



CLEAR LAKE CITY WATER AUTHORITY PRESS RELEASE
For immediate release.

December 2019
Projects Status Report

The Clear Lake City Water Authority (CLCWA) strives to keep the water authority systems in top operational condition, at the lowest possible cost, through numerous preventative maintenance and systems' improvement projects executed throughout the service areas, and proudly provides this project status report for your information.

Increasing significant rain events such as Hurricane Harvey resulted in some localized areas within CLCWA to experience worsening residential flooding. Flood water drainage is a shared responsibility with Harris County, the cities involved, and the CLCWA. The CLCWA Board of Directors, staff, and consultants have completed studies, reviewed engineering recommendations, and considered design options for improvements in Meadowgreen, Bay Forest, and University Green. Although we continue to try to implement the improvements that are best suited to serve each area, inevitably some residents impacted have voiced opposition to certain proposals. We will continue to work with the other governments and all our residents to pursue what is best for the community.

Increased rain event flooding in the southeastern portion of the authority in lower-lying areas near standing bodies of water has caused issues with the older stormwater and sanitary sewer systems. The CLCWA Board of Directors requested an engineering study for the Taylor Lake Village area to determine if any modifications could minimize future sanitary sewer overflows and improve sanitary sewer flows during storm events. Despite putting significant effort and expense in to identifying stormwater infiltration sources, performing multiple rehabilitation phases to minimize infiltration, and extend the useful life of 60+ year-old infrastructure, the overflow issues were still occurring. After further assessments, the Board of Directors has authorized additional projects to further alleviate system overflow issues. These added projects are currently underway or planned in the near future. They include reversing the sewer flow in a section of Shorewood Drive, re-routing the flows between lift stations for a better balance according to their engineered performance capacity and increasing the capacity size. Also, lift station electrical components will be raised and installed in water-resistant panels to mitigate flood damage. Additionally, a new permanent generator is being installed at a critical lift station due to its historical loss of electrical power.

Exploration Green Phase 2 located between El Dorado and Reseda is substantially complete. Tropical Storm Imelda was its first great test and it performed well. To help with erosion control, native grass has been planted. Tree planting dates will begin in December and continue through

the Spring. If you are interested in helping with planting trees or wetland grass, please contact the Exploration Green Conservancy. Wetland grass planting will be scheduled for the Spring.

Exploration Green Phase 3A, just north of Phase 2 on the other side of El Dorado, is starting construction now and is projected to take one year to complete, not including weather delays. On El Dorado, between Torrey Pines and Diana, there will be a frequent lane closure and we ask for your patience and extra attention while driving in this area. A uniformed police officer will be on-site daily during working hours to help with pedestrians and traffic.

Exploration Green Phase 4 is in the permitting process and is expected to start construction in early 2020. This section is bordered between Reseda, Fairwind, Neptune, and Ramada. When all five phases are completed, Exploration Green will hold one half billion gallons of stormwater. This will help streets drain quicker and keep bayous lower during rain events.

All stormwater and sanitary sewer systems are regularly evaluated through televising and inspection. System rehabilitation activities are scheduled based on these evaluations. Please help us by making sure roof gutters and yard drains discharge onto your property or into the streets surrounding your property. Roof gutters or yard drains should never be connected to the sanitary sewer system. Stormwater drains should remain clear from leaves, grass clippings, pine needles, and debris. A public education notice is being finalized and will be sent out soon to explain in more detail how to identify these issues.

Rising above the Clear Lake area skyline is CLCWA's newest facility addition, a 500,000-gallon elevated storage tank located near Clear Lake City Blvd. and El Dorado. In a recent major construction milestone, the bowl was hoisted to sit on top of the concrete pedestal. The welding, interior tank work, and site work are scheduled to be completed just after the first of the new year. Due to the increasing development in that part of the authority, the new tank will ensure that adequate water pressure can be maintained during periods of high water consumption.

Lastly, fire hydrants across CLCWA are being re-painted and are scheduled by subdivision. With nearly 2,000 hydrants in the area, it takes some time to get to all of them, but we will complete the project as quickly as possible.

The CLCWA Board of Directors and staff thank our residents for their continued support. We will provide future updates as these projects progress and as we continue to do our best to serve all our 87,000 residents.

Sincerely,

Clear Lake City Water Authority