Belton Opens Wastewater Treatment Facility

The City of Belton in 2017 completed an $11.5 million, state-of-the-art wastewater treatment plant and pumping station upgrade, located at 21200 S. Mullen Road. The plant represents a significant technological upgrade for the city of Belton’s wastewater treatment processes and features a new SCADA (Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition) system that alerts operators to potential problems with water pressure and flow, as well as equipment issues or malfunctions.

“Wastewater treatment provides an important public and environmental safety function, and this upgraded facility enables the City to keep closer tabs on operations, efficiency and capacity,” said Belton Public Works Director Celia Duran.

The upgraded wastewater treatment facility includes a new headworks building and influent pumping station, both of which replaced aging and outdated structures and were designed and constructed to accommodate projected flows outlined in the City’s Wastewater Treatment Master Plan.

The City utilized a low-interest loan program offered by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources’ State Revolving Fund Program to pay for construction of the facility after voters approved a bond issue funding the project in April 2013.

Carollo Engineers designed the facility, and Foley Company served as general contractor.

Columbia Improves Major Gateway With Vision Zero Lens, Sustainability Approach

A long-planned capital improvement to the intersection of Stadium Boulevard and Old Highway 63, that serves as an eastern gateway to Columbia, incorporates engineering strategies to satisfy goals of
safety, sustainability and aesthetics.

"We look at all infrastructure through a Vision Zero lens," Public Works Director David Nichols said. "New traffic signals, wider turn lanes, crosswalks with pedestrian islands, sidewalks, bike lanes and sustainable landscaping are all part of this project. It’s a ‘complete streets’ approach as we seek engineering solutions that provide safe access for all motorists, pedestrians and nonmotorized transportation users."


“Incorporating sustainable vegetation can reduce annual maintenance costs, staff time and even water usage in some areas,” Stone said.

Planting vegetation that is visually pleasing while also serving a purpose is key to sustainable design.

“Amazing rain gardens and native Missouri plants were incorporated into the landscaping design,” Stormwater Educator Michael Heimos said. “This improves stormwater quality and provides a habitat for local pollinators — an approach that makes our public works staff so innovative."

Visit CoMo.gov/PublicWorks/Stadium-OId63 to learn more about this project.

Grandview's Presidents Trail

The Truman Farm Home and Longview Lake are both popular destinations in Grandview, Missouri. Until now, they have only been reachable by car. The recently completed 2.5-mile Presidential Trail connects the two federal sites. They are now more accessible to everyone, especially pedestrians and bicyclists.

While Longview Lake had an existing loop trail, it was disconnected from other parts of the City. To create a seamless Presidential Trail, the City added pathways from the Farm Home south on Blue Ridge Boulevard, east along Harry Truman Drive, through Southview Park, and finally, connected it to the existing trail at Longview Lake east of Raytown Road. Crews installed special signage along the trail to highlight the history of the area and to connect the pathway visually.

The Presidential Trail has changed the way Grandview residents are accessing local attractions. This new multi-use trail connects neighborhoods to shopping and other amenities along Harry Truman Drive, and has improved neighborhoods. It is helping Grandview move forward.

Total project costs came out to $811,675 with Federal Land Access Program funds paying for $575,750. The City contributed the remainder. The project design firm was Affinis Corporation of Overland Park, Kansas, and the prime contractor was Amino Brothers of Kansas City, Kansas.
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Bistate Cooperation Reduces Turkey Creek Flood Risk In Kansas City

Since stormwater knows no political boundaries, a unique and focused effort by congressional delegations from two states, two municipalities in separate states, and a federal agency was needed to create a solution to reduce the risk of devastating floods along Southwest Boulevard in Kansas City, Missouri.

Turkey Creek flows through Kansas to the Kansas River, but heavy rains caused waters to overflow banks and flood small businesses along Southwest Boulevard. Kansas City, represented by KC Water, joined with the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the Turkey Creek Flood Risk Reduction Project.

The last phase of the 13-phase, 17-year project was begun in late 2017. Already, benefits are evident. Small businesses previously shuttered for weeks or months to clean up after bad floods gained new assurance that risk of business disruption would be significantly reduced. Road and rail thoroughfares became less susceptible to closure. Property values stabilized and are rising.

Lee’s Summit Municipal Airport

The Lee’s Summit Municipal Airport recently completed runway improvements that are expected to boost economic development and redevelopment in the City by providing another option for transportation and accessibility.

The runway construction project was unique in that it included a 21-day continuous closure of the runways for intersection construction, so no flights could take off or land at the airport during that timeframe. North/south runway 18-36 was extended from 4,014 ft. x 75 ft. to 5,501 ft. x 100 ft. The longer runway allows greater capabilities for corporate aircraft users to take off and land at the airport, giving many business jets another airport option in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

The crosswind runway 11-29 was also extended from 3,800 ft. x 75 ft. to 4,000 ft. x 75 ft.

The runway improvements were celebrated at a community-wide ribbon cutting in late September 2017, complete with fireworks and a flyover, and the approaches were published by the FAA in February 2018.

More improvements are underway, with the relocation of Taxiway Alpha and the construction of replacement T-hangars expected to be complete by fall 2018. For more information about the Lee’s Summit Municipal Airport visit LSAirport.net or call 816-969-1800.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers estimates that the $151 million total investment provided benefit of $241.7 million to the region.

While most of the costs were spent in Kansas and most of the benefit occurs in Missouri, agencies collaborated and shared responsibility to achieve regional flood risk reduction success.
More than 50 years ago, Northdale Park was a family area in the middle of Perryville. It was in a basin drained by an underground cave, referred to as a sinkhole. At one point, the entrance to the cave collapsed. The basin began flooding during small or big rains, sometimes leaving standing water for weeks at a time. The City learned recently that the city sewer line that ran below the park was leaking seriously, and much of that water was going into the sewer system.

While investigating the system’s serious Inflow and Infiltration (I & I) problems, we found this flow. City staff consulted with Baer Engineering in Perryville. This line flowed into a lift station on the other side of the basin. The firm found that if the City could purchase a small plot of land, this line could be re-routed around the basin and eliminate the lift station. It would eliminate a huge source of I & I.

During a recent rain event, only five houses were still connected to this line. The sewage was minimal, helping the City to determine how much I & I came into the line from the basin. During that time of rain, the lift station pumped more than 150,000 gallons of water that was mainly draining into the sewer line from the lake!

The line re-routing project has been recently completed. The City notes large improvements from eliminating the lift station, with diminished sewer backup for customers and improved I & I.