

# Monroe Street Lift Station Improvements Project

The existing Monroe Street Lift Station was originally constructed in the 1960s as part of the South Interceptor Sewer Project. With three wet-weather pumps in service, the lift station has the capability to deliver up to 60 million gallons per day (MGD), but is currently limited to approximately 40 MGD.

The diversion structure, screens, and the lift station were designed to pump into the Missouri River Water Resource Recovery Facility (MRWRRF) via one 42-inch force main. In 1996, improvements were made to the Monroe Street Lift Station grit basin, a new conveyor was installed, Pump 2 was replaced with a smaller, dry-weather pump with a 9 MGD capacity, and a generator was added.

The current improvements planned for the lift station include upgrading the diversion structure and lift station to reliably convey 60-65 MGD to the MRWRRF during wet weather events. Upgrades include refurbishing or replacing all equipment in the lift station, updating the facility to meet current code requirements, improving grit collection and removal, screenings improvements, structural refurbishment, and replacement of the existing pumps and motors. Real-time-controls and gate replacements will occur in the diversion structure to maximize conveyance of flows to the newly expanded MRWRRF headworks for treatment of up to 150 MGD of wet weather flows while reducing the number of CSO discharges at CSO 119.

## PROJECT BENEFITS

The main benefits of this project will be a reduction of combined sewage discharged to the Missouri River and maximization of flows to the new MRWRRF headworks for treatment during wet weather events. Additional benefits will include a fully upgraded and reliable lift station which will reduce maintenance and operations efforts by City staff.



### PROJECT SCHEDULE:

Construction is anticipated to begin fall 2021.



### PROJECT LOCATION:

At the south end of the Missouri River Water Resource Recovery Facility, along the west bank of the Missouri River and northeast of Mandan Park.



Omaha’s wastewater infrastructure includes a combined sewer system. This system collects rainwater runoff, domestic sewage and industrial wastewater into a pipe conveyance system. In times of severe wet weather, the system has the potential to reach or exceed capacity causing backups or overflow to nearby streams, creeks and the Missouri River without treatment, causing potential risk to human health, wildlife and the environment. In 2006, in an effort to comply with Environmental Protection Agency and the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) water quality requirements, the City of Omaha initiated the Clean Solutions for Omaha (CSO) Program to study, plan and update infrastructure to improve and ensure water quality in the community.

**As a result, Omaha and its CSO Program are among more than 772 U.S. cities required by federal mandate to improve water quality in local rivers and streams.**

## IMPROVED WATER QUALITY HAS BENEFITS

Updating infrastructure dating back to the 1860s certainly creates significant challenges, but not without benefit. Aside from improving water quality for the community, projects offer opportunities for additional neighborhood enhancements including new streets, curbs, pedestrian ramps compliant with the American Disabilities Act and driveway approaches. New trees, plants and other green infrastructure features, such as bioswales, rain gardens or ponds for water retention add beauty and recreational features to some projects.

## FUNDING THE PROGRAM

The CSO Program is primarily financed by 30-year revenue bonds issued in increments periodically, as approved by the Mayor and City Council. Sewer fees will be used to pay off the bonds—60% from residential customers, 30% from industrial and commercial users, and 10% from regional customers who use the City’s sewer services.

## RATEPAYER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Recognizing that increased sewer use fees may become a hardship for some residents, in 2011 the City took a proactive role to identify and implement a Ratepayer Assistance Plan to help low and fixed income households. Ratepayers are eligible if they qualify and receive Lower Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) benefits from other local utilities. The Ratepayer Assistance Program helps keep administrative costs to a minimum while providing the maximum benefit to those who need it. **For assistance or to apply for Nebraska LIHEAP, call 800-383-4278.**

## JOB CREATION: LOCAL LABOR AND MATERIALS

The City and the CSO Program actively encourage local labor and the use of locally purchased or locally available materials. Through the City’s Small and Emerging Small Business (SEB) Program, businesses of all sizes have the opportunity to bid or work on CSO Program contracts and projects. **For more information about Small and Emerging Small Business opportunities, call 402-444-5055.**



A City of Omaha Public Works Initiative  
Report Street Flooding and Sewer Backups: 402-444-5332  
Contact the CSO Program Hotline: 402-341-0235  
Email: [Info@OmahaCSO.com](mailto:Info@OmahaCSO.com)