



MSD

Louisville and Jefferson County
Metropolitan Sewer District

Update

News about activities and developments at MSD

May 31, 2001

Guthrie receives service distinction



Director of Engineering Derek Guthrie was presented the D.V. Terrell Special Services Award by the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE) as part

of National Engineers Week.

KSPE's Louisville Chapter nominated Guthrie for the award based on his consistent service to KSPE and the engineering profession. Guthrie served as KSPE's treasurer in 2000 and currently is the organization's president-elect. He has been a KSPE volunteer for MATHCOUNTS, a national math coaching and competition program, and helped with the renovation of the Kentucky Engineering Center building.

Guthrie also served on the Task Force for the Code of Professional Practice and Conduct, and organized the Kentucky Engineers' Golf Classic fund-raising campaign.

The award, named in honor of D.V. Terrell, has been given annually since 1975. Terrell was a charter member of KSPE, which was founded in 1934, and served as president in 1938.

KSEPE recognizes its members of highest distinction with three awards: the Distinguished Service Award, the Young Engineer of the Year, and the D.V. Terrell Award. This recent award makes the second of these three for Guthrie. He was named the KSPE Young Engineer of the Year in 1991.

Financial plan continues to meet needs

When fiscal year 2002 begins July 1, MSD will embark on a five-year financial plan that includes major expenditures on capital sewer and drainage projects.

MSD's Board approved a \$694 million five-year operating and capital plan with \$424 million earmarked for capital projects and \$270 million for agency operations and system maintenance. Finance Director Marion Gee said the plan "will continue to meet the needs of our community for the next fiscal year and beyond."

Major expenditures outlined in the plan include more than \$175 million in sewer system expansion, \$95.6 million in wastewater treatment and \$38.6 million for sewer rehabilitation and wet-weather improvements, including removing several combined sewer overflows that contribute to stream pollution.

Also, \$65 million has been ear-

marked for drainage and flood control projects.

To help fund capital projects in the approaching fiscal year and beyond, a bond issue of about \$250 million is planned, which will increase MSD's debt by about 27 percent.

Additionally, MSD's Board approved a preliminary rate resolution that would increase customer rates for sewer and drainage by about five percent, beginning August 1 (see related story in

this issue of *Update*).

New customers added through sewer system expansion projects, increasing MSD's customer base by about two percent during the next fiscal year, also will help grow revenues.

To help contain costs, Gee said MSD staff is committed to reviewing major projects at least quarterly while continuing to explore cost-sharing partnerships to help fund major initiatives.

More than \$175 million is earmarked for sewer system expansion.

Rate increase considered by Board

MSD's Board has approved a preliminary rate resolution authorizing a five-percent increase in sewer and drainage service charges for all customer classes. If approved, the new rates will be effective August 1.

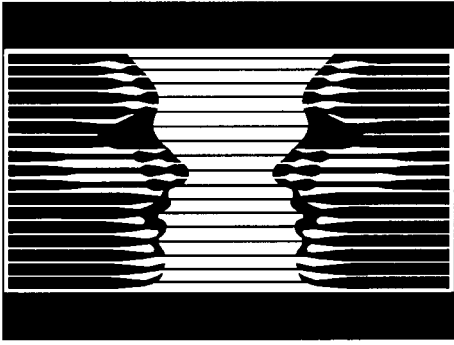
Under the proposed rate schedule, the average residential wastewater bill would increase by 75 cents, to a total of \$15.75 a month. Drainage service charges for residen-

tial customers also would increase by 17 cents, to a total of \$3.65 a month. The total increase of both the wastewater and drainage bills would be 92 cents per month, or less than the price of a cup of coffee.

The increase is necessary to generate sufficient revenue to operate and maintain the existing sewer and drainage system, according to

(continued on page 3)

Keeping Customers First



Editor's note: Following are excerpts of recent customer comments.

"I called to report the flow stoppage at 6 a.m. Wednesday, April 11. **Maintenance Inspector Don Riddle** arrived at my home about 8 a.m. and described the procedures in great detail. He returned the next evening on his way home with the waiver for us to sign allowing MSD to begin digging. The MSD crew and one from Before-You-Dig arrived early Good Friday morning to work on our problem-at this time, we had no flow at all. They dug to the pipe and left us with flow for the rest of the weekend, until they could finish the job on Monday, which they did. Thanks to Mr. Riddle and MSD's crew for their hard work and efficiency to fix our problem."

—A very satisfied customer,
Jeffrey T. Snyder, Louisville, 40216

Community Relations Coordinator Becky Bennett enjoyed a pleasant conversation with an Orville Drive customer where an MSD crew had worked in mid-May: "William Hazelwood wanted us to know **Robert Day and his crew** are the finest men he has worked with. They were mannerly and considerate. He said that every contact he has had with MSD employees has always been a pleasant experience."

(continued on back page)

Watershed News

Floyd's Fork

Drainage project planned in Idlewood

Drainage improvements for Fern Creek's Idlewood subdivision will essentially upsize the existing drainage system in this well-developed area.

Some residences along Sprigwood Lane flood when it rains, and erosion along rear yards has impaired the existing drainage system, according to Floyds Fork Area Team Leader Vicki Coombs. "It's a challenging project because the homes are close together and there is a lot of rock," she said.

New earth ditches and a flat-bottom channel are planned, and 225 feet of 60-by-38-inch reinforced concrete pipe will provide improved drainage in the area.

Wet Weather/Water Quality

Storage project wins regional award

A unique plan to decrease the number and volume of combined sewer overflows in Louisville has won the Overflow Abatement Award from the Kentucky-Tennessee Water Environment Federation Association.

The Sneads Branch in-line storage project, substantially completed earlier this year, uses an inflatable rubber dam to create a 2.5 million-gallon storage area within overflow pipes when it rains. Storing the wastewater until rains subside, and then pumping it into the sanitary sewer system when capacity is restored, prevents 11 combined sewer overflows from directly discharging into Beargrass Creek.

Combined sewers, with wastewater and stormwater channeled into the same system, serve much of the city of Louisville.

The Sneads Branch project is one of the largest inflatable dam projects in the U.S.

The Kentucky-Tennessee Water Environment Federation will submit the project for consideration for a national award.

LOJIC to be featured in PBS broadcast

Two years ago, when the Geospatial Information and Technology Association wanted to produce a video about geographic information systems, they sent a film crew to Louisville.

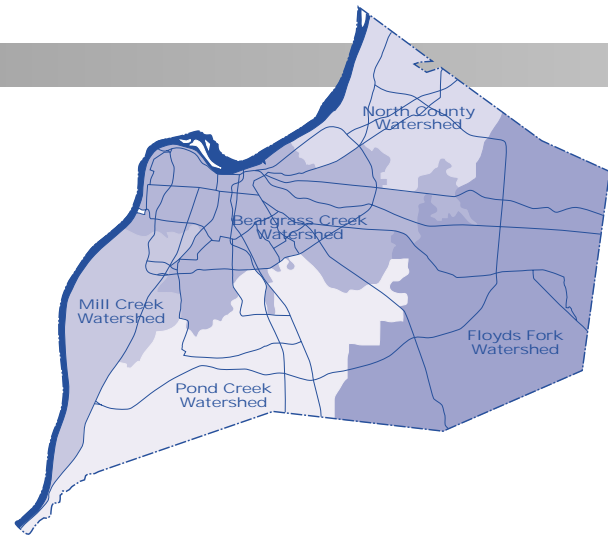
"It really wasn't a surprise, because people from all over the country visit us to learn how GIS applications can be used in a variety of ways," said MSD's Chief Information Officer Bruce Seigle. MSD is home to LOJIC, the Louisville/Jefferson County

Information Consortium, a group of government organizations who use GIS applications.

The crew spent three days at LOJIC, interviewing staff and taping activities.

The result is a 55-minute program called, "World in a Box," expected to air this summer on the Public Broadcasting System.

Seigle said about four minutes of the program feature LOJIC, "It's an excellent piece and we're thrilled to be part of it."



Bid notification available via e-mail

To get the word out about bids on construction projects, maintenance contracts and purchases of goods and services, MSD is using the Internet.

Interested users can sign up for e-mail notification when MSD

solicits bids for projects and purchases

through a listserv on MSD's Web site. Users can select which types of bids that interest them. The listserv will notify them via e-mail when bids or proposals are being sought.

While MSD will continue to advertise major bid solicitations in The Courier-Journal and Louisville Defender newspapers, the e-mail notification will help interested businesses know when bids are

Bids/RFP's/RFQs

Update, other news also available

MSD also offers an e-mail service to distribute general information about MSD news and events. Users can choose from four e-mail notifications:

- Board Meetings—provides subscribers with a link to the Board Agenda and Board Summary for each meeting.
- Job Openings—provides subscribers with notices about job openings and other MSD employment information.
- News Releases—sends

solicited, details about the project and when proposals are due. The listserv will also send e-mail notifications if updates or addendums have been issued to specific projects open for bids.

In addition to receiving e-mail notification, listserv users can view and download current bids and purchasing requests from MSD's Web site.

There is no charge and sign-up is easy from MSD's home page (www.msdlouky.org). Click on the hotlink graphic, **Purchasing and Other Bids/RFPs/RFQs**. Then follow the directions to register for the listserv or checkout upcoming projects.

subscribers MSD's news releases as an email as soon as they become available.

- **Update**—delivers MSD's bimonthly newsletter directly to your inbox.

There is no charge for the service and sign up is simple. Go to MSD's home page (www.msdlouky.org) and click on the hotlink, **Informational E-mail Lists**. After registering your e-mail address, choose the lists you wish to receive.

Wheatley's Board service to continue



Louisville Mayor David Armstrong has reappointed Beverly A. Wheatley to MSD's Board. Wheatley has served on MSD's Board since November 1998 and is a

member of the Budget/Audit and Policy committees. Her current term expires May 1, 2004.

Wheatley is president of Wheatley Roofing Co. Inc. in Louisville. She is a director of Republic Bank & Trust Co., a member of the University of Louisville Board of Overseers and a board member of the Iroquois Civic Club-Neighborhood Association.

A member of Walnut Street Baptist Church, Wheatley is actively involved with the Sunday School department and has served on the committee on committees, strategic planning and budget committees in the past.

Wheatley is married to James Wheatley. They live in the Iroquois Park area.

Rate increase considered

(continued from front)

Finance Director Marion Gee. "Despite a proposed increase, MSD customers pay some of the lowest service rates in our region," Gee noted.

Executive Director Gordon Garner said sewer utilities in other cities face similar-or worse-challenges. "All cities in our region have major infrastructure issues to

address," Garner said. "While we are working to eliminate fewer than 40 combined sewer overflows, Indianapolis and St. Louis have several hundred CSOs."

Indianapolis is considering a billion-dollar CSO abatement program to bring the city in compliance with U.S. EPA standards. "They're also considering adding \$12 to \$15 a month to customer bills over several years to pay for it," Garner said.

The public is invited to comment

on the proposed rates at a hearing on June 18 beginning at 7 p.m. in MSD's offices, 700 W. Liberty. Written comments about the proposed rates also will be accepted and should be addressed to:

MSD—Attention: Bud Schardein
700 W. Liberty St.
Louisville, KY 40203-1911

Following the public hearing, MSD's Board will consider the comments and take final action on the proposed rates in July.



MSD

Louisville and Jefferson County
Metropolitan Sewer District

700 West Liberty Street
Louisville, KY 40203-1911
502-540-6000
www.msdlouky.org

Inside *Update*

- Derek Guthrie honored by Kentucky Engineers
- PBS broadcast to feature LOJIC
- Budget approved, rate hike possible
- Bid info available now on Internet

Upcoming Events

June 6

Public meeting, Bancroft Sewer Project Easement Acquisitions, 7 p.m., Lyndon City Hall, 515 Wood Ave.

June 7

Public meeting, Cedar Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion, 7 p.m., Central Government Center, 7201 Outer Loop

June 11

MSD Board meeting, 10 a.m., 700 W. Liberty, first floor

June 16

Ohio River Sweep, 9 a.m. at various locations. Call Janice Lewis at 540-6366 for details.

June 18

Public hearing, Proposed rate increase, 7 p.m., 700 W. Liberty, first floor

Keeping customers first

(continued from page 2)

“The weeks of May 6 and May 13, an MSD maintenance crew worked on a section of Beargrass Creek bank that had eroded. As a neighbor I witnessed the work and wish to commend the crew and wish to commend the crew (**Drainage Supervisor Butch Atterbury, Crew Leader Bill Smith, and Crew Members Carey Smith and John Alexander**). Not only were they courteous, polite and understanding, they did a very good job.”

—Paul Stoltz, Louisville, 40218

© COPYRIGHT 2001

Louisville and Jefferson County
Metropolitan Sewer District
LOJIC map data copyrighted by the
Louisville and Jefferson County
Metropolitan Sewer District and the
Louisville Water Company
All Rights Reserved