

HISTORICAL TIMELINE OF THE REGIONAL WATER RESOURCE AGENCY (RWRA)

1930's – Three main tunnel sewers constructed (Locust Street, Dublin Lane and Center Street).

1956 – Three main lift stations (Locust Street, Dublin Lane and Center Street) constructed to convey sewage from the tunnel sewers to a newly constructed West Wastewater Treatment Plant. Prior to the construction of the plant and lift stations, all sewage was discharged untreated to the Ohio River.

1974 – Major renovation to West Wastewater Treatment Plant that included the implementation of biological secondary treatment.

Late 1970's – Development of 201 Facilities Plan submitted to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) which was denied. This submittal included the existing Owensboro Sewer Commission service area.

Early 1980's – Resubmitted 201 Facilities Plan with expanded service area into unincorporated areas of Daviess County, excluding Whitesville; approved by Environmental Protection Agency. The Owensboro-Daviess County community received an approximate \$10 million grant to provide expanded service within the approved planning area.

1984-85 – East Wastewater Treatment Plant constructed and received only sanitary flow that had been redirected from the existing combined system. This project began RWRA's approach to improving conditions within the combined system and to reduce CSO discharges.

1985 – present – RWRA has constructed numerous projects to redirect sanitary sewage from the combined system to the constructed East Wastewater Treatment Plant. These projects are all CSO initiatives.

Late 1980's – Various subdivisions outside of the Owensboro Sewer Commission's jurisdiction requested sewer service without the prerequisite of annexation. Lawsuit filed against Owensboro Sewer Commission to provide such sewer service without requirement of annexation.

Early 1990's – EPA and Kentucky Division of Water (KDOW) sanctions against Owensboro Sewer Commission regarding a requirement of annexation for sewer service. Both agencies involved in Agreed Order for the Owensboro-Daviess County community that restricted growth without regional sewer service.

1992 – Management Advisory Committee (MAC) appointed by Mayor David Adkisson and Judge-Executive Buzz Norris to determine form of entity to be established to best provide wastewater services for both City and County jurisdictions based upon the established Agreed Order.

1994 – The City of Owensboro and Daviess County Fiscal Court approved Management Advisory Committee’s recommendation to establish a joint sewer agency under KRS 76.231 for the Daviess County service area. Joint Enabling Ordinances approved by both legislative bodies.

March 1, 1995 – Regional Water Resource Agency established as joint City/County agency, succeeding the Owensboro Sewer Commission. This established a regional entity to provide wastewater services. All Owensboro Sewer Commission assets were absorbed by RWRA.

1995 – 1996 –MAC developed recommendation for the establishment of a stormwater utility based on requirements of the Joint Enabling Ordinances.

1995 – present – RWRA has established a ongoing program to reline sewers with Cured-In-Place-Pipe (CIPP) technology for numerous deteriorated sewers. This project is a CSO initiative.

1996 – Based on the recommendations of MAC, the City of Owensboro elected officials voted 5-0 to establish RWRA as City/County stormwater utility; County elected officials voted 2-2 to establish RWRA as City/County stormwater utility; City/County stormwater utility not established due to lack of affirmative vote by both City and County. Enabling Ordinances amended to allow the creation of a stormwater utility in the respective jurisdictions of each governmental entity at a later date.

1996 - 1997 – Major renovation of East Wastewater Treatment Plant. This project is a CSO initiative.

1996 - 1997 – Due to the extension of sewer service and the elimination of package treatment plants in new service areas (e.g., Highway 54), a lawsuit was filed by Consolidated Management System (CMS) against RWRA regarding compensation for loss of revenue from package treatment plant customers. RWRA successfully argued that treatment plant permits require connection to public systems like RWRA without compensation.

Mid to Late 1990’s – EPA enacted the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Policy which required communities to submit CSO annual reports with which RWRA has complied since requirement was implemented.

1997 - Construction of Joseph A. Murphy Operations Building.

July 1997 – Extended sewer service to Highway 54 corridor; established and began charging System Development and Capacity Fees to customers. The System Development charges were associated with capital improvements for new areas; the Capacity charges applied to all new customers after July 1997.

July 1997 - Construction of Horse Fork Creek Pump Station which allowed for rerouting of sanitary sewage from the combined sewer system to East Wastewater Treatment Plant. This project is a CSO initiative.

July 1997 – Began performing stormwater maintenance work for City of Owensboro under “Decision 2002” program.

1997 – present - Provided system development expansion into the Highway 60 West, Highway 60 East, and Yellow Creek corridors. This expansion, along with the Highway 54 corridor expansion, eliminated 24 package treatment plants, along with the acquisition of the customers that discharged to these facilities.

1998 – present – Began a systematic program of extension of sewer services to various subdivisions/areas outside of the existing service area within the established 201 Planning Area Boundary. Many of these extensions allowed for expansion into surrounding adjacent areas. These included in chronological order the following: 1) Sorgho Elementary, Whispering Meadows/Gardenside Subdivisions; 2) Community Development Block Grant 1 (CDBG#1) – Reynolds/Greenbriar/Thruston Heights and Andy Thoma Subdivisions; 3) Brownwood Manor; 4) Eagle Crest/Hayden Park; 5) Community Development Block Grant 2 (CDBG#2) – Glenn Court, Maple Heights, Brown Addition and Westerfield Drive subdivisions/areas; 6) Thruston area; 7) Woodland Ridge; 8) Glennview Subdivision (Coal Severance Grant); 9) Stoneybrook Subdivision; 10) Broadacre (Coal Severance); 11) Riverside/Coast Guard Lane/Highlands (Coal Severance Grant); 12) North KY Hwy 81 (Coal Severance); and 13) Vincent Station Road. These expansion efforts since the formation of RWRA, along with system growth, have added approximately 5,000 customers.

1999 – Lawsuit filed by Homebuilders Association against RWRA regarding upfront system development charges for new development. Judgment rendered by Court regarding system development fee payment in favor of RWRA.

1999 – 2000 – Major renovation of West Wastewater Treatment Plant (Max Rhoads Treatment Plant), Locust Street Lift Station and Dublin Lane Lift Station. This project is a CSO initiative.

July 1, 2002 – Continued stormwater maintenance work for City of Owensboro under City “Your Community Vision” program.

2004 – Major sewer tunnel collapse on Frederica Streets between 22nd and 24th streets (approximately \$2.3 million cost).

2005 – RWRA partnered with the City of Owensboro to construct a major separation chamber located at First and Locust Streets to separate stormwater drainage in the area and to improve flow/drainage characteristics within the ravine sewer watershed. This project is a CSO initiative.

2005 – RWRA partnered with the Green River District Health Department to construct a detention basin behind the health department facility on Breckenridge Street. This project significantly reduced flooding in the area, along with providing for a reduction in CSO discharges. This project is a CSO initiative.

2006 – 2008 - Upgrade of Center Street Lift Station. This improvement significantly increased the amount of combined sewage that could be conveyed to the Max Rhoads Plant for treatment during rain events. This project is a CSO initiative.

2006 – 2008 - Construction of Center Street Force Main in partnership with Owensboro Grain from the Owensboro Grain facility near Center Street to the Max Rhoads Treatment Plant. Total project cost approximately \$7 million, with a contribution from Owensboro Grain of over \$4.2 million. This project is a CSO initiative.

2006 – 2007 – Development of Consent Judgment between Kentucky Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet (“the Cabinet”) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

2007 – 2008 – Partnered with Owensboro Municipal Utilities and City of Owensboro to improve drainage and reduce stormwater conveyed to combined system through project adjacent to Daviess County Middle School/OMU Water Plant. This project is a CSO initiative.

2007 – 2008 - Partnered with City of Owensboro on combined sewer separation projects (e.g., Harsh Ditch drainage improvement project and Goetz Ditch drainage improvement project). These projects are CSO initiatives.

September 5, 2007 – Consent Judgment entered by Franklin Circuit Court with the Cabinet.

December 21, 2007 – Administrative Order issued by EPA stipulating shortened timeline and increased EPA involvement.

2008 – RWRA and the City of Owensboro partnered to develop a stormwater detention basin and piping extension at Parkview Drive and Parrish Avenue in conjunction with the ice arena construction to capture and detain stormwater in the combined system. This project is a CSO initiative.

September 2, 2008 – Submittal of Framework Document outlining RWRA’s general presumptive approach to address CSO improvements for the community to the Cabinet and EPA.

2008 – 2009 – RWRA approved a partnership with City of Owensboro for various CSO improvements (e.g., Veteran’s Boulevard Combined Sewer Reconstruction @ Riverwall, Scherm Ditch detention basis and Devins Ditch detention basin) to contribute \$836,000 toward these improvements. These projects are CSO initiatives.

2010 – present – RWRA is working with the City of Owensboro to design additional CSO/drainage improvements in the north Harsh Ditch Watershed and if approved, move forward with the capital construction necessary to accomplish these improvements.

2011 – RWRA, in conjunction with the City of Owensboro, completed the Veterans Boulevard sewer upgrade and extension across the former Executive Inn property to the Locust Street Tunnel System. This project will enable additional combined sewage to be transported under Veterans Boulevard to the Locust Tunnel System in order to be further conveyed to the Max Rhoads Treatment Plant for treatment during rain events.

2014 – RWRA completed the upgrades to the Locust Street Pump Station that increased the conveyance of combined sewage from the Locust Street Tunnel System to the Max Rhoads Treatment Plant. This project, along with the Veterans Boulevard sewer upgrade, is a CSO initiative.

2014 – RWRA completed the combined effort to construction the Parkview Drive area (former National Guard Armory location) detention basin project. This project enables the capture and detention of stormwater in the vicinity from entering the combined system and thus, reduces the volume of combined sewage generated within the area. The water captured within this basin is released into the combined system slowly after a rain event occurs. This project is a CSO initiative.

2014 – RWRA and the City of Owensboro began the construction of a stormwater/wastewater separation project in the Harsh Ditch Fairgrounds Area located in the southern portion of the eastern tunnel sewer system. This project is designed to remove approximately 98 acres of stormwater introduction into the combined system and also to ultimately remove a significant number (450+ ERUs) of properties that discharge wastewater flow into the combined sewer system as well. This project is consistent with RWRA’s approach to remove mass of pollutants consistent with the CSO Policy.

2015 – RWRA in conjunction with stormwater improvements that the City of Owensboro is in the process of constructing in the Scherm Ditch watershed extending along Kentucky Parkway to the Wesleyan Park vicinity is participating in this project which removes stormwater from the combined sewer system thus eliminating potential overflow volume downstream. This project enables the community to do further wastewater separation in the area that is consistent with RWRA’s approach for its Long-Term Control Plan. This project is a CSO initiative.

2015 – RWRA is working in conjunction with the City of Owensboro to extend a stormwater line along Frederica Street from the intersection of 2nd Street to 3rd Street

along with the additional appurtenances enables the collection and conveyance of stormwater from the area around 3rd Street to be conveyed north into a stormwater outfall. This project reduces the total acreage (approximately 5.7 acres) that discharges stormwater into the combined sewer system in the vicinity of Frederica and 3rd Streets. This project is a CSO initiative.

2015 – RWRA began the Masonville Sewer Extension Project to provide sewer service to 216 homes that are currently served by a failing package plant and failing septic systems. This is a CSO initiative.

2016 – The Community’s Long-Term Control Plan was approved by Kentucky Division of Water and accepted by EPA. A 10-year timeframe for completion of the projects in the LTCP was approved. The deadline for completion of these projects shall be December 2026.

2016 - RWRA began the Hayden Road project to provide sewer service to 129 homes that are currently served by failing septic systems. This is a CSO initiative.

2016 – RWRA began the design of the Southwest Master Pump Station to redirect flow from the David Hawes Wastewater Treatment Plant to Max Rhoads Wastewater Treatment Plant. This is a CSO initiative.

2016 – RWRA began the design of UV disinfection system at both the Max Rhoads Wastewater Treatment Plant and the David Hawes Wastewater Treatment Plant. The UV disinfection method replaces the current chlorine disinfection system.

2016 – RWRA began the construction of the UV disinfection system at the Max Rhoads Wastewater Treatment Plant.

2017 – RWRA was appointed receiver by the Franklin Circuit Court of two local failing wastewater package plants. These two plants, Cedar Hills (125 homes) and Friendly Park (94 homes), will be operated and maintained by RWRA during the design and construction phase of the trunk lines to each location. Once the trunk lines are constructed, the two package plants will be decommissioned and residents currently served by these two plants will become customers of RWRA.