

MAIN LINE EXPRESS

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McALLEN
PUBLIC UTILITY

Highland Sewer Redirect



The Highland Sewer Redirect Project is part of an overall master plan to install a gravity sanitary sewer pipeline that would eventually redirect wastewater to the north part of McAllen. The purpose behind this project is to eliminate existing pump lift stations. The existing sanitary sewer infrastructure allows for additional wastewater to flow by gravity to the north to an existing 54-inch pipeline and into the North Wastewater Treatment Plant. The additional flow from the Highland Sewer Redirect project was a perfect fit for the North Wastewater Treatment Plant. This plant was upgraded back in 2012 and has available capacity to treat additional wastewater flows.

In addition, there are several benefits associated with converting a wastewater pumping system to a gravity

flow system: (1) provides savings on electricity costs associated with keeping the pumps running to pump the wastewater, (2) reduce the amount of foul odor gasses at the receiving manhole or receiving lift station caused by the turbulent flow conditions associated with pumping the wastewater, (3) provides savings on repair and maintenance costs such as the replacement of pump seals, bearings, impellers, controls, and implementation of protective coatings to protect against corrosion, (4) allows for reallocation staff's resources to other important tasks which would otherwise be utilized to monitor and maintain the lift station in good working condition.

This current Phase 2 project continued with the installation of the 27-inch

pipeline along the west side of the drain ditch from Nolana Ave towards Highland Avenue. This was an MPU designed in-house project.

After what seemed like a gargantuan task, the flow from the lift station as well as the flow from the west side of Bicentennial was now flowing by gravity into the new 27-inch pipe system. All in all, this Phase 2 project was a complete success!

At the end, we were able to divert the 1.2 million gallons of wastewater which were previously being pumped. This new system is now conveying the wastewater flow by gravity which provides for substantial cost savings over time. Furthermore, this gravity line system allows for existing lift stations to be decommissioned in the future.

Customer Service Month

On behalf of the entire McAllen Public Utility, it is our privilege to thank you for showing consistent confidence in our services and it has been our absolute pleasure to serve you and your family. Any time you feel that we need to bring some changes in the quality of work we deliver, please let us know. Finally we will continue with our efforts to meet your expectations both now and in the future.