

# State of the City 2012

## City of Bishop Department of Public Works

This is information from the City of Bishop Department of Public Works for the 2012 State of the City presentation. This highlights the responsibilities of Public Works, its organization, its staff, and accomplishments of the last two years and takes a quick look into the future.

### **Overview**

With a few exceptions, the Department of Public Works performs all public works and most planning functions for the city including water, sewer, streets, building permitting and inspection, management, and planning staff functions.

Public Works is staffed with 10 full time employees. There is one vacant part time field position that is only filled when needed and there is one office student intern position that is filled seasonally. Three of the full time Public Works staff work at City Hall and the other seven full time staff work out of the Public Works Shop.

Public Works manages six program budgets, co-manages one program budget, and manages about 20 project budgets. Two of the program budgets are enterprise funds – the water and sewer programs – and the remaining program budgets are essentially part of the city's General Fund. The project budgets are typically funded or reimbursed from outside sources such as State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) funds.

The annual water and sewer budgets are about \$1 million each including capital improvements. The annual General Funds budgets together total about \$600,000. The project budgets within any one year together total between \$1 and \$3 million depending on the projects active at a particular time. Most projects are multi year and the sum of the total of projects in all the fiscal years is between \$5 and \$10 million.

### **Accomplishments**

In addition to extremely important ongoing but routine responsibilities, the Public Works accomplished the following in the last few years:

- Implemented a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) that allows remote monitoring and control of water and sewer systems
- Constructed Hanby Avenue Pavement Reconstruction project including the reconstruction of about 1,000 feet of street pavement at a cost of about \$312,535 with economic stimulus grant
- Constructed Hanby Emergency Sewer Replacement project that replaced about 1,000 feet of large diameter sewer line at a cost of about \$131,697
- Updated Circulation Element of General Plan (called the Mobility Element) at a cost of about \$110,000 with funding from a grant from the Inyo Local Transportation Commission (LTC)
- Constructed the May, Willow, and North Third Streets Water Improvements project including 3,590 feet of water line at a cost of about \$468,934.72

- Assisted the American Legion Auxiliary with the installation of 33 new flag pole sleeves on Caltrans and City of Bishop right of ways and with obtaining permits for existing flags
- Continued negotiations to acquire right of way required for the Wye Road Intersection Improvement project
- Implemented contracting preferences on all construction projects and purchases whenever allowed by funding sources
- Acquired Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) terrain and structure data for Bishop area in support of water and sewer projects, a variety of other city uses, and potentially flood hazard mitigation efforts
- Constructed Road Improvement Project A including about 1,350 feet of reconstructed roadway with sidewalks, about 1,100 feet of new water line, 855 feet of new sewer line, and about 500 feet of new storm drain at a cost of about \$1,009,891.29 of gas tax funds
- Constructed North Second Street Water Line project including about 405 feet of new water line at a cost of about \$51,365.50
- Began planning and engineering work on the Water Tank project
- Constructed Iris Street Water Line project including 260 feet of water line at a cost of about \$46,585.00
- Updated tree care guidelines and began update of approved street tree list working with Bishop Tree Committee
- Established 25 mile per hour speed limit on East Line Street in vicinity of Bishop Creek Canal and installed associated regulatory and pedestrian warning signs
- Coordinated with the Federal Emergency Management Agency concerning their Flood Insurance Rate Map update for Inyo County and related required ordinance update
- Upgraded Johnston Drive lift station
- Obtained funding for Warren Street Improvements project and began environmental work including project scoping and public outreach
- Constructed Park Sewer Replacement project including 960 feet of sewer main at a cost of about \$80,425
- Constructed the Auditorium Sidewalk Project including about 200 feet of sidewalk, a bench, and colored concrete at a cost of about \$40,710.40 with Proposition 1B funds
- Continued design of the Sneden Street Improvements project
- Continued environmental work on Seibu to School Path project
- Completed environmental work on Pine to Park Path project
- Worked with Eastern Sierra Community Service District (ESCSD) on issue they identify with nitrates in groundwater near Bishop and ESCSD plants
- Obtained Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and worked on update of the city's Municipal Geographic Information System (GIS)

- Began environmental work on project to replace sewer trunk line from the east end of Clarke Street under the Bishop Creek Canal to the Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Constructed Church Street Water Improvements project including 437 feet of water line at a cost of \$76,135
- Began work to relocate aerators and install baffles in Pond 1 of the Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Worked with Eastern Sierra Energy Foundation to develop an Energy Action Plan for the City of Bishop

### **Looking Ahead**

Many of the listed accomplishments of the Department of Public Works are related to the delivery of capital improvement projects and that is expected to continue. Adapting to change will be very important for Public Works as will be driving change that leads to better service and stewardship. Beneficial change includes adopting new technologies, adopting new organizational structures, and building cooperative relationships with other agencies.