the jump house and take a close up look at the new dump truck, the backhoe and the Jetter truck. All City departments were available to answer questions and help provide education. The City also had on hand the fire ladder truck, ambulance, the police department's DARE car and motorcycle, and Emergency Management's mobile unit.

Services Provided...Just to Name a Few

- Pothole patching & street repairs
- Maintain traffic signs & signals
- Maintain storm water infrastructure
- Maintain right of way
- Maintain sanitary sewer infrastructure
- Treat/process domestic sewage
- Hydrant maintenance
- Water meter reading & maintenance
- Maintain water infrastructure
- Snow & ice removal
- Maintain City vehicles & equipment

High Priority!

Over the decades, Belton customers have come to expect unending supplies of clean water on demand, in each of their bathrooms, kitchens, laundry rooms, garages and yards. After all, we pay our water bill, right?

The reality is that some of our infrastructure is aging and unsustainable, while at the same time population and commercial growth demand more supply now and in the future. Certain things are needed to maintain an acceptable quality of life, water obviously is one of them. In addition, there are limits to the supply of drinking water from the existing source, and the time has come to face the challenge of producing an updated water system and adding another source.

Even though we can't see much of the infrastructure, it is very real. Belton Public Works provides services from and maintenance to a water supply system and wastewater treatment system of 2.9 million gallons per day and 1.5 MGD, respectively.

On the drinking water side, we need more water, new pipes and more storage to maintain pressure and fire flows. On



the wastewater side we need to improve the collection system to reduce treatment costs long term, and we need to make improvements at the treatment plant so it is more efficient and complies with regulatory requirements.

The costs of taking responsible action with water and wastewater infrastructure will increase costs to consumers, and paying for the necessary improvements while moderating rate increases is challenging. The good news for Belton residents and customers is that the City has been working very diligently over the last few years to develop long term solutions to your drinking water and wastewater needs.



Proud Past, Bright Future

Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing—Exceptionally Efficient

The new Water Services Division is responsible for the oversight and maintenance of drinking water and wastewater treatment systems for the City of Belton. Originally there were two separate maintenance groups known as “Water” and “Pollution Control.” These groups were combined to create a more responsive and efficient maintenance group. As we continue to integrate into one division, the overall knowledge base of water and pollution control will increase and widen. The employees have taken an active role in this process and, for the most part, enthusiastically welcome change. They also look forward to the opportunity to learn something new. The best we can be is the ultimate goal.

Interesting Facts:

Over 8,000 tons of asphalt, ½ mile of storm sewer, and ¼ mile of waterline were installed on the recently completed 163rd Street Widening Project.

Q: What do Alfred Hitchcock, Neil Armstrong, Thomas Edison, Leonardo Da Vinci, Alexander Graham Bell and Henry Ford have in common? A: They were all engineers!

Data Driven Decisions

Since March 2012, Transportation Division crews have worked diligently to conduct an assessment of every street segment within our transportation network. What is an assessment you ask? Well, its an inspection process to determine the condition of a street segment based off certain criteria established by the U.S Army Corp of Engineers and adopted by the American Public Works Association. This process will help staff and City Council make informed decisions on future maintenance activities for the network.

The process uses samples of each segment to be inspected. The inspector measures each type of distress within the sample and documents it based off its severity. This information is then entered into our pavement management software, Cartegraph, where it will produce the PCI/OCI (pavement condition index/overall condition index). These indexes will help plan future work better and share information with the community.

The ultimate goal is to make decisions based on data, to be most cost effective with tax dollars, and to be transparent to the public.

Another project crews are working on is the assessment of every City maintained sign. Crews inspect every sign to document its GPS location, type, support, and condition. The condition is important as they are measuring the retro-reflectivity with the use of a retro-reflectometer. Retro-reflectivity refers to the effectiveness of a traffic sign to reflect light back to the driver allowing for sign visibility at night. Maintaining these signs is important in promoting nighttime traffic safety.

Welcome and Congrats

Linda Beard had been with the City, in a part-time capacity for several years, and decided to take the opportunity to become full-time as the new Administrative Assistant to the newly created Water Services Division. Linda is a stellar employee and we look forward to utilizing her talents and skills full-time.



Don Tyler had also been with the City for many years and was selected to serve as the new Water Services Foreman and is now responsible for all maintenance of the drinking water distribution and wastewater collections systems. Don is an incredibly well respected member of the team and community, and we look for great things from him.

Chuck McCulloh is a native of Cass County but spent many years in mining and public works industries in other states. After several years in Colorado, he accepted the position of Public Works Director for Cass County. Chuck was selected roughly five months ago to be the newly created Water Services Manager, responsible for the performance of the drinking water and wastewater programs. He is a great addition to the team and will enhance our vision to be the best at everything we do.



Nick Wray, Plant Operator, joined the Public Works team in June. He is a graduate of Missouri State University with a degree in Biology. Nick came to the City from the Cass County Public Works Department. He also has worked for the Missouri Conservation Department. His duties will include plant operations and maintenance, sludge disposal and laboratory.

Annual Spring Clean-Up Days

The Annual Spring Clean-up Days was held June 1-3. This year proved to be a success as the total number of users increased over years past. Staff believes the nice weather, use of the Police Department mobile message board, newspaper ads and social media played an important role with the increased number of users. Over the three day period, 506 vehicles utilized the household debris drop-off site.

Statistics: April 1st—June 30th

Transportation

- 301 potholes repaired
- 6.67 tons of asphalt used for potholes
- 461.87 tons of asphalt used for patches
- 16 signs repaired & replaced
- 43 storm drains & culvert pipes cleaned

Water Services

Maintenance Operations

- 338 million gallons water pumped
- 6 water breaks repaired
- 1 water tap (new service)
- 49,877 feet of pipe cleaned in the preventative maintenance program
- 8 responses to sewer backup calls
- 889 Missouri One Call Locates

Treatment Plant Operations

- 99,444,000 gallons of wastewater treated by Belton's Wastewater Treatment Plant
- 138,583,000 gallons of wastewater treated by Little Blue Valley Sewer District
- 26.5 dry tons of sludge produced by Belton's Wastewater Treatment Plant
- 6.8 inches of rainfall recorded at Belton's Wastewater Treatment Plant

Vehicle Maintenance

- 79 vehicle/equipment repairs completed

Recognizing Performance

Ben McCabe recently received the Employee Excellence Award which was awarded by the Public Works team because they appreciate Ben's hard work, dedication, and sense of humor. Ben was the assistant City engineer, but became the City Engineer in May of 2011. Ben's responsibilities not only include managing the engineering division; capital improvement program development; development review; and managing several capital improvement projects, such as the widening of 163rd Street, Mullen Widening, and the Park to Berry Storm Drainage Project, but also managing the PW Accreditation program. Ben works hard and often lightens the mood of his fellow employees with his funny sense of humor. CONGRATULATIONS Ben! We appreciate your vision by providing the leadership, integrity, trust, teamwork, communication, attitude, and customer service that makes the PW staff want to be the best in the region.



Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail. – Ralph Waldo Emerson

Engineering Division

Construction is completed on the East Cimarron/Markey Meadows and Baldwin Sanitary Sewer Projects and the Cimarron Trails Storm Drainage Project. The Cleveland Regional Lake Project, located adjacent to Cleveland Avenue between W. Sunrise Drive and Cambridge Road, will begin in mid-July with the relocation of the sanitary sewer line. Construction of the lake will follow soon after.

The City has begun development of an Infiltration/Inflow (I/I) reduction plan for the City's sanitary sewers. This work will rehabilitate the City's sanitary sewers and manholes to prevent rain water from entering the system, saving costs in unnecessary treatment of rain water.

Construction has begun on the Mullen Road Widening and Park to Berry Drainage Projects. Mullen Road will be closed during construction from June 14, 2012, until October 15, 2012. Access to businesses on 173rd Street east of Mullen will be maintained throughout construction.



Engineering design work to develop the Stormwater Master Plan continues with completion expected in the summer of 2012.

Adding Value

Congratulation to Ronnie Raines for completing his Certified Public Infrastructure Inspector certificate! The purpose of the Public Infrastructure Inspector Certification is to promote quality infrastructure throughout the community by advancing the knowledge and practice of construction inspection to benefit the community and public agencies.



Utilizing Resources & Developing Skills

Josh Loehr is assisting the Engineering Division with construction inspection and traffic data collection during this busy construction season. Josh works in the Transportation Division and will earn first-hand experience in construction processes during his work in the Engineering Division.



IMSA Certifications

The Public Works Department would like to congratulate Randy Elkins and Josh Loehr for successfully completing their Work Zone Safety certifications from the International Municipal Signal Association (IMSA). Randy also received Signs and Markings level I certification. These certifications from IMSA are important to the success of our team as the City continues to grow and add sign and signal infrastructure.