

Utilities

Element Name: Utilities
Chair: Dave Zimmerman
Members: Ron Bohn, Bryan Carey, Steve Vanden Heuvel & Laura Lemmen
City Representatives: Mike Frey

Introduction

Physical infrastructure encompasses existing communications and utility networks. Rebuilding the physical infrastructure of the City improves the local business climate and is critical to both the development and redevelopment of the City. Its construction and maintenance requires ongoing long-term capital improvement planning by the City, and can involve many other agencies.

Short Term Plan Suggestions (0 to 5 Years)

Priority - Depending when and if development occurs, some or all of the following could be considered short, medium, or long-term goals.

Refuse - The City currently contracts for its residential refuse and recycling collection. The City's current contract with Veolia Environmental Services expires December 31, 2010.

- (A) Review the contract to determine effectiveness.
- (B) Based upon the review, explore alternatives with current provider or with other possible providers.

Utilities (Electric, Water, Wastewater)

- (A) Infrastructure is dictated by the City's Capital Project Schedule.

East Side Interceptor Project

- (A) Continue current development plans for the East Side Interceptor Project.

Well Development

- (A) Continue seeking additional well sites.

Tax Increment Finance District #12 (Addition South of County Trunk O)

- (A) Consider the development of basic utility plans to accommodate future development in this area.

Medium Term Plan Suggestions (6 to 10 Years)

Depending when and if development occurs, some or all of the following could be considered short, medium, or long-term suggestions.

Medium Term Plan Suggestions (6 to 10 Years) Continued

- (1) East Side Interceptor Project - This project should be completed in this frame.
- (2) Tax Increment Finance District #13 – Should development occur, it will be necessary to install the utility projects identified in the Tax Increment Finance District #13 Plan.

Long Term Plan Suggestions (11 Years Plus)

1. Electric, Wastewater, Water Utilities – The City should continue to monitor and review the adequacy of its current systems to ensure demand is being met.

Summary

The City of Medford's infrastructure is the system by which it has been built and upon which it will continue to grow. To meet future demands on public utilities, the City will continue to focus on providing effective and safe systems for its residents.

Description of Existing Public Utilities

- (A) Sanitary Sewer Service – The City provides sanitary sewer service within its municipal limits. The Medford Wastewater Treatment plant is designed to treat a flow of 1.45 million gallons per day (mgd) (receiving an average of 1.01 mgd), while serving a population of nearly 4,400. Approximately 27% of the flow originates from industrial sources. Wastewater used in the City moves from homes, businesses, institutions, and industries via a sanitary sewer system to the Wastewater Treatment Facility. The Wastewater Treatment Facility removes wastes from the water before it is discharged into the Black River. The last major plant renovation was completed in 1988. A chlorination and dechlorination building was added in 1990, and ferric chloride phosphorus removal was added in 1999.
- (B) Water Service – The City of Medford Water Utility provides water service to approximately 2,072 customers located within the City limits. Residential customers consume approximately 45% of total annual water sales with the remaining portion being consumed by commercial, industrial, and public users. The Water System consists of five wells and two water towers with a well capacity of 1,584,000 gallons per day, excess capacity of 910,810 gallons per day, a storage capacity of 900,000 gallons, and 310 fire hydrants. In 1997, the City installed a system to monitor its five wells and one water tower. In 1999, the City developed Well #11, and established a new test bench for testing meters. In 2003, the City constructed its second water tower.
- (C) Stormwater Management – The goal of stormwater management is to prevent runoff from delivering pollutants or sediment to lakes, rivers, streams, or wetlands. Commonly applied stormwater management tools include: ditches, culverts, grassed causeways/waterways, rock chutes, retention basins, or settling ponds, curb and gutter, storm sewer, and construction site erosion control. State law requires certain construction sites, municipalities, and industrial sites to obtain Stormwater Discharge Permits from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Incorporated communities with a population less than 50,000 are not required to obtain a permit. Industrial sites are categorized based on their potential for contamination stormwater runoff. Currently, the City does not hold a Stormwater Discharge Permit from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.
- (D) Telecommunication Utilities – Local telephone services within the City of Medford is provided by TDS Telecom. Multiple companies are available to provide long distance telephone service, cell phone service, and Internet services.
- (E) Electric & Gas Utilities – The City-owned Electric Utility provides electrical services to residents in the City of Medford. Excel Energy provides natural gas to City residents.
- (F) Solid Waste Disposal – There are no open solid waste landfills within the City. Currently, Veolia ES Solid Waste Midwest, LLC and Waste Management are the only two City-licensed solid waste haulers.
- (G) Recycling Facilities – The Taylor County Zoning Department acts as the Responsible Unit for the City of Medford. However, the County does not manage the entire program, only the fiscal reporting elements are responsibility of the County. The City coordinates and manages its own recycling operations. Currently, Veolia ES Solid Waste Midwest, LLC and Waste Management are the only two City-licensed recycling haulers. In addition, Veolia ES Solid Waste Midwest LLC owns and operates a transfer station in the City.

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Water Tower #2



Well House #10

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Wastewater Utility Facility



Veolia Environmental Services' Transfer Station