



**Office of the Chief Executive**

735 Randolph Street, Suite 1900  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

April 22, 2026

The Honorable  
Board of Directors  
Great Lakes Water Authority

**RE: CEO Report – April 22, 2026**

Chairperson Zech and Directors,

I will begin my report with a status update on our water transmission main that runs along 14 Mile Road in Oakland County.

First, I will share that we completed repairs on the 48-inch main break that occurred in Farmington Hills at the beginning of March. With the repairs completed, the pipe has been returned to service, and 14 Mile Road was repaved and opened to traffic on Friday, April 3, 2026.

We are also making excellent progress on the renewal and replacement project underway on our 42-inch water main along 14 Mile Road west of M-5.

Thanks to the hard work of our Field Service Team and our contractors, nearly one mile of Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) has been replaced with new steel pipe, six sections of PCCP have been reinforced using carbon fiber reinforced polymer, and we have installed an acoustic fiber optic (AFO) monitoring system in an additional section of PCCP that will allow us to proactively monitor its condition moving forward.

We remain on track to have the 42-inch water main returned to service by the end of April, before our high demand season begins. Road restoration will be completed by the end of June.

Due to the number and frequency of breaks this water main has experienced over the last seven years we are committed to developing a comprehensive and long-term solution to help avoid future catastrophic failures. As a part of this effort, we have coordinated a meeting with state and federal legislators, as well as local elected officials, from the communities impacted by the most recent break in March. We will share more information on the development of the comprehensive plan, as well as our legislative meeting, as it becomes available.

Staying in the area of legislative outreach, on March 16 and 17, 2026, Chief Resiliency Officer Todd King, Deputy CEO Bill Wolfson, and I traveled to Washington D.C., to meet with members of Michigan's Congressional delegation to discuss issues of concern to our legislators, GLWA's legislative priorities, water infrastructure needs, and other important issues including the 48-inch main break in Farmington Hills and its impact on surrounding communities and the GLWA system.

The timing on this visit was a bit unusual as the Capital was evacuated due to forecasted tornados on our first day. Fortunately, we were able to start early the following morning and reschedule all of our meetings that were canceled due to the previous day's weather concern. We were also able to schedule a meeting with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to discuss the Southeast Michigan Flood Mitigation Study. The meeting was very productive, and a virtual follow-up meeting happened on April 16, 2026.

Also, on April 14 and 15, 2026, in my role as a Director of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA), I again traveled to Washington D.C. to participate in the national water policy fly-in conference, which is jointly hosted by NACWA, the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies and the American Water Works Association. While there I was able to attend a conference presentation by Mary Beth McGowan of Dykema, GLWA's legislative relations firm. I was also able to meet with Mary Beth for an update on GLWA's priorities.

Joining me on the second trip to Washington D.C. for the water policy fly-in last week was Gary Mekjian, GLWA's new Community and Legislative Relations Officer. In this new role, Gary will be responsible for our Member Outreach program along with implementing and executing a more proactive and robust outreach to our Member Partners' local community's governing bodies. Lastly, under the direction of Deputy CEO Bill Wolfson, Gary will add structure and help coordinate our increasingly active legislative outreach to both state and federal legislators.

A licensed professional civil engineer in the state of Michigan, Gary recently retired as the City Manager of Farmington Hills, where he also served as Assistant City Manager and Public Services Director. During his career, he has worked with various public sector organizations in southeast Michigan, as well as with private sector civil engineering consulting firms, where he specialized in stormwater management, municipal utility and road design, transportation planning and real estate development.

Given his depth and breadth of experience in engineering, water and sewer utility management and public administration, I am excited to have Gary join the GLWA team and know that he will add great value!

I will close out my report as I always do by recognizing team members for their accomplishments.

First, the 2025 Progression Cycle has concluded, and I am pleased to report that 30 team members across operational areas successfully progressed to the next level in their job classification, and 41 Plant Technicians earned new skills in their job classifications.

Finally, I am proud to announce that Keiano Vanzant, GLWA’s Director of Enterprise Risk and Safety, was recently chosen by the Michigan Water Environment Association and the Water Environment Federation as their 2026 Health & Safety Professional of the Year. Congratulations, Keiano. We appreciate all that you do to keep our organization and its team members safe!

## **PLANNING SERVICES**

### ***Capital Improvement Planning (CIP)***

Last month, the schedule for the Program Management Information System, Kahua, was formally modified. September 15, 2026, is the planned launch for “Kahua Phase 1a, Capital Program Review Reporting,” and April 2027 is the planned launch for “Kahua-Phase 1B, CIP Development.” The schedule modification was necessary to allow sufficient time to adequately configure and test the system. Systems Integration Testing is nearing completion, and planning is underway for User Acceptance Testing and stakeholder engagement. Teams remain focused on finalizing data migration and validating integration with Workday, while aligning both dashboard and reporting expectations. CIP Planner efforts in Kahua continue to support critical path execution and readiness.

Over the past month, the CIP Group concentrated on gathering and reviewing lessons learned from the previous CIP cycle. They assessed challenges stemming from the delayed launch of Kahua and worked on developing a proposed path forward for the FY 2028–2032 Capital Improvement Plan. Throughout this effort, the CIP Group remained committed to continuous improvement, transparency, and strong cross-functional collaboration while advancing this critical annual initiative.



*Initial FY 2028-2032 CIP Path Forward Road Map*

To ensure broad alignment with the proposed path forward approach, multiple discussions were held with CIP Delivery Teams and key partners. These conversations helped shape a streamlined roadmap for the upcoming cycle that maintains the integrity of the CIP

**PLANNING SERVICES** (continued)

development process while addressing current operational constraints. These adjustments are designed to keep the FY 2028–2032 CIP on schedule, ensure a consistent and transparent process, and allow the CIP Delivery Core Team and partners an opportunity to produce the FY 2028-2032 CIP while transitioning to Kahua without missing a beat or compromising quality and oversight.

In March, the CIP Controls Team continued to work closely with the Engineering Groups to collect and evaluate project schedules (P6), risk registers, and project costs. This collaboration supports the alignment of current and projected budgets for FY 2026, FY 2027, and the five-year planning horizon that follows. As shown in the summary tables below, the

CIP Groups continue to make improvements toward Program Management Plan (PMP) implementation since its rollout in 2024.

Water					Wastewater				
Description		Year			Description		Year		
		2024	2025	2026			2024	2025	2026
Construction	P6 - Reviews	25	27	0	Construction	P6 - Reviews	87	123	16
	P6- Active Contracts	9	10	0		P6- Active Contracts	18	17	10
	Total Active Contracts	21	19	21		Total Active Contracts	33	28	23
	% of all Active Contracts	42.9%	52.6%	0%		% of all Active Contracts	54.5%	60.7%	43.5%
Design	P6 - Reviews	0	1	0	Design	P6 - Reviews	14	14	4
	P6- Active Contracts	0	1	0		P6- Active Contracts	2	3	2
	Total Active Contracts	15	7	13		Total Active Contracts	11	9	8
	% of Active Contracts	0%	14.3%	0%		% of Active Contracts	18.2%	33.3%	25%
	Delay Claim Analysis	0	0	0		Delay Claim Analysis	0	4	1

*Oracle Primavera P6 Schedules Historical Progress (Year-to-Date)*

The CIP Group performed the annual update of the PMP by incorporating comments and feedback received from CIP Delivery Team members. This ensures that the third revision of the PMP is on track for publication in June 2026.

Lastly, the CIP Group continued recruiting efforts over the past month, reviewing resumes and conducting interviews to fill two key positions within the Group: Schedule Management and Risk Management.

**PLANNING SERVICES** (continued)

Water				
Description		Year		
		2024	2025	2026
Construction	RR - Reviews	NA	4	4
	RR – Active Contracts	NA	4	4
	Total Active Contracts	21	19	21
	% of Active Contracts	NA	21%	19%
Design	RR - Reviews	NA	NA	3
	RR – Active Contracts	NA	NA	3
	Total Active Contracts	15	7	13
	% of Active Contracts	NA	NA	23%

Wastewater				
Description		Year		
		2024	2025	2026
Construction	RR - Reviews	NA	5	8
	RR – Active Contracts	NA	5	8
	Total Active Contracts	33	28	23
	% of Active Contracts	NA	18%	35%
Design	RR - Reviews	NA	NA	0
	RR – Active Contracts	NA	NA	1
	Total Active Contracts	11	9	8
	% of Active Contracts	NA	NA	13%

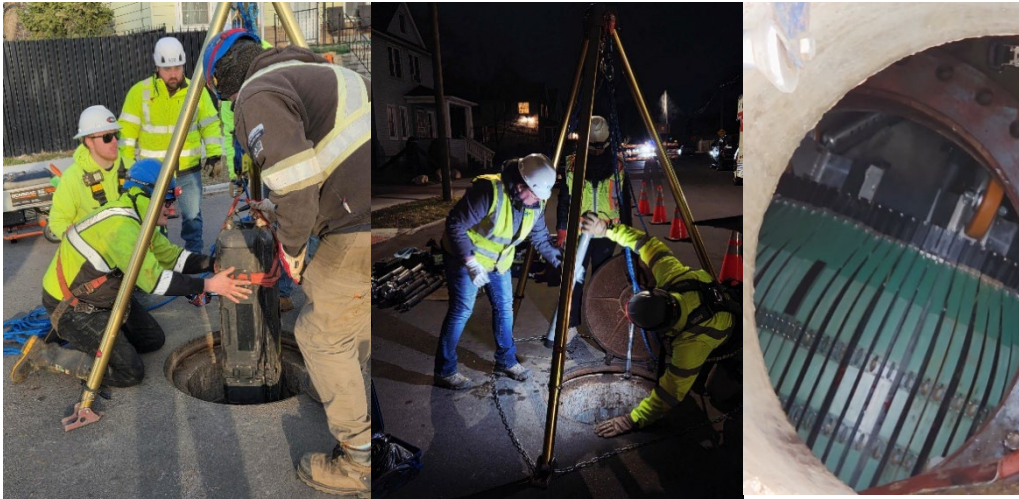
*Risk Register (RR) Review Historical Progress Year to Date*

***Enterprise Asset Management Group (EAMG)***

The Enterprise Asset Management Group has been working over the past 12 months on standardizing and codifying standards on condition assessment, risk assessment, and performance management. This work, identified as a need in the 2019 Strategic Asset Management Plan, has involved a cross-functional team to review existing documentation within GLWA’s Asset Management Plans published in 2022 and build upon this foundation with new capabilities developed in recent years. To date, the Performance Management Framework has been published, covering the process of developing, controlling quality, and publishing performance indicators. GLWA team members are working to complete reviews and updates to GLWA’s Condition Assessment and Risk Assessment frameworks, which will be published in the upcoming months.

In March, the Linear System Integrity Plan team completed a pilot deployment of PICA’s HEX-EMIT tool on the 54-inch pipe in Beard Street in southwest Detroit. This tool promises the ability to detect localized corrosion and weld defects in steel pipes, with the tool running several hundred sensors to allow for the detection of small defects. This inspection assessed 1,815 feet of pipe in three days, with detailed information to be made available to support future rehabilitation work on this pipeline. EAMG team members appreciate the assistance of the Water Transmission team in the facilitation of this inspection.

## **PLANNING SERVICES** (continued)



*Left: PICA team members installing the HEX-EMIT tool in the 54-inch pipe  
Center: GLWA team members assisting with the disassembling of the HEX-EMIT tool  
Right: HEX-EMIT tool passing a manhole showing the spacing of sensors*

### ***Member Services Group***

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Work Group met virtually on March 3rd to discuss the Board-approved FY 2027-2031 CIP, which outlines a five-year investment of \$2.5 Billion. Dima El-Gamal, GLWA, spoke about the plan's highlights, features of the CIP public dashboard, GLWA's Kahua project management information system, and the implementation of the standardized Program Management Plan. Next, Michael Lasley, GLWA, shared results from the 2025 vendor performance evaluations and outreach event at Macomb Community College. Organizers are now planning the 2026 outreach event that will take place in October at the VistaTech Center in Livonia. The next CIP work group meeting is scheduled for June 16th.

On March 4th, GLWA hosted a virtual Local Rate Setting Workshop that was led by Willdan Financial Services and focused on rate setting fundamentals and financial planning for public utilities. The session highlighted capital expenditure needs as a primary driver for long-term financial forecasts and explored methodologies such as "Base-Extra Capacity" and "Commodity-Demand" to equitably allocate revenue requirements. Participants also reviewed various rate structures, including uniform, inclining block, and seasonal options.

## **PLANNING SERVICES** (continued)



*GLWA's IT Director of Emerging Technology Kalpana Yendluri delivers a presentation on GLWA's policies regarding the usage of artificial intelligence at the March OWP meeting.*

The One Water Partnership (OWP) met on March 12th at Madonna University to discuss the recently approved FY 2027–2028 biennial budget and service charge adjustment. Members discussed the importance of proactive communication and shared strategies for data-driven messaging to reach residents. The agenda also addressed an agreement with the City of Dearborn regarding transmission main metering and the formation of a new task force to address Combined Sewer Overflow cost pool allocations. Additionally, the group reviewed GLWA's strategic integration of artificial intelligence and cybersecurity, along with updates on a

regional employer-led collaborative for workforce development. The next OWP meeting is scheduled for May 28th at Madonna University.

The Water Analytical Work Group (AWG) met virtually on March 17th to share information about data-driven risk models used by GLWA and Detroit Water & Sewage Department (DWSD) to prioritize capital projects and infrastructure renewal. The discussion centered on the challenges of balancing costs with levels of service. Attendees learned about GLWA's methods for prioritizing the inspection, repair, and replacement of water mains, and DWSD shared information on how their risk-based capital planning framework considers things like condition, fire flow, economic impacts, and critical customers. The meeting closed with an overview of GLWA's process and progress on the water contract reopener meetings that are currently underway and will continue through September. The next AWG will be in person on April 28th at the HAWK in Farmington Hills.

On March 18th, the Watershed Hub Work Group met virtually to discuss its forthcoming annual water quality monitoring report that will be released this spring. The group also discussed their plans for the upcoming sampling season activities related to both the Regional Water Quality Monitoring and Investigational Grab Sampling Programs. The group plans to convene next virtually on April 29th.

### ***Wastewater Analytics, Planning & Metering (WwAPM)***

The WwAPM Group has been focused on hydraulic modeling activities relative to delivering the 2025 Storm Water Management Model (SWMM), supporting the Southeast Michigan Flood Resiliency Study development, and informing the Regional Operations Plan. SWMM is a modeling tool used to simulate the flow of sewage throughout the GLWA sewerage system. These efforts will assist in identifying opportunities to leverage existing assets to reduce

## **PLANNING SERVICES** (continued)

flooding while protecting public health and the environment, in addition to quantifying the impacts of new capital projects and other potential regional opportunities.

The WwAPM Group continues to support meter upgrades in coordination with the City of Center Line, Evergreen-Farmington Sewage Disposal System, the City of Highland Park, and the City of Grosse Pointe. These improvements provide an increased level of service at these locations and inform the annual flow balance. Detailed information is provided at the Wastewater Analytics Task Force meetings when appropriate. Additionally, a new Dye Dilution Testing contract was recommended for award at the March 11th Operations and Resources Committee meeting, providing continued support of the flow metering calibration and validation efforts.

### ***Water Analytics, Planning & Metering (WAPM)***

The WAPM Group is collaborating with the Information Technology (IT) Group to implement Single Sign-On (SSO) functionality for the Wholesale Automated Meter Reading and Greater Detroit Regional Sewer System web portals. Now that the first stage of the development is completed, internal GLWA accounts are being used for testing, followed by testing with external (non-GLWA) accounts. All members and contractors will switch to the new SSO experience for both portals after testing is completed. By enabling access to several applications with a single set of credentials, this modification will boost security, increase user productivity, and simplify IT administration. Additionally, SSO decreases IT help desk expenses, diminishes cyber threats associated with passwords, lessens password fatigue, and streamlines onboarding and offboarding.

The WAPM Group continues to advance its wholesale water meter pit rehabilitation and meter replacement program. This initiative includes construction work at 67-meter pits with metering and/or meter vault condition concerns, with a targeted completion of October 2028. Over the past month, coordination meetings were held with Ash Township, Berlin Township, City of Dearborn Heights, City of Lincoln Park, City of River Rouge, City of Rockwood, City of Southgate, and City of Taylor. To date, upgrades have been completed at 22-meter pit locations.

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES**

### ***Operations***

The Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) operations complied with the Water Quality Standards and Air Quality Standards for the month of April with the exceptions below.

The WRRF experienced a flow metering failure from March 5 through March 9, 2026. The flow meter provides data to the control system for chemical dosing, and the meter fault resulted in the following exceedances of effluent limits at Outfall 049F (Detroit River Outfall):

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES (continued)**

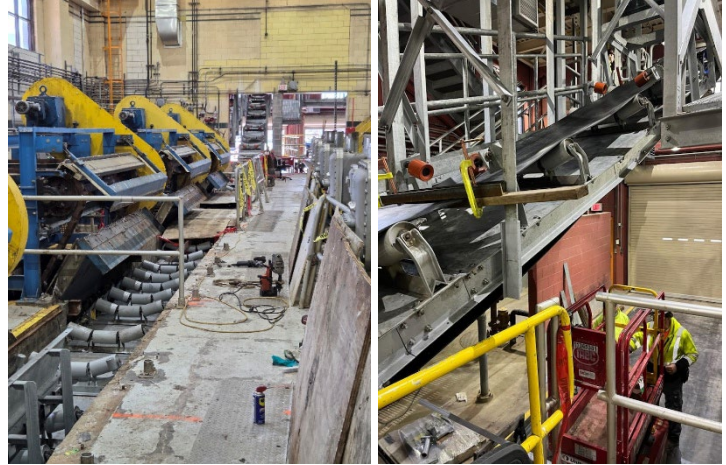
- The daily average total residual chlorine was 0.33 milligrams per liter (mg/l), exceeding the limit of 0.11 mg/l, on March 5, 2026.
- The seven-day rolling average fecal coliform count exceeded the limit of 400 count/100 milliliters on March 9, 2026 (469), 10 (469), 11 (404), 14 (561), 15 (572), and 18 (690).
- Furthermore, the facility experienced some data collection challenges during the same period.
- Primary effluent was discharged without authorization from 7:00 AM EDT – 4:54 PM EDT on March 8, 2026. The requirement to pump 930 million gallons per day (MGD) through the secondary system was not met, the facility processed 768 MGD during that period.
- On March 11, 2026, the three influent samplers on each interceptor experienced a challenge. The sample pump at the Oakwood Interceptor kicked out and insufficient volume was collected making the 24-hour composite sample invalid. The sampler line for the North Interceptor East Arm clogged repeatedly during the day, making the 24-hour composite sample invalid. Finally, on the Detroit River Interceptor the 24-hour composite had a Carbonaceous Biological Oxygen Demand (CBOD) result below the detection limit for the test. No influent CBOD value could be calculated, which will result in a non-report violation for CBOD Removal at Monitoring Point 049B (Secondary Effluent).
- On March 13, both samples at the secondary effluent were found offline, leading to invalidating 24-hour composite samples. No values can be reported. This will result in nine non-report violations: Total Suspended Solids (TSS), TSS Load, CBOD, CBOD Load, Ammonia Nitrogen, Total Phosphorus (TP), TP Load, TSS Removal, and CBOD Removal.

The Operations and Operational Technology teams are looking at programming and logic within the control system to identify possible modifications to provide operators better information to use to avoid a similar circumstance from reoccurring.

## WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES (continued)

### ***Reliability and Maintenance Engineering (RME)***

The Screenings Belt Modification Project has been making great progress, despite a few minor delays due to resource deployment to other areas for support. All belt components are installed, and the belt has been installed and vulcanized. The remaining items before commissioning testing are to complete the electrical wiring and to update the Ovation system graphics to reflect the changes. The current plan includes start-up testing and returning the belt to Operations for full service the week of April 13, 2026. This will provide Operations with improved redundancy and flexibility in time for much of the wet weather season.



*The full belt and all components installed shown in both photos*

A newer position to the RME Team, includes Computerized Maintenance Management System Administrator *Jeff Dunsmore* where he leads a 5S effort throughout the WRRF to manage spare parts inventories on-site. He started this effort in the Dewatering Area. This effort includes re-organizing storage areas, tagging spare parts to identify which assets they go with, and labeling shelves for quick identification of spares. This project will streamline maintenance and repair efforts, reduce the potential for waste due to unknown or lost parts, and improve the overall housekeeping condition of the plant.

Power Management Team Leader, *Raymond Zdonkiewicz*, and Power Management Professional *Nick Romund* have been working on troubleshooting the Raw Sewage Pump (RSP) No. 12 Variable Frequency Device. The team obtained a Fluke 125B Scope Meter and used it to identify and repair an issue with the RSP No. 12 power factor. This is a great example of how the RME team is using technology and the data the technology can provide to make troubleshooting easier and more informed repair decisions.



*Power Management Professional Nick Romund using the Fluke 125B and the display on the screen*

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES (continued)**

### ***Laboratory***

After an impressive 36 years of service, *Aruna Manada*, Chemist III, has retired. Aruna has been a highly respected member of the Laboratory Team, consistently sharing her knowledge and wisdom while upholding laboratory quality in her role as Quality Assurance Lead. *Manada* played an instrumental role in establishing the Laboratory Information Management System and served as a dedicated mentor to the next generation of chemists. Led by Laboratory Management Professional, *Lynda Kostrzewski*, and supported by the Risk Management Team, the yearly update of the Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) is underway. The CHP outlines critical processes such as chemical spill response and other essential safety procedures. Chemist *Kevin Bracco* is leading the effort to update laboratory forms, logs, and bench sheets. One of the key objectives of this work is to standardize these documents into a unified format, allowing for more efficient updates and improved consistency in the future.



*Manada on her last day at GLWA*

### ***Operation Technology (OT)/ Process Automation & Control System Team (PACS)***

The OT/PACS Team conducted factory acceptance testing of new High Performance Graphics and Alarm configurations for the Fairview and Fischer Sewage Pump Stations. The team tested all control graphics using simulations of equipment response to validate all commands (start/stop/open/close) and tested alarm annunciation and depiction of fault conditions on each of the new graphics screens. The new graphics and alarm configurations will be installed at Fischer and Fairview in the coming month.

Additionally, the OT team successfully coordinated acquisition, installation and configuration of a replacement bulkscan unit on Conveyor M which is part of the WRRF's Complex No. 2 Incineration System. Conveyor M transports dewatered solids from the belt filter presses into the Complex No. 2 incinerator feed systems. The bulkscan is a non-contact means of estimating the volume flow of material on the conveyor and is necessary to ensure proper loading of each incinerator.

### ***Industrial Waste Control***

The previously submitted project proposal and applicable attachments for the United States Environmental Protection Agency Region V Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Compound Study Community Grant application was approved by the Board of Directors in March 2026.

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES (continued)**

### ***CIP Construction***

#### ***CIP 211006, Contract 2103350 – Pump Station No.1 (PS1) Improvements (WRRF)***

Construction activity is progressing across multiple active areas within PS1. Reconstruction of Electrical Building No. 37 is underway. Installation and layout of the new low-voltage motor control centers are scheduled to begin soon, with full-load transfer planned by October 2026. Debris removal from stop-log channels at the south wet well has been completed using a diver to clear and provide the stoplog seating, and the Contractor is currently dewatering and cleaning the wet well for inlet gates replacement and structural repairs. The Contractor submitted time impact analysis No. 4 on March 9, 2026, asserting that 153 of the 251 days of delay to milestone No. 1 are excusable. After reviewing the analysis, GLWA responded to the Contractor on March 27, 2026, which included that the full 251-day delay is non-excusable and attributable to the contractor.

#### ***CIP 211007, Contract No. 1904337/SCN-0000409 and 2300154/SCN-0000518 – Pump Station No. 2 (PS2) Bar Rack & Grit System Improvements***

This project upgrades the bar screens to finer screens and installs an improved grit processing system at PS2 at the WRRF. The Contractor continues demolishing concrete within grit channels No.15 and 16. Teams have driven earth retention sheet piles on the north side of PS2 in preparation for the extension of the screenings influent channel. Subcontractors continue installing new fiber optic cables between PS2 and the Process Control Center at the Administration Building. Crews have progressed with completing several areas of piping which included adding new plumbing within the Chemical Facility, demolishing the secondary water piping in the screenings building, and installing temporary hoses for service water during construction.



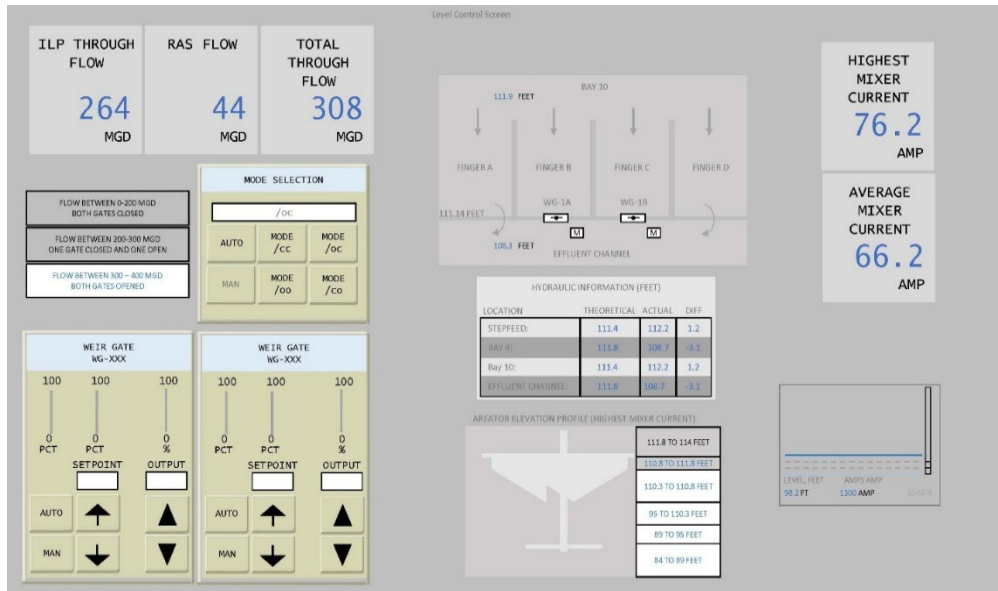
*Earth retention sheet piles on north side of PS2*

#### ***CIP 212008, Contract 2102926 – WRRF Aeration Decks Nos. 1 and 2 Improvements***

The Design-Build Team delivered 60 percent design plans and specifications at the end of January. The focus for work in February 2026 was a continuation of the 60% design effort which included the resolution of the 605 GLWA design comments. The 100% meter chamber early start package work completed demolition of the workspace and prepared the space for installing concrete formwork. The next series of design workshops are to focus on the instrumentation and controls (I&C) aspects of the project. GLWA's I&C supplier, Emerson, will be an integral part of this phase of the design and will work in close coordination with GLWA's OT group.

## WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES (continued)

The first series of the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) screens to be utilized for process control have been developed and are currently being reviewed. The evolution of SCADA has less emphasis on animation and color and more emphasis on important operator data, which enhances awareness of process changes.



*High Performance Graphics Sheet for Aeration Deck Level Control*

### *CIP 213007, Contract CON-197 – WRRF Modification to Incineration Sludge Feed Systems at Complex II (WRRF)*

The performance issues associated with this project are not resolved yet and the project has not achieved substantial completion or final completion. Currently Vertex Engineering is overseeing this project on behalf of Liberty Mutual. Screw Conveyors were repaired and brought back to service by Vertex and the other subcontractors. On site test was done on March 10, 2026. Torque and thermal data were collected for selected motors during the test. The final report will be submitted by Conveyor Dynamics and distributed to all parties.

### *CIP 216006, Contract 1903601 and 1903598 – Assessment and Rehabilitation of WRRF Yard Piping and Underground Utilities (WRRF)*

The project is substantially complete. The Screened Final Effluent (SFE) large diameter gate valve assessment program tested SF-V-023 in coordination with the SFE Pump Station Rehabilitation Project and found it to be fully operational. The project is completing walkthroughs and punch lists and expects to close this fiscal year.

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES (continued)**

### *CIP 216008, Contract No. 2000970/SCN-0000131 – SFE Pump Station Rehabilitation*

This progressive design-build project will replace the SFE building and associated equipment at the WRRF. The new SFE system will provide an additional source of utility water and upgrade aging pumps, enhancing the facility's overall resilience. In March, crews completed adding new pump connections and pouring foundation over the west effluent channel and the WRRF returned to full capacity. The contractor is currently working on similar connections in the east effluent channel (does not cause capacity reduction). Mobilization of the smaller worksite near the Dechlorination Building also began.



*New concrete foundation over West effluent channel*



*Contractor using hydroexcavation to install vibration monitors near Dechlorination facility*

### *CIP 216011, Contract No. 2100239 – WRRF Facilities Structural Improvements*

Contractor activity is focused on two fronts: structural repairs at the PS1 Rack and Grit Building grinder room, and immediate priority repairs at the Employee Parking Structure (EPS) at the WRRF. Work in the grinder room includes structural and steel rehabilitation, while the EPS effort is advancing as the project team awaits the Contractor's cost and schedule proposal for the high-priority repair package. Delivery of 33 precast planks is anticipated in late May 2026, with replacement work at Aeration Basin No. 3 planned for summer 2026. A firm schedule will be finalized after coordination with the CIP 212008/Contract 2102926 project team.

### *CIP 232002, Contract No. SCN-0000586 - Conner Creek Pump Station Storm Water Pump Replacements (CON)*

The Contractor continued to work on the installation of the Temporary Earth Retaining System for the East Jefferson Relief Sewer Isolation Gate and completed the installation of the new light pole bases, while the excavation for the electrical duct bank began. The submittal process for storm pumps Nos. 3 and 7 is in progress.

### *CIP 232005, Contract No. 2204605 - Freud SPS Improvements (CON)*

The contractor started masonry repairs and the installation of new ventilation duct work within the Freud Storm Pump Station. The Contractor completed the replacement of the power feeds for Storm Pumps Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9. The contractor continues to install the storm station's 6-inch sewer line and 4-inch water line.

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES (continued)**

### *CIP 260207, Contract No. 2004082 – Rehabilitation of the Woodward Sewer*

Negotiations continue with Pamar, Lanzo, Liberty Mutual, and GLWA with the goal of a tendered contract being provided by Liberty Mutual that will switch the terms and conditions of the Lanzo-GLWA contract to Pamar-GLWA for completion of the work. This contract will create a memorandum to the Board of Directors for award when GLWA business units negotiate and confirm it is ready for signature.

### *CIP 260614, Contract No. 1902224 – Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Facilities Structural Improvements (CSO)*

The contract completion date is approaching. The team is working on close-out documents including the final change order which will be processed soon, following the final pay application.

### *CIP 260701, Contract 2102859 – Conveyance System Infrastructure Improvements*

Regulatory improvements and backwater gate installation are complete at nearly all Detroit River and Rouge River outfall locations. I&C have been tested for acceptance at 48 of 55 sites. A change order was approved by the GLWA Board of Directors in January to extend the final completion to June 2026, though the Contractor's schedule shows them finishing behind schedule, likely in September 2026.

### *CIP 260701, Contract 2201142 – Conveyance System Infrastructure Improvements: Sewer In-System Storage Devices (ISD) and Valve Remotes (VR) Improvements*

ISD equipment installation is complete. Engineer-directed repairs to inflatable dams have been completed. Work at the ISD sites uncovered additional needed repairs to the control vaults, which are being evaluated by the project team. Improvements to several of the VR gates are behind schedule due to supply issues. Acceptance testing at the remaining sites is nearing completion. The current final completion milestone was scheduled for February 2026. However, a claim by the Contractor for additional time through December 2026 is in review.

### *CIP 222001, Contract No. 2304897 – Northwest Interceptor (NWI) to Oakwood CSO Sewer (NOCSOS)*

The pinch valve installation milestone time extension change request is approved and will be included in a future change order. The pinch valves are installed, and final field testing is ongoing prior to startup and acceptance testing. The secant pile installation for the launch, diversion, and manhole (MH) shafts is complete, with the secant pile installation at Oakwood CSO approximately halfway complete. The gate valve reversal, and haul road installation, AT&T phone and fiber relocation and the water main relocation are complete at Oakwood CSO. The Contractor is currently investigating repair options for the broken conduits for the exit card reader and excavating is in progress. The earth pressure balance of the tunnel boring machine (TBM) is commissioned, and the Contractor began excavating on March 23, 2026. The full TBM assembly will take place in three phases over a three-month period,

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES (continued)**

generally by pushing sets of rings, stopping and bringing a gantry down, then repeating nine times to assemble the full machine before full production mining begins.

### *CIP 260204, Contract No. 2103688 – Conner Creek Sewer Rehab*

The Conner Creek CSO forebay (upstream of the bar racks) improvements are estimated to soon be completed while railing inspection will remain as an open item. Grouting of the double and triple barrel is estimated to be completed soon as well. Post construction closed-circuit television of the original contract scope is underway in the double and triple barrel and expected to be completed at the end of May 2026. The Contract added improvement of the manhole in the city airport as the cost savings in the CSO forebay and the improvements were made at a no-cost-add. Interaction with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) is ongoing inside the airport for the GLWA manholes that have shared assets at them. Improvements to the Conner underdrain system and Conner Creek CSO forebay (downstream of the bar racks) are undergoing design engineering.

### *CIP 260210, Contract No. 2403420 – Lonyo Sewer Rehab (CON)*

Lonyo Sewer Rehab began construction mobilization in mid-January. Construction of a diversion chamber for purposes of flow control at Lonyo Street and Kirkwood Street is in progress. Removal of an abandoned access point will allow for additional access to be reestablished north of the Lonyo Sewer triple barrel siphon, where maintenance and assessment were not easily performed previously. Work within Patton Park to establish sewer access in multiple locations and modify a stop log structure are scheduled to begin shortly.

### *CIP 260903, Contract No. 2201744 – Front Entrance Rehab (CON)*

The project has now been demobilized until July. Canopies are anticipated to be installed in September 2026. Monthly coordination meetings continue to coordinate project status and tasks. The main canopy shop drawings were approved. The design of the solar panels at the main canopy began and is anticipated to wrap up in May 2026. The repair work at the Guardhouse will take place throughout April, which includes the installation of new ballistic glazing, door, and interior finishes.

### *CIP 270004, Contract SCN-0000697 - OKW/Leib Improvements*

This project provides chemical feed system upgrades at both Oakwood and Leib CSO Facilities along with screening upgrades at Leib and storm pump improvements at Oakwood. Field activities are starting in earnest this month, beginning with the removal of the first storm pump from the Oakwood Pump Station. The pump will be disassembled and recommendations for repairs will be made while the pump is prepared for planned enhancements to the bearing cooling system.

## WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES (continued)

### **COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW (CSO) CONTROL PROGRAM**

#### ***CSO Operations, CSO Maintenance, CSO Conveyance***

CSO facilities Manager, *Shadrack Ampomah*, attended the Utility Management Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina hosted by the Water Environment Federation and the American Water Works Association. This annual conference offers forward-thinking leadership, creative strategic planning, efficient processes, and holistic approaches to ongoing improvement efforts. Here, *Shadrack* was able to gain valuable insight from leadership peers to prepare for the future of GLWA CSO facilities.



*CSO Manager Shadrack Ampomah (left) and Wastewater COO David Mehram (right) at the Utility Management Conference*

The CSO Team, Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) Team, and Conveyance Team participated in a workshop centered around the new high-performance graphics coming to Belle Isle CSO and Sewage Pumping Stations. This workshop was combined with installation and Site Acceptance Testing for hands-on learning.

Annually, GLWA must prepare a Consolidated Annual Report (CAR) which includes, but is not limited to, information on CSO discharges from each outfall (untreated or treated) and analyses, rainfall data and analyses, Interim Wet Weather Operating Plan implementation status and evaluation of results/progress, system history, and maintenance or capital type improvements to the system. Preparation of the report involves participation in quarterly Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) meetings in which GLWA team members assemble to analyze the previous quarter's CSO discharges to spot anomalies or errors along with the consultant performing in-depth analyses. At this time, the 2026 CAR has been completed by Wade Trim and submitted for approval by GLWA. Additionally, the team met for the first quarter QA/QC meeting to review CSO discharge patterns over the last quarter which will assist with next year's CAR.

#### ***Sewage Pumping Station (SPS)***

The SPS Team modified Sanitary Pump No. 9 at Freud Pump Station. Sanitary Pump No. 9 is an older pump with a 20 million gallon per day (MGD) capacity. This pump was modified from a mechanical seal to a packed pump. Pump packing is a cost-effective, and maintenance-friendly alternative suited for older pumps and high-solids fluids. This upgrade will improve longevity and resiliency of the equipment.



*Pump No. 9 at Freud Pump Station*

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES (continued)**

The SPS Team attended two different training sessions this month. The first was illicit discharge sampling training led by CSO Manager, *Shadrack Ampomah*. Illicit discharge is any discharge (or seepage) into separate stormwater drainage system that is not composed entirely of stormwater or uncontaminated groundwater. This training was provided so that the SPS Team could provide value to the group when first on scene at a potential illicit discharge. The team also attended a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) training session hosted by Rockwell at Bluehill SPS. VFDs are intelligent control devices that ensure efficient operation of electric motors to use less energy and reduce operating costs. At the same time, they extend equipment lifetime, optimize processes, and reduce maintenance requirements.

The SPS team walked the wet well at Oakwood Pump Station for the Pinch Valve Project, which revolved around inspecting the recently installed pinch valves. This is part of the larger Northwest Interceptor to Oakwood CSO Sewer Capital Improvement Project which aims to create a diversion chamber to ease the impact of flow on the west side's collections system. New pinch valves will improve accuracy when opening and closing valves and will increase the system's overall resiliency.



*Pinch valve at Oakwood Pump Station*

Additionally, the SPS team attended the Quarterly Community Engagement Meeting to discuss the progress of the New Freud Pump Station. Here they were able to answer questions and connect with surrounding community members about the project.

### *Conveyance*

The Conveyance Team welcomed a new Maintenance Technician, *Henry Gordon*. With over 25 years of experience working for the City of Southfield managing water main and sewer main replacements and 15 years working for Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD), Henry is a great addition to the group. Welcome to the team, Henry!

The Conveyance Team performed a walkthrough of the North Interceptor East Arm (NIEA) from Outer Drive to Van Dyke. This time they were looking to confirm the quality of the sewer lining and do a warranty inspection on recent repairs. This was done to ensure everything was in order before warranty expires, which is a cost-effective way to address any further repairs that may be needed.



*Conveyance team member walks the NIEA*

The Conveyance Team continued their work on the Conner Creek SPS Backwater Gate Rehabilitation project. Gate No. 9 was reinstalled and ordering new parts for additional gate repairs is in progress. Gate No. 1 will be replaced first (in progress) followed by Gate No. 6. The team plans to replace each part as shipments are received to minimize downtime and optimize workflow.

## **WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES**

### ***Water Operations***

#### ***Northeast Water Treatment Plant***

##### ***Internal Laboratory Audit***

In preparation for the upcoming state audit, three members of the Laboratory team conducted an internal laboratory audit at the Northeast Plant. The objective of this visit was to assess the plant's readiness, verify compliance with state requirements, and support improvements in laboratory documentation and procedures.

Using state guidelines as the primary reference, the team reviewed all laboratory processes, records, and workflows. Each component was evaluated for accuracy, completeness, and alignment with regulatory expectations. When gaps or opportunities for improvement were identified, the team provided corrective recommendations along with practical guidance to enhance overall performance and compliance.

This collaborative effort reflects the organization's commitment to the "One Water, One Team" policy. By working together across facilities and sharing expertise, the team continues to promote consistency, strengthen quality, and uphold a unified standard of excellence throughout the organization.



*Northeast Water Treatment Plant*

#### ***Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant***

##### ***Spring Clean-Up***

Lake Huron completed its annual spring cleaning of the plant and surrounding perimeter. This all-hands-on-deck event brought together team members from across the facility, including office support specialists, engineers, team leaders, electricians, water technicians, maintenance technicians, and apprentices. Participants were organized into groups of four and provided with photos identifying specific areas of the plant requiring cleaning and

## **WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES (continued)**

general tidying. Upon completing their assigned tasks, all teams reconvened in the conference room before moving outside to collect debris along the plant's fence line.

Plant Manager Christopher Steary provided lunch for the team, after which a group photo was taken to commemorate the day. The event proved to be a successful teambuilding effort, demonstrating strong collaboration and collective commitment to maintaining a clean and efficient facility.



*Lake Huron team after clean-up*

## ***Southwest Water Treatment Plant***

### ***Turbidity Fluctuation***

Throughout all of March, the Southwest Water Treatment plant experienced unprecedented fluctuations in raw water turbidity. Hour by hour and even minute by minute the turbidity levels have swayed greatly. Every single Southwest team member has contributed greatly to making sure those fluctuations in the raw water intake were not seen in the final product. This is a massive thank you to all of Southwest for their efforts in producing water of unquestionable quality.



*All Southwest team members who volunteered to be photographed, left to right: Stephen Barber, Gabriel Bordeianu, Erich Schafrick, Dwight Respass, Kyle Smith, Jared Slone, William East, Gerquinn Joshua, Robert Oliver Jr., Andrae Savage, Christopher Donald, and Lorne Merriweather*

## **WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES (continued)**

### ***Springwells Water Treatment Plant***

#### *Correcting Known Hazards*

The Springwells Water Treatment Plant is currently undergoing extensive modernization of its equipment and standard operating procedures. During this process, it was discovered that the plant did not have a way to utilize its battery charging system if the B-side of the house transformers failed. This issue required immediate attention from management, as the plant cannot operate without the battery-charging system.

The battery chargers maintain the charge of our batteries, which are essential for operating pump breakers and providing emergency lighting throughout the facility. Engineering developed a plan to reconfigure the system so the chargers can be powered from either the A-side or the B-side, giving us redundancy and ensuring reliability.

As we continue upgrading the plant, we are consistently evaluating how to enhance performance, safety, and operational capability. This improvement directly supports those goals.



*Southwest's battery charging system*

### ***Water Transmission***

#### *Current Emergencies and/or Urgent Items*

**48-Inch Transmission Main in Farmington Hills:** The 48-inch transmission main broke on West 14 Mile Road between Verona Street and Muerdale Street in Farmington Hills in the early morning hours on Saturday, March 7, 2026. Our Maintenance and Repair team successfully isolated approximately 1.6 miles of the 48-inch transmission main. The emergency contractor Ric-Man Construction Incorporated immediately mobilized to the site to make the repair. A 20-foot section of prestressed concrete cylinder pipe was removed and replaced with new steel pipe. During the repair, the GLWA's consultant HDR completed an

**WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES (continued)**

inspection of the pipe, approximately 80 feet east and 80 feet west of the break site. During the inspection, two additional pipes were identified as having broken wires and labeled as damaged. The contractor then mobilized west to the damaged pipe sections, removed and replaced those pipes. On Thursday, March 12, 2026, the three additional damaged pipe sections from the inspection were replaced, encased in concrete, and are currently being backfilled in preparation for restoration and roadway replacement.



*14 Mile Road 48-inch water main break*



*48-inch water main break and repair pipe*



*GLWA Maintenance and Repair team assisting with cleaning the 48-inch water main, additional pipe segment installation and replacement, and the HDR pipeline inspection team*

## **WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES (continued)**

**36-Inch Transmission Main in Chesterfield Township:** The 36-inch transmission main on 24 Mile Road and Gratiot Avenue in Chesterfield Township was struck by a DTE subcontractor. The contractor Lakeshore Global has completed the repair to the pipe segment that was struck by the DTE subcontractor along with replacing two additional pipe segments identified as incipient failures by GLWA's consultant HDR. The water main disinfection process began on Thursday, March 5, and bacteriological sampling was completed on Sunday, March 8, 2026. GLWA's Maintenance and Repair and Systems Control Center, working along with the member partners, Chesterfield Township, Village of New Haven and Lennox Township, returned the 36-inch water main back into service on Monday, March 9, 2026.

### ***Research, Innovation & Transformation***

*Research – Newly Published Paper addressing PFAS management within wastewater treatment plant systems*

The Research team is proud to have collaborated on a newly published paper addressing Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) management within wastewater treatment plant systems. This paper, *“Practical Framework for Managing PFAS in Wastewater Treatment Plants: Integrating Pre-Treatment and In-Plant Upgrades for Sustainable PFAS Reduction,”* presents a timely and substantive contribution to the evolving challenge of PFAS management. Drawing on full-scale monitoring data, statistical analyses, and established mechanistic understanding, the authors reframe PFAS not as a conventional contaminant moving linearly through treatment, but as a distributed mass that partitions, transforms, and recirculates across multiple phases within treatment plants. This perspective is particularly valuable, as it helps explain persistent limitations of traditional treatment approaches and provides a more realistic basis for interpreting system performance and regulatory compliance.

A key strength of the paper is its practical applicability. The proposed three-tier framework, integrating source control and pre-treatment, targeted in-plant interventions, and residuals management, offers a clear and actionable pathway for utilities to move from diagnosis to implementation. By emphasizing PFAS mass balance, identifying high-leverage intervention points such as concentrated influent sources and internal recirculation pathways, and incorporating tradeoff evaluation, the framework supports more effective and defensible decision-making.

The implications are significant: utilities can better prioritize investments, reduce the risk of unintended cross-media transfers, and align treatment strategies with long-term regulatory and public health objectives. Overall, this work provides a scalable and implementation-ready foundation for advancing PFAS management practices across the wastewater sector.

## **WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES (continued)**

Modiri, M., Challa Sasi, P., Lee, L. S., & Norton, J. (2026). *Practical Framework for Managing PFAS in Wastewater Treatment Plants: Integrating Pre-Treatment and In-Plant Upgrades for Sustainable PFAS Reduction*. *Remediation Journal*, 36, e70063. <https://doi.org/10.1002/rem.70063>

### *Research – Potable Water, Wastewater, and Water Distribution Projects*

The research team has been coordinating and refining several projects for potable water, wastewater, and water distribution.

#### *Potable water treatment*

Potable water projects that are being refined and developed include two projects that focus on water quality and a tracer study that focuses on validating pilot plant geometry and configuration for scaling research findings.

The first project that focuses on water is a research project focusing on optimizing water treatment considering changing source water conditions. This project, with Dr. Ameet Pinto, Professor at Georgia Tech, involves assessing and defining expected variations in source water, as well as treatment optimization, at the two research pilot plants. The second drinking water project is a corollary project with the University of Michigan to measure and assess both regulated and unregulated disinfection byproduct formation within the distribution system. These two projects are particularly important because they directly impact GLWA's ability to meet existing and future water quality regulations.

The GLWA drinking water tracer study is an effort to fully characterize the mixing and flow path geometry within the pilot plant to be able to appropriately scale research findings to the full-scale processing systems. The project, using a chloride tracer, basically simple table salt, will reveal and validate the diffusion and convection of water properties as it flows through the unit processes. This information is critical to properly scale rate kinetics from pilot plant scale to water distribution scale.

#### *Wastewater treatment*

The research team is working on several project projects addressing waste to energy, phosphorus permit compliance, grit removal, and assessment of alternative disinfection technologies

The waste to energy project, funded by the United States Department of Energy, is ending and the research team is working to prepare final project documents and reports.

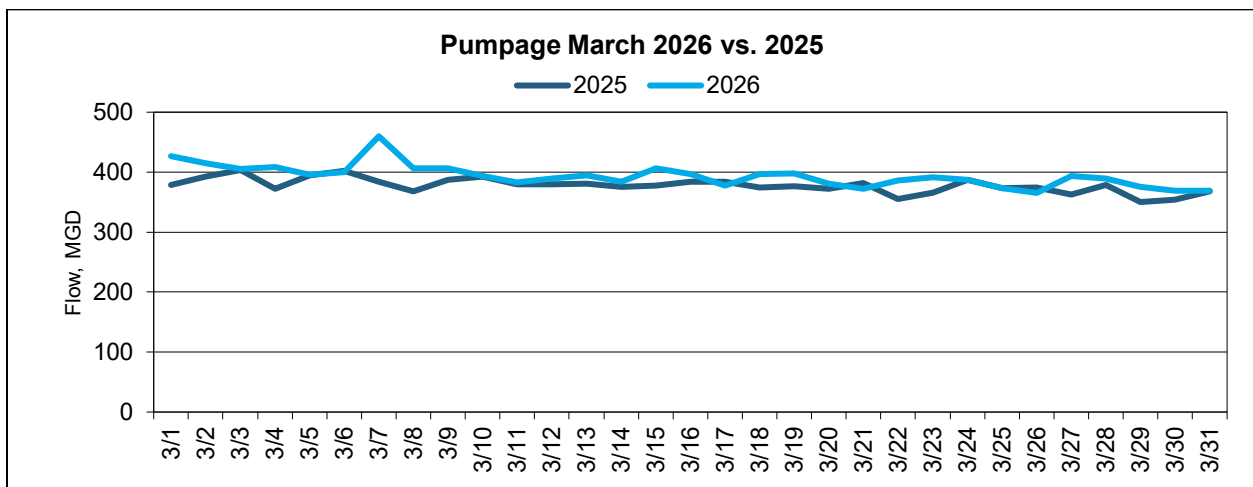
## **WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES (continued)**

The phosphorus research project focuses on the fate and transport of phosphorus through the activated sludge treatment process. The GLWA Water Resource Recovery Facility uses a combination of chemical coagulant and biological nutrient removal to lower the concentration of phosphorus to meet permit requirements. However, sometimes these processes compete against each other, and so GLWA has contracted with Wayne State University to perform a substantive research project, assessing and investigating process optimization to help maintain permit compliance with phosphorus discharge limits.

The GLWA research team is in the initial phases of developing a comprehensive grit removal research effort to try and assess in validating a centripetal method of removing grit from settled primary and secondary biosolids. Grit, basically the inorganic content of the biosolids, negatively affects waste to energy technologies because it can't be converted to organic fuels, and it also negatively impacts the operation of plant process operations, such as pumps, mixers, and piping because it wears down these services leading to significant maintenance requirements.

### ***Systems Control Center***

There was a 4.1% increase in the March 2026 pumpage compared to March 2025



### ***Engineering***

#### ***Water Engineering Active Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Project Status***

***CIP No. 119009 (Contract No. 1803990) Lake Huron High Lift and Yard Piping Improvements***  
Project Manager: Brian VanHall

This project at Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant adds three pumps that are each rated for 20 million gallons per day, a 72-inch flow meter on the south high lift header with an 84-inch butterfly valve for isolation, 16-inch flow metering for process water usage by the plant,

## **WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES (continued)**

blowoff on the south high lift header, infrared heating within the pump building on the south side, and a replacement valve actuator on the 84-inch butterfly valve on the north high lift header. Project completion has been delayed due to Contractor performance issues and material procurements for the pumps and cone valves. The Contractor has indicated that they will not finish the project and has engaged the surety.

### *CIP No. 112006 (Contract No. 1904231) Northeast Flocculator Replacement*

Project Manager: Brian VanHall

This project at Northeast Water Treatment Plant replaces flocculator equipment in all four basins, demolishes inlet gates to each flocculation chamber and installs a baffle block at each basin inlet for flow distribution, improves access to the drywell with stairs and platforms to access the new flocculator gearmotors and replaces the access hatches to the inlet gates in each basin.

This project is in the construction phase and flocculation improvements have been completed for Basin No. 2 and Basin No. 3. The project is on track for final completion by March 18, 2027.

### *CIP No. 113010 (Contract No. 0002500) Southwest Water Treatment Plant Flocculation Improvements*

Project Manager: Brian Vanhall

This project involves replacing the existing walking beam flocculators with vertical flocculators in three of the four flocculation basins at the Southwest Water Treatment Plant. The existing equipment will be removed from Basin Nos. 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B, and new equipment will be installed. The solicitation closed on August 18, 2025. The anticipated award date is April 2026. The project will be delivered using the Design-Bid-Build method, with an estimated completion date of fall 2031.

### *CIP No. 122004 (Contract No. 2303968) 84-Inch Triple Offset Ball Valve Procurement*

Project Manager: Corey Brecht

This contract is a material purchase for Phase 3 of CIP No. 122004 – 96-Inch Water Transmission Main Relocation Project. The material purchase includes two 84-inch triple offset ball valves that will be provided to the Phase 3 contractor for installation. The lead time of these valves was between 66 - 80 weeks from start of the shop drawing process and is the primary reason why GLWA pre-purchased these valves. The vendor submitted an updated production schedule that shows projected delivery of the valves to GLWA in April 2026.

### *CIP No. 122004 (Contract No. 1900741) Professional Engineering Services for the Design and Construction of the 96-Inch Water Transmission Main Relocation*

Project Manager: Corey Brecht

This contract provides engineering and construction assistance services for the entire 96-inch Water Transmission Main Relocation Project (Phase 1-3). The consultant will be assisting GLWA in Phase 3 design review activities and construction oversight.

## **WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES (continued)**

### *CIP No. 122004 (Requisition No. 2401015) Design Build of 96-Inch Water Transmission Main Relocation- Phase 3*

Project Manager: Corey Brecht

This phase of the 96-inch relocation was awarded by the GLWA Board in April of 2025 and notice to proceed was issued to the contractor on June 27, 2025. The scope of this project phase includes final design and construction of the pipeline alignment, connections, line stop, temporary booster pump station, isolation valves, and pipeline appurtenances. Project final completion is scheduled for December 31, 2028.

### *CIP No. 111001 (Contract No. 1803769) Lake Huron High Lift, Low Lift, and Wash Water Pumping and Switchgear Improvements*

Project Manager: Eric Kramp

This project provides engineering services to address long-standing issues with the switchgear, low lift, high lift, and corrosion control systems at the Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant. The consultant has submitted a revised 90% design package for the switchgear and low lift pumping improvements, which is sufficiently complete to proceed to final, biddable documents. A construction contract for this portion is expected to be bid within the next fiscal year. Designs for the high lift pumping, wash water, and phosphoric acid systems have been submitted at the 60% completion level and are currently under review. An amendment request from the consultant is anticipated to fully incorporate federally mandated changes and the latest project adjustments. GLWA staff is evaluating this project to consider where cost reductions may be implemented.

### *CIP No. 111006 (Contract No. 2101680) Lake Huron Filter Instrumentation and Raw Water Flow Metering Improvements*

Project Manager: Eric Kramp

This is a progressive design-build project aimed at addressing outdated and failing programmable logic controllers and controls throughout the plant, with particular emphasis on the filter building. There are two phases with this project. Phase 1 consists of evaluating and validating GLWA's understanding of what work is necessary and then designing a complete set of construction documents. This phase has been completed. Phase 2 is the construction phase of the work designed in Phase 1. The GLWA Board awarded Phase 2 of this project in July 2025. Work on this project began in November 2025. The upgrades to the Waste Wash Water Treatment Facility conduits and wires, the first element of permanent work has begun.

### *CIP No. 111012 (Contract No. 2004549) Lake Huron Flocculator Improvements*

Project Manager: Andrea Miller

The purpose of this project is to upgrade the rapid mix and flocculation systems at the Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant to meet current standards. The study phase is complete. For the rapid mix system, the existing configuration of four mixers—two in each of two raw water conduits—will be retained, but the mixer sizes will be increased. Job Order Contracts and procurement documents for the new, larger mixers are currently in development and under quotation. This work is being prioritized to maintain the schedule agreement between

## **WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES (continued)**

Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) and GLWA. The engineer has submitted a basis of design and a 30% conceptual drawing set. The 30% design costs were out of alignment with proposed CIP budgets, so hydraulic flocculation and other auxiliary improvements were removed from the project. The flocculation system will use vertical mechanical mixers instead of horizontal flocculators. The construction phase for this work is scheduled for completion May 2031.

### *CIP No. 170802 (Contract No. 2201316) Reservoir Rehabilitation Phase 2 (Construction), Booster Stations and Water Treatment Plants*

Project Manager: John McCallum

This is a low-bid construction project with LGC Global. The contract scope includes reservoir cleaning, repairs, and selected capital improvements to 17 finished water reservoirs located at the facilities identified in engineering Contract No. 2100236. The first season of work (September 2023 through April 2024) was completed at the Wick Road, Eastside, and Schoolcraft locations. The second season of the project (September 2024 through April 2025) included reservoirs at Joy Road Station, Ford Road Station, Haggerty Station, Michigan Avenue, and the Water Works Park Water Treatment Plant and has also been completed. The third season of work (September 2025 through April 2026) includes reservoirs at the North Service Center Pump Station, Joy Road Pump Station, Northeast Water Treatment Plant, and Adams Road Pump Station. The final set of reservoirs is scheduled for completion by Spring 2027. The project remains on time and within budget.

### *CIP No. 114002 (Contract No. 2201068) Springwells Electrical Gear Replacement*

Project Manager: Justin Kietur

This project is currently in the construction phase. It involves the installation of new medium-voltage switchgear and cabling from the secondary side of GLWA transformers to the switchgear, and from the switchgear to the Low Lift and High Lift Pumps as well as the plant unit substations. Construction of the new switchgear room is ongoing, and the majority of the new medium-voltage cabling has been pulled from the Low Lift and High Lift Pumps back toward the new switchgear room. Site civil work for the new electrical duct banks and the utility bridge is complete.

### *CIP No. 132016 (Contract No. 2004674) North Service Center Pumping Station Improvements*

Project Manager: Mark Blossfeld

Conceptual design for the project has been completed. Project will include rehabilitation of the existing station as Phase 1 of the project with Phase 2 of the project to include new reservoirs and reservoir pump house. The design phase for the replacement of line pumps and switchgear has been completed and will be ready for bidding in May 2026.

### *CIP No. 114017 (Contract No. 2201255) Springwells Flocculator Improvements*

Project Manager: Erich Klun

This project replaces the existing horizontal paddle wheel flocculators in the four basins of the 1958 treatment plant and adds continuous turbidity monitoring of its settled water. Basins 5 and 6 started their second-year warranty following interim substantial completion in

## **WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES (continued)**

December 2024. Basins 7 and 8 are starting demolition in early 2026 and are on schedule to finish by the Administrative Compliance Agreement (ACA) date.

### *CIP No. 112008 (Req No. 2400082) Northeast Water Treatment Plant Filter Replacement*

Project Manager: Erich Klun

The project scope includes the rehabilitation and right-sizing of the plant filtration capacity. Included in the rehabilitation is the replacement of existing filter media, wash water troughs, filter control valves, media surface wash water and wash water improvements, and complete replacement and modernization of the filter control system. Project is being executed under a design-build contract arrangement. The project has been awarded and was approved by the Board. A Notice to Proceed has been issued and the project started on December 1, 2025. The project is scheduled for completion by December 2029.

### *CIP No. 116002 (Contract No. DB-150) Raw Water Tunnel Rehabilitation*

Project Manager: Justin Kietur

This project is in construction phase. Work within the Pennsylvania Tunnel and Northeast Tunnel is complete. Work within the Springwells Raw Water Tunnel has resumed for this season. The contractor, Ballard Marine Construction, has successfully reinstalled the Ballard Underwater Ring Transporter in the Springwells Raw Water tunnel and has started installation of the stainless-steel liner plates. The final season of work began on October 1, 2025. Ballard Marine is currently installing stainless-steel liner plates. Once all liner plates are installed, grouting of the annular space between the liner plates/rings and the existing concrete raw water tunnel will take place. In-water work is tentatively scheduled to be completed in April 2026 with full restoration of construction area by June 2026.

### *CIP No. 122019 (Contract No. 2204376) Jefferson Main Replacement*

Project Manager: Sean Grant

This project is at 90% design phase. The project involves use of 42-inch, high-density polyethylene fit slip-line of approximately three miles of vintage 1915 cast iron 48-inch piping along Jefferson between the Water Works Park Water Treatment Plant and Rivard Street just east of downtown Detroit. Act 399 Permit is pending with the State of Michigan. Prior to commencing construction, the City of Detroit must complete a 16-inch set of parallel mains from Water Works Park to Rivard. Construction for this project will not commence until the City of Detroit Predecessor project is complete, estimated in FY 2028.

### *CIP No. 132015 (Contract No. 1901767) Newburgh Booster Pumping Station Improvements*

Project Manager: Jorge Nicolas

The project re-entered the design phase after a long pause due to the search for a suitable site, GLWA budget realignment, and reassessment of GLWA needs. We have recently completed our review of the 60% design deliverables and submitted comments to the consultant, who is now addressing those comments. Several workshops have been held to determine equipment specifications and layout, resulting in multiple technical memoranda from the consultant. Coordination with stakeholders, including DTE, the City of Farmington

## **WATER OPERATIONS AND FIELD SERVICES (continued)**

Hills, the City of Livonia, Wayne County, and Michigan Department of Transportation is ongoing.

The 100% design deliverables have been received and a Request for Bid (package) has been completed. In parallel to these activities, approval from EGLE and other stakeholders is in progress and GLWA's Office of General Counsel will notify the tenant to vacate the house on site.

### *CIP No. 113009 (Contract No. 2300730) Southwest Chain and Flight Upgrades*

Project Manager: Vittoria Veltri

The project involves removing and replacing flight and chain equipment in three of the four sedimentation basins at Southwest Water Treatment Plant. Equipment will be removed in Basin No. 1 A and removed and replaced in Basins No. 1B and No. 2A. The first basins, No. 1A and No. 1B, have been completed and turned over to Southwest plant staff. The project is in a delay period waiting on the sludge removal contractors to be able to finish their work at Springwells Water Treatment Plant and begin work removing sludge from the remaining basins to be worked on at Southwest Water Treatment Plant.

### *CIP No. 122016 (Contract No. 1803942) Downriver Transmission Main Loop*

Project Manager: Vittoria Veltri

The 100% design for this project is completed. This project involves installation of a looped main in the downriver area along Inkster Road, between Wick Road and Pennsylvania Road, to maintain service in the event of a break along the existing water mains. This project also includes demolition of Electric Avenue Pump Station reservoirs, and upgrades to the various meter pits. This project is expected to have construction start by Summer of 2026.

### *CIP No. 122020 Concord and Nevada Flow Control Valves*

Project Manager: Jenny Frakes

This project is a Design-Build project and is currently at 100% design and is in the pre-bid phase. Two vaults for flow control valves will be established at the intersection of Concord St. and E. Nevada St. in Detroit, thus allowing connection between the Springwells, Northeast, and Water Works Park service areas. After the project is awarded, the valves will be procured in FY2027, and construction is expected during the off-peak season of FY2028.

## **OFFICE OF SYSTEM RESILIENCY (OSR)**

### ***Support for Detroit River Interceptor (DRI)***

Substantial Completion for DB-226 was achieved on March 25, 2026. Crews are currently working through punch list items, including completion of the high flow conduit pipe installation, final electrical work, and installation of the remaining slide gates. Excavation for the high flow conduit at the Fox Creek Regulator Chamber is complete. The roof slab for the Regulator Chamber has been placed, and site electrical work is progressing.

## **OFFICE OF SYSTEM RESILIENCY** (continued)

### ***Energy Management***

A formal kickoff meeting was held for the Lake Huron WTP Demand Response Program. The curtailment program will be effective starting from June 1, 2026.

MPSC (Michigan Public Service Commission) announced DTE's new rates on February 19, 2026 and most of which are effective from March 5, 2026. The greatest impact is the increase in the Power Supply Cost Recovery Factor which increased from 0.00250 to \$0.01877 per unit of energy (kilowatt-hour) that GLWA uses. GLWA is an energy intense system, so we anticipate approximately \$10 million increase in electrical payments to DTE this year. DTE has revised its rate structures and OSR is currently evaluating, in consultation with the water and wastewater operational groups, which accounts should be switched to new rate structures for cost savings.

### ***Flood Resiliency Study***

The Southeast Michigan Flood Risk Management Study project team has dedicated significant time and effort to advancing the flood study modeling work. The updates for each modeling effort are below:

#### **Ongoing Technical Analyses:**

##### Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analysis (where flooding happens)

- **What:** The team continues to study how future rainfall and sewer system performance could lead to flooding across the region.
- **How:** Using modeling tools, the team is analyzing how rain falls, how water moves through the sewer system, and where the system may become overwhelmed—leading to surface flooding in streets and neighborhoods. This work also looks at how intense, localized storms and changing rainfall patterns could impact flooding in the future. By combining sewer system modeling, rainfall analysis, and ground elevation data, the team will identify areas most at-risk for flooding.
- **Why:** Identifying high priority/high risk flood areas will help develop targeted solutions that reduce flood risk and better protect communities.

##### Economic Analysis (the cost of flooding)

- **What:** The study team is evaluating how future flooding could impact homes, businesses, and critical infrastructure across southeast Michigan.
- **How:** To ensure accurate estimates, we are calculating the cost to repair or rebuild structures based on their actual characteristics, rather than market values.

## **OFFICE OF SYSTEM RESILIENCY** (continued)

- Why: This analysis helps estimate the region’s potential annual flood damages if no action is taken, providing a baseline to compare solutions and identify strategies that best protect communities.

For more detailed information on the Study’s current phase – developing the “Future Without (Federal) – Project (FWOP) Conditions” check out the study website under Plan Formulation Step Two [here](#).

A summary of the flood project, public meeting materials, and project updates can be found at the [Southeast Michigan Flood Risk Management Feasibility Study](#) webpage. For questions or to provide feedback, please contact [SEMIFloodStudy@usace.army.mil](mailto:SEMIFloodStudy@usace.army.mil).



A detailed status review with stakeholders is set for April 27, 2026.

### ***Regional Support***



GLWA, in collaboration with SEMCOG, DWSD, and the University of Michigan hosted an Infrastructure Resiliency Summit on April 17, 2026. This one-day summit

built on the success of last year’s Electric-Water Resiliency Summit and expand the conversation to include transportation, government, and finance – bringing the full region together to align priorities, share solutions and strengthen resilience.

### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

- Michigan’s Resilience Roadmap (Phil Roos, Director, EGLE)
- The Hidden Crisis Underneath Us (Suzanne Coffey, CEO, GLWA)
- Strengthening the Grid (Mark Johnson, DTE Energy and Seth Guikema, UofM)
- Nature Based Infrastructure Solutions (NFWF Project Team)
- Enhancing Financial Resiliency (Panel Discussion)
- Frontiers and Barriers to Regional Stormwater Collaboration (Panel Discussion moderated by Bill Wolfson with Nicollette Bateson on the panel)
- Call to Action for Regional Resiliency

## **OFFICE OF SYSTEM RESILIENCY** (continued)

Regional resiliency project managers will convene on June 5, 2026. This GLWA–SEMCOG partnership is focused on aligning work, pooling resources, and sharing data to strengthen outcomes across southeast Michigan.

Sherri Gee, GLWA and SEMCOG will present at the April 2026 Center for Watershed Protection conference, highlighting how strong partnerships drive better outcomes: shared planning tools that improve decisions, project prioritization that targets the most critical needs, and funding collaboration that maximizes impact.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT)**

### ***IT Security Team***

In the past month, the IT Security team has proactively blocked or thwarted 118,977 spam messages, 248,230 spoofed messages and 155 viruses. Additionally, 47,111 phishing attempts have been caught and 43,354 malware attempts have been blocked.

### ***IT Enterprise Asset Management Systems***

The IT Enterprise Asset Management Systems team, in conjunction with Capital Improvement Planning, Water & Wastewater Engineering, Finance and Procurement groups, continues to support the implementation effort for GLWA’s Project Management Information System, Kahua, to deliver Capital Improvement Program (CIP) planning and program and project management delivery. In March, the project team re-baselined the project schedule and established new go-live dates for phases 1a (September 15, 2026) and 1b (April 12, 2027). Phase 1a will enable utilizing Kahua for Capital Program Review reports, Estimate at Completion, and Project Milestones. Phase 1b will include Project Requests, Project Scoring, and the full CIP development cycle. The project team continues to make progress on system integration testing, data migration, reports and dashboards, while also focusing on preparations for user acceptance testing.

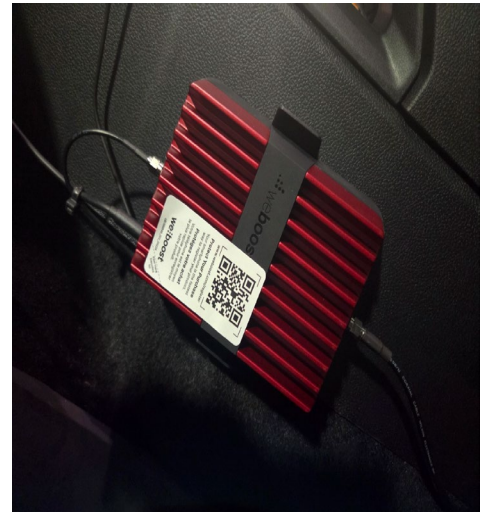
### ***IT Customer Service Delivery***

The IT Customer Service Delivery (CSD) team, in collaboration with the Fleet Operations team, continues to work to improve cellular service in GLWA vehicles that travel throughout Southeast Michigan to service our system. Recently, Water Operating Services Transmission team experienced poor connectivity and frequently dropping calls while traveling to address issues in the field.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** (continued)

The CSD and Fleet teams installed cellular boosters in vehicles, strengthening weak cellular signals, reducing dropped calls, improving call quality, and increasing data speeds for all devices in the vehicles, ultimately improving their productivity while traveling to or at work sites.

The IT Customer Service Delivery team is committed to continuing this initiative with the Fleet team until all GLWA vehicles have improved cellular service, improving team member efficiency and customer satisfaction.



*Cellular booster installed in vehicle*

### ***IT Emerging Technology***

GLWA completed an Artificial Intelligence risk-modeling pilot in March using VODA.ai, which applies machine learning to predict pipeline failures. While the tool showed promise for advanced analytics, its accuracy was limited by the small amount of data available on large-diameter pipe failures.

To evaluate whether this limitation could be overcome, GLWA trained the VODA.ai model using historic pipe-failure data, then tested it against a separate control dataset (2010–2020 data used for training; 2021–2026 data used for validation). After several rounds of refining requirements and retraining, the model did not provide insights beyond those already offered by GLWA’s existing statistics-based risk model. As a result, GLWA chose not to move forward with implementation. The pilot confirmed both the capabilities of the VODA.ai solution and the expected challenges of applying machine-learning approaches when historical data is limited.

### ***IT Project Management Office (PMO)***

Currently, the IT PMO is managing 17 active projects and is processing seven project requests. The PMO is also assisting with 33 initiatives.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

### ***Communication Efforts Boosted During 48-Inch Main Break to Help the Public Stay Informed and Ensure Transparency***

The Public Affairs team worked diligently to boost communication efforts to the impacted communities of Novi, Walled Lake, Wixom, Farmington Hills, Commerce Township, and West Bloomfield Township. These updates were shared via a virtual news conference, news releases, and twice weekly social media postings and website updates.

### ***Public Affairs Supports CEO Sue Coffey's Annual Facility Visits to Connect with Team Members***

On Friday, March 27, CEO Sue Coffey began her annual "Conversations with Coffey" facility visits, a much-appreciated annual effort where she and members of the Executive Leadership Team engage directly with team members at their facilities. These visits are designed to foster open communication, allowing team members to casually discuss any concerns and ideas in a relaxed setting. By prioritizing these interactions, Sue's goal is to build stronger relationships and ensure the voices of all team members are heard and valued. The visits will continue throughout the year. This initiative not only highlights our commitment to transparency and inclusiveness but also serves as a platform for team members to actively contribute to GLWA's ongoing success.

### ***Water Works Parks Hosts AWWA Young Professionals Summit***

On day one of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) Young Professionals (YP) Summit, a tour of our Water Works Park Water Treatment Plant was held to provide an engaging and informative experience to early career professionals. Opportunities like this strengthen connection, build awareness, and reinforce pride in the work we do every day. Several members of the Public Affairs Group attended the Summit, with Marketing Manager Stefanie Burns partnering with Alyssa Taube from the Oakland County Water Resource Commissioner's Office for a presentation on creative outreach strategies both organizations have taken to reach the youth in our region.

For GLWA's portion, Stefanie focused on WRRF's mural collaboration with Detroit Public Schools and the impact it has had on the plant, our team members, and the student artists.



## **SECURITY AND INTEGRITY**

The Hazmat Unit coordinated and completed a total of 239 hours of training during the month and also completed 609 total training hours for the Security and Integrity group for the month of March.

Our Emergency Preparedness team participated, along with Bridgeport Consulting, GLWA's Third Party Facilitator, in planning an upcoming tabletop training exercise for our Member Partners that they had requested. It involves the nexus between Emergency Operations Center meetings and the Incident Command Structure. This team also completed updating the information and format of the GLWA Emergency Response Plan for 2026. Its distribution is scheduled for May.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (OD)**

### ***Performance Team***

#### ***Progression***

The 2025 Progression Cycle concluded in February 2026. Thirty (30) Team Members successfully progressed in their job classification. Forty-one (41) Plant Technicians earned new skills in their job classification.

#### ***Apprenticeship***

Electrical Maintenance (Electrician) Apprentice Chris Seaton has successfully completed his apprenticeship program. Through dedication, hard work, and a commitment to learning, he has developed the skills and experience necessary to advance in his career and become an electrician. This milestone reflects not only his individual effort but also the strength of GLWA's training and mentorship programs.

Mr. Seaton will be awarded certificates of completion from the United States Department of Labor and Metro Detroit Electrical Industrial Training Center.

#### ***Internship***

GLWA partnered with the City of Detroit Public School Community District's Spring Internship Program to introduce high school students to the water sector. Two students from Randolph Career Technical Education School in Detroit began a six-week internship at GLWA's Northeast Water Treatment Facility. The students are working with GLWA's maintenance crew and learning the importance of preventive and corrective maintenance to keep the water flowing.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (continued)

### *Outreach and Events*

The team participated in career awareness and recruiting events at Focus: HOPE's Career Fair in Detroit and Oakland County's Blue Planet Jobs events at Cranbrook Institute of Science in Bloomfield Hills and The Hawk in Farmington Hills. Additionally, the team attended a Race to Talent™ event in Grosse Pointe Shores, sponsored by the State of Michigan's Department of Labor & Economic Opportunity and Michigan Works!, which focused on workforce strategies and registered apprenticeships.



*GLWA engineers, Naia Peters and Alyssa Gruda, are presenting to high school students at the Blue Planet Jobs Career Event at The Hawk*



*GLWA chemist Libby Grant, and engineers Naia Peters and Alyssa Gruda, are discussing water sector jobs and the water cycle with high school students at the Blue Planet Jobs Career Event at The Hawk*

## ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)



*GLWA chemists, Kevin Bracco and Libby Grant, are preparing chemistry demonstrations for high school students at the Blue Planet Jobs Career Event at The Hawk*

### **Benefits and Wellness**

During March, fourteen well-being sessions were delivered to team members under three pillars of well-being: physical, mental and financial.

#### ***Pillar 1: Physical Well-being***

During the month of March, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Virtual Well-being team led the following wellness discussions:

- **National Nutrition Month:** Explored practical ways to prioritize nutrient-dense foods on a budget, connect with local farmers, and fuel daily energy needs.
- **World Sleep Day:** Encouraged employees to commit to healthier sleep habits in recognition of World Sleep Day 2026.
- **Boosting Health in Unexpected Ways:** Reviewed unexpected, odd ways cited by researchers to boost your health and overall well-being.
- ***What Nature Personality Are You***  
Discussed different types of nature personalities to help connect to nature, your own self-awareness and well-being, and eventually, discover more fulfilling ways to connect with the world around you through connection to the natural world.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (continued)

### ***Pillar 2: Mental Well-being***

In March, the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Virtual Well-being team guided GLWA team members through four meditation practices: Alternate Nostril Breathing to promote calm, a Body Scan for Compassion to increase body awareness, Practice Positivity to unwind and reconnect with inner strength, and the Butterfly Hug technique to support emotional balance and stress reduction.

### ***Pillar 3: Financial Well-being***

#### *GLWA Men's Health Initiative*



*GLWA Team members engaged with the Plante Moran team at Central Services Facility.*

In March, five “Practical Money Decisions for Life” sessions were delivered to 106 team members at CSF and WRRF. The sessions were facilitated by financial experts from Plante Moran, Public Service Credit Union, and GreenPath Financial.



*Manager Public Affairs, Curtis Burris-White addresses team members on the importance of the financial education session.*

## **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (continued)

March's retirement plan lunch and learn served 21 team members, and MissionSquare Specialist Jake Mitchell provided six one-on-one sessions to review individual retirement goals portfolio performance.

The Women's Health Initiative hosted its monthly virtual networking session to support collaboration and inspire women in GLWA. This event highlighted several women in the organization with international backgrounds as we recognized International Women's Day. Four speakers shared how their global experiences shaped their perspectives on health, career motivation, and navigating success in their careers as well as how they prioritize self-care while managing demanding schedules.



*Kashmira Patel, Life Cycle  
Project Manager  
Wastewater Engineering*



*Hajra Noor, IT Business  
Analyst - IT Project  
Management Office*



*Kaisra Osman, Manager -  
Enterprise Asset  
Management*



*Dima El-Gamal, Director -  
Capital Improvement  
Planning*

## **TRAINING**

During March, 47 instructor-led training courses were delivered to 263 GLWA team members, totaling 265 instructor-led training hours. In addition, 85 online self-paced training courses (e.g., KnowBe4 and 360Water) were completed, totaling 68.5 self-paced training hours.

## **Talent Management**

### Staffing

The table below provides a breakdown of GLWA Team Members since the last CEO report:

Number of New Hires	18
Number of Separations	5
<b>Total Staffing - Regular FTEs (YTD)</b>	
Total Staffing - Regular FTEs (YTD)	1135
<b>Total Staffing - Part-Time (YTD)</b>	
Total Staffing - Part-Time (YTD)	11

## **FINANCIAL SERVICES AREA**

### ***March Audit Committee Recap***

The March regular monthly Audit Committee meeting was held on March 27, 2026. The GLWA Audit Committee binders are publicly available at [www.glwater.org/financials/](http://www.glwater.org/financials/). The meeting included the following topics:

The following reports were received and filed:

- ✓ CFO Report
- ✓ Monthly Financial Report for December 2025
- ✓ Gifts, Grants & Other Resources Report through February 2026
- ✓ Quarterly Construction Work in Progress Report through December 2025
- ✓ Procurement Month Recognition
- ✓ Procurement Pipeline for January 2026

The following items were unanimously recommended to the Board of Directors for approval.

- ✓ Resolution Regarding Approval of Series Ordinance Authorizing Issuance and Sale of Water Supply System Revenue and Revenue Refunding Bonds
- ✓ Resolution Regarding Approval of Series Ordinance Authorizing Issuance and Sale of Sewage Disposal System Revenue and Revenue Refunding Bonds
- ✓ Resolution to Adopt the Great Lakes Water Authority Project Plans for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Funding Consideration
- ✓ Resolution to Adopt the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) Water System Improvements Project Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Funding Consideration
- ✓ FY 2026 Third Quarter Budget Amendments through March 31, 2026, and Proposed Budget Amendment Resolution
- ✓ FY 2027 Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP) Funding Allocation Authorization and Related Service Delivery Partner Contract Amendments

### ***GLWA Team Member Fosters State Chapter of National Grants Management Association***



*Alicia Schwartz attends the National Grants Management Annual Training*

In March, Alicia Schwartz, Grants Manager, **was instrumental in formally establishing a Michigan Chapter of the National Grants Management Association (NGMA)**. The Michigan Chapter will help provide greater regional access to NGMA resources, encourage networking among fellow Michigan grant management professionals, and further strengthen GLWA grant opportunities. Alicia will be serving as Chapter Chair during the inauguration of this chapter.

The new chapter was officially announced during the training attended the NGMA Annual Grants Training. There were over 1,900

## **FINANCIAL SERVICES AREA** (continued)

attendees at the three-day, in-person program – this is the largest training event of its kind in the nation. This year attendees were offered over 75 breakout sessions and 20 roundtable discussions during the event.

### ***Procurement Update***

The March Procurement Pipeline is attached. This edition includes tips on what vendors can expect from a solicitation debriefing meeting as well as a reminder to our vendor partners to maintain updated contact information. This month's Pipeline also includes a list of upcoming solicitations.

## **OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL**

***Legislative Updates:*** The Office continues to monitor legislative activity. The OGC continues working with others to develop state stormwater utility legislation, and continuing discussions with members of the U.S. Congress, staffers, and various representatives of several regulatory agencies to discuss various GLWA projects and capital improvement plans. OGC staff attended the “Regulatory Outlook: Preparing for the Upcoming Microbial Disinfection Byproduct Rule” webinar on March 11, 2026.

***Gordie Howe International Bridge:*** GLWA filed a notice of claim with the Court of Claims related to its relocation claim. Recently, the Court entered a Stipulated Scheduling Order and Mediation was conducted for ½ day on December 6, 2024. Each party rejected Magistrate Mona Majzoub's proposal. Michigan Department of Transportation's (MDOT) Motion for Protective Order was denied.

GLWA's expert witness has been deposed, and Discovery is now closed. On July 24, 2025, counsel for GLWA filed dispositive motions on the Breach of Contract and Promissory Estoppel Claims. A trial date will be set after any dispositive motions are filed, heard and decided.

***June and July 2021 Rain Events:*** The Office is providing legal support in response to the significant rain events in June and July 2021. The trial court dismissed most of the lawsuits against GLWA based on governmental immunity. The Plaintiffs are appealing the decision, and oral arguments were heard on January 7, 2025. The Court dismissed an additional lawsuit related to the July 2021 storm event. The Plaintiffs appealed that decision. On August 21, 2025, the Court of Appeals REVERSED and REMANDED the case back to the Circuit Court. GLWA has filed leave to appeal the Court of Appeals decision with the Supreme Court. There were no new lawsuits received by GLWA this month regarding 2021 rain events.

On October 2, 2025, the Court of Appeals (COA) reversed the Summary Disposition granted in favor of GLWA in the ***Dubrulle litigation***. These consolidated appeals involve suits to

## **OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL (continued)**

recover damages arising from sewer backups that happened during the severe rain event in the Metro Detroit area in June 2021. The COA reversed the dismissal of GLWA on the basis that dismissal was premature; and that Plaintiffs should be allowed discovery as to proximate causation. GLWA plans to appeal the COA reversal to the Michigan Supreme Court. The application for leave to the Supreme Court has been filed.

***Negotiations with the City of Dearborn:*** GLWA and Dearborn have approved an Outline of Terms for resolution of issues of mutual concern. The parties are working to finalize a model contract for Dearborn.

***Highland Park Settlement Agreement:*** On February 14, 2024, the GLWA Board voted to approve of the settlement agreement in final (or next to final) form. On March 18, 2024, the Highland Park City Council unanimously approved the Settlement Agreement between GLWA and the City. The trust has been funded and the initial distributions from the trust have been received. On June 10, 2024, the following Stipulated Orders were submitted to the Court: a stipulated order to dismiss the 2014 case; a stipulation for dismissal of the 2023 appeal from the 2014 case; a stipulated order for dismissal of the 2020 case; and a stipulated order for release of the cash bond to GLWA in the federal case.

As of this reporting, all stipulated Orders have been entered by the courts, and the cash bond in the federal case has been returned to GLWA. The parties, along with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) have agreed to water meter locations and two of the three meters have now been installed. The third and final water meter is planned to be completed in October. Wastewater meters are present at the majority of the connections between the City and GLWA and a group of technical representatives from both parties are reviewing calibration and quality control measures.

***Mays, et al v GLWA:*** The Court recently entered an order partially granting GLWA's Motion for Summary Disposition and partially dismissing Plaintiffs' claims. Plaintiffs' have filed an appeal which is currently pending.

***General Mill v GLWA and DWSD:*** This was a class action challenge to DWSD's stormwater billing methodology. Plaintiffs' counsel has offered to dismiss the action without prejudice.

***Wolf, et al v GLWA:*** On March 11, 2025, Plaintiff Laurence Wolf filed Case No. 25-003683-CZ in Wayne County Circuit Court against the Great Lakes Water Authority. This putative class action challenges the Industrial Waste Control Charges GLWA charges its non-residential property owners. GLWA plans to vigorously defend this action. GLWA filed a Summary Disposition motion on May 22, 2025, as there is a good faith belief that the alleged claims are a restatement of the same "Tax Claims" from a previous case known as: *General Mills, et al vs GLWA*, which was disposed in 2023. On January 22, 2026, the Court denied GLWA's motion. GLWA intends on filing an appeal with the Michigan Court of Appeals. In the meantime, unless the case is stayed, the parties will proceed with discovery.

## **OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL (continued)**

**Ahmed v GLWA et. al.:** On June 25, 2025, Plaintiff Shakil Ahmed, a former GLWA employee, filed Case No. 25-009883-CD in Wayne County Circuit Court against the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) and a GLWA employee, alleging violations of the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act. GLWA plans to vigorously defend this action. On July 9, 2025, counsel for GLWA filed an Order Extending Time for a responsive pleading to be filed. Mr. Ahmed also has an active workman's compensation claim against GLWA. On August 19, 2025, counsel for GLWA filed its Motion to Dismiss. The hearing on the motion is October 27, 2025. On November 5, 2025, the Court denied our Motion to Dismiss. We have filed an application of appeal to the Court's decision and are awaiting a decision from the Court of Appeals as to whether it will take the case.

**Clark vs GLWA:** On September 5, 2025, Plaintiff Maurice Clark filed a Premises Liability claim based on the injuries he allegedly sustained while working at the Springwells Water Treatment Plant. Through counsel, GLWA plans to vigorously defend this lawsuit. However, GLWA has tendered the defense and indemnity for this matter to the general contractor's insurance carrier and a substitution of counsel is in process.

**Liberty Mutual Takeover Agreement re: Weiss Construction business wind-down:** The Office, with the assistance of outside counsel, successfully negotiated a Takeover Agreement on GLWA Contract No. 2103350, "Pump Station No. 1 Improvements", whereby Liberty Mutual, the surety for contractor Weiss Construction, will supply a completion contractor to complete all work on the contract. The total value of this contract is \$91M, approximately \$56M of which will be completed under the takeover agreement.

**Trenton Water Main:** The Office is negotiating the transfer of the 24-inch water main to GLWA.

**96-inch Water Transmission Main:** OGC continues to negotiate and acquire easements related to Phase 3 of the project.

**36-inch Water Transmission Main Break:** OGC assisted with the investigation and filing of damage claims with MISSDIG, LARA, and XTREME Powerline Construction, Inc. OGC continues to negotiate and update damage claims related to the project.

**Wastewater Contract Negotiations:** The Office is negotiating 30-year wastewater disposal services contracts with sewer Member Partners that do not have a model contract. This project is currently on hold.

**Water Contract Reopener Meetings:** The Office is actively engaged in the 2026 water contract reopener meetings. The model water contract requires discussion and possible amendment of members' contract values, primarily max day and peak hour, on a 4-year cycle. The last such reopening process occurred in 2022. The contract reopener team, consisting of Matt Lane, Laurie Koester, an engineering consultant and a facilitation

## **OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL (continued)**

consultant, will meet with 87 members from February through September. The Board can expect to see the amendments arising from these meetings beginning in May 2026.

***Environmental and Workplace Safety Compliance:*** The Office continues to work with the Chief Operating Officers and team leaders from both the water and sewer systems to comply with regulations and to respond to any alleged violations. OGC staff attended an overview of the Digital Transformation at Columbia, SC Water system and a webinar on “Securing Tomorrow’s Water: Strategies for Source Water Protection.”

***NPDES Permit Negotiations:*** OGC staff continue to coordinate with Waste Water Operations to negotiate NPDES Permit terms. A negotiation meeting was held April 6, and the parties resolved several issues. The top remaining issues include proposed new PFOS requirements and additional sampling protocols. The next negotiation meeting is expected in May, 2026.

***Federal Grants and Contracts:*** The OGC has commenced a checklist of the necessary changes that GLWA must make to its policies, standard operating procedures, and federal contract exhibits in compliance with the new Uniform Grants Guidance, which has become effective October 1, 2024.

***Industrial Pretreatment Program (“IPP”) & Industrial Waste Control Group (IWC):*** The Office continues to provide assistance on PFAS and PFOS matters. OGC staff has resolved a recent confidentiality request related to PFAS systems configurations. Negotiations continue with Marathon, Inc. regarding their IPP Permit and a Notice of Non-Compliance. Discussion continues with EGLE regarding proposed PFAS/PFOS requirements in the pending NPDES Permit.

***Real Estate:*** The Office is working to secure licenses, easements, and acquire properties related to various water and sewer projects including the Farmington Newburgh Facility Improvements. Additionally, OGC staff fields inquiries related to GLWA property purchases and sales. In the matter of *GLWA v. Goch Properties*, a settlement conference was held before Judge Hathaway on March 18, 2026. The Court adjourned the settlement conference for another thirty (30) days while the parties continue negotiations.

***Member Outreach and Training:*** The Office continues to be an active participant in Member Outreach sessions and other training. OGC staff attended “Real talk: AI reliability and hallucinations in the Courts” and “Succession Planning: Preparing and Empowering the Next Generation” webinars presented by the Defense Research Institute.

***Main Relocations/Repairs:*** The Office continues to support water operations in its discussions with community stakeholders regarding water main relocations and repairs. The Dorothy Dickerson Valve, 96”, 42” and 36” projects continue with property acquisitions, damage claims resolution, maintenance and management.

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL (continued)**

**Civil Litigation and Arbitrations:** The Office continues to vigorously defend all actions against GLWA. On June 3, 2025, this office received a Notice of Intent to sue regarding the 54-inch Water Main Transmission failure in Southwest Detroit. While no Complaint has been filed in this proposed Class Action, Plaintiffs are alleging a “sewage disposal system event in an effort to avoid Governmental Immunity.


**Labor Relations:** The Office continues to provide legal advice to Organizational Development on labor relations and employment matters.

**Procurement:** The Office continues to assist GLWA’s Procurement Team negotiate contracts, change orders and amendments and interpret contractual provisions. The Office is also assisting with the Procurement Policy’s Procedures and updating GLWA’s template contracts. The Office is part of a cross-functional team working to complete significant revisions to the GLWA construction contract, including consideration of using an entirely new contract format. The Office continues to provide advice on federal grant compliance.

**Statistics:**

<b><i>Contract Statistics for March 10, 2026 to April 7, 2026</i></b>	<b>#</b>
Contracts approved as to form:	40
Contracts drafted or revised:	90
<b><i>Subpoena Statistics for March 1, 2026 to March 31, 2026</i></b>	
Subpoenas/Information requests received:	14
Subpoenas/Information responded to:	9

Respectfully submitted,

  
Suzanne R. Coffey, P.E.  
Chief Executive Officer

SRC/rb/dlr  
Attachment:



Welcome to the March edition of *The Procurement Pipeline*, a monthly newsletter designed to provide updates on doing business with the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA).

### **Procurement Tip of the Month: What to Expect from a Solicitation Debriefing Meeting**

Vendors not selected for award may request a solicitation debrief meeting with GLWA procurement. The purpose of a solicitation debrief meeting is to provide Vendors feedback so that they may improve future solicitation responses. During the meeting, Vendors can expect the following.

- ✓ An explanation of GLWA's evaluation and award process.
- ✓ An assessment of their proposal in relation to the solicitation's evaluation criteria, including feedback on suggested improvements as well as areas in which the Vendor's response met or exceeded expectations.
- ✓ A general understanding of the basis of the award decision.
- ✓ The rationale for not moving forward in the evaluation process.

Debriefing meetings are reserved for Request for Proposal (RFP) solicitations, where a qualifications-based selection (QBS) method was used. This means that vendors were selected for award based on their qualifications and competence in relation to the scope and needs of a project, rather than based on price alone.

To protect the integrity of GLWA's procurement process, solicitation debriefing meetings can only be conducted after the solicitation contract and/or purchase order has been executed and only if you responded to the solicitation. Please note that buyers cannot discuss responses from other vendors. If you would like to schedule a solicitation debriefing meeting, please contact the Buyer of Record for the solicitation.

### **Reminder: Maintaining Updated Contact Information in Your Euna Vendor Profile**

Maintaining updated contact information in your Euna vendor profile is key to staying informed about GLWA. This is because GLWA uses our Euna database to distribute communications to the Vendor Community. Vendors should consider a distribution-style email address (e.g., [procurementopportunities@yourcompany.com](mailto:procurementopportunities@yourcompany.com)) which automatically sends notifications to multiple individuals. This ensures your company receives communications even if one or more personnel are unavailable at the time of sending, or when experiencing employee turnover. Any questions about your Euna vendor profile may be directed to [GLWAVendorOutreach@glwater.org](mailto:GLWAVendorOutreach@glwater.org).

### **Virtual Vendor Introduction Meetings**

If you are interested in learning more about doing business with GLWA, contact us at [GLWAVendorOutreach@glwater.org](mailto:GLWAVendorOutreach@glwater.org) to schedule a virtual vendor introduction meeting. Topics include information on submitting a competitive bid or proposal to any GLWA solicitation.

### **Keeping up with GLWA**

Our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Monthly Report provides a wealth of information and news about important initiatives within GLWA's service territory that impact GLWA, its member partners, and the public. To read the February 2026 Monthly Report, please [click here](#).

### **What's Coming Down the Pipe?**

*Current Solicitations:* Register in GLWA's [Euna Procurement Portal](#) for new solicitations and contract award information.

*Upcoming Procurements: Next Three to Nine Months*—See newsletter page 2.

### **Visit GLWA online!**

To see the GLWA vendor homepage, please visit [www.glwater.org](http://www.glwater.org) or contact us via email at [procurement@glwater.org](mailto:procurement@glwater.org).

## Upcoming Solicitations March 2026

Category	CIP #	Description/Project Title	Budget Estimate
<b>Water System (next four to nine months)</b>			
Construction	122020	Concord and Nevada Flow Control Valves	\$7,000,000
Construction	111012	Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant Flocculation Improvements	\$60,000,000
<b>Wastewater Systems (next four to nine months)</b>			
Construction	232002	Conner Creek Sanitary Pump Station	\$167,000,000
Construction	260206	Rehabilitation of 7 Mile Sewer System	\$9,800,000
Design	261001	WRRF Rehabilitation of the Secondary Clarifiers Phase 1	\$8,000,000
Construction	261001	WRRF Rehabilitation of the Secondary Clarifiers Phase 1 -	\$30,000,000
<b>Enterprise (next three months)</b>			
N/A			
<b>Water System (next three months)</b>			
Construction	111001	Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant – LH-401 Switchgear and Low Lift Improvements	\$125,000,000
Professional	116101	Design/ Inspection of Raw Water Tunnels	\$4,242,000
Construction	132016	North Service Center Pumping Station Improvements	\$108,322,551
<b>Wastewater (next three months)</b>			
Design	270002	Meldrum Sewer Diversion and VR-15 Improvements	\$2,000,000
Construction	260210	Rehabilitation of GLWA Sewers: Ashland Relief, Linwood, Second, and Shiawassee (AL2S)	\$14,100,000
Design	270009	Site Improvements at Baby Creek, Belle Isle and St. Aubin CSO	\$1,500,000
Professional	O&M	Staffing Services	\$500,000
Construction	122020	Concord Nevada Flow Control Valves	\$7,000,000
Construction	122021	Grosse Pointe Woods & Harper Woods 24" Transmission Main	\$17,000,000
Design-Build	170803	Reservoir Rehabilitation Phase III	\$51,830,000
Professional Services	O&M & 170507	Water Transmission, Valve, Emergency and Other Urgent Repairs	\$22,000,000
Construction	122007	Merriman Road 24-inch Water Transmission Main	\$6,817,000
Construction	132015	Newburgh Road Booster Pumping Station Improvements	\$66,000,000
Construction	122023	Adams Road Transmission Main	\$8,400,000
Professional	O&M	Preventative Maintenance and Repair of Electrical Equipment	\$9,684,080
Construction	211009	Primary Area Gas Detection Upgrade and Switchgear SD-1 Replacement at Electrical Building EB-20	\$7,000,000
Construction	122007	Merriman Road 24-inch Water Transmission Main	\$6,817,000

Vendors should continue to monitor [Euna](#) for solicitation updates.

Acronyms		
WRRF: Water Resource Recovery Facility	CSO: Combined Sewer Overflow	WTP: Water Treatment Plant