

Meeting the community's needs

Budget continues ramping down capital, operating costs

MSD's budget for the fiscal year that begins July 1 continues to hold down operating costs and capital construction expenditures.

"Despite the reductions, the fiscal year 2004 operating and capital budgets will allow MSD to continue its high level of service to the community," said Finance Director Marion Gee.

Among notable changes is a continued decline in wastewater construction projects, from about \$120 million in the current fiscal year to \$100 million projected in fiscal year 2004 that begins July 1.

The reduction represents near completion of the effort to extend sewer service throughout Louisville Metro and upgrade wastewater treatment plants in the MSD system. Gee said capital dollars for wastewater projects will level off to an average of \$50 million a year through the end of fiscal year 2008.

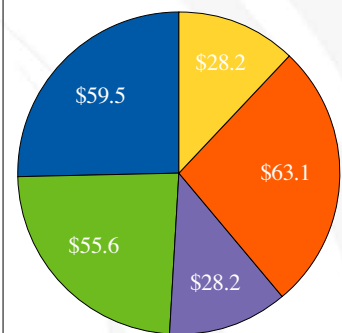
Planned stormwater and drainage projects in fiscal year 2004 will top \$20 million, about twice the budget earmarked during the current fiscal year. Much of the increase is attributed to Project DRI, the partnership between MSD and Louisville Metro to address the community's worst drainage problems by mid-2005.

Gee said dollars budgeted for stormwater and drainage projects through fiscal year 2008 will average between \$16 and \$18 million a year.

MSD's operating budget will increase slightly in fiscal year 2004, from \$74.1 million to \$75.2 million. The increases are attributed to hikes in medical and property insurance premiums and a rise in electricity charges.

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Planned Spending MSD Capital Budget, FY 2004-2008



■ Sewer Projects	\$28.2
■ Wastewater Treatment	\$63.1
■ Sewer Rehab/Wet Weather	\$28.2
■ Drainage/Flood Control	\$55.6
■ Equipment, Misc.	\$59.5

Total budget for Fiscal Years 2004-2008 - \$234.6 (all dollar amounts in millions)

MSD's Board approved capital spending for the five year plan on May 27.

"Despite reductions, the fiscal year 2004 operating and capital budgets will allow MSD to continue its high level of service to the community."

CONNECT WITH MSD

502-540-6000

24/7 Customer Service:
587-0603

www.msdlouky.org

TDD/TTY: 540-6233

En español: 540-6423
(Entre 8 mañana y 5 p.m.
lunes a viernes)

Financial reporting on a roll

For the 13th year, MSD has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the U.S. Government's Finance Officers Association. The award recognizes MSD's comprehensive annual financial report for the 2002 fiscal year.

"These awards have become almost routine, as our Finance Division continues to perform in an outstanding fashion," said Executive Director Bud Schardein. "Tim Wallen and the division staff who handle financial reporting, along with Finance Director Marion Gee, are to be commended."

Only 19 of all government entities throughout Kentucky have received the certificate of achievement from the Government Finance Officers Association.

Upcoming Events

June 5

DiverseWorks orientation,
9 a.m., 700 W. Liberty, first floor

June 9

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

June 17

Public meeting, Penway Sewer Project,
7 p.m., MSD Central Maintenance Facility, Room A,
3050 Commerce Center Place

Public meeting, Bardstown Road Corridor Sewer Project,
7 p.m., Fern Creek Community Center, 6104 Bardstown Road

June 23

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

MSD Milestones

Congratulations on promotions:
Yozette Smith to Senior Customer Service Representative
Marya Summers to Senior Customer Service Representative

Changing the pace:
Sheila Lusco to Human Resources as Benefits Assistant

Achievement noted:
Research Chemist **Cliff Wilson** obtained Lab Analyst IV classification, the highest level possible, from the Kentucky Wastewater Analyst Certification.

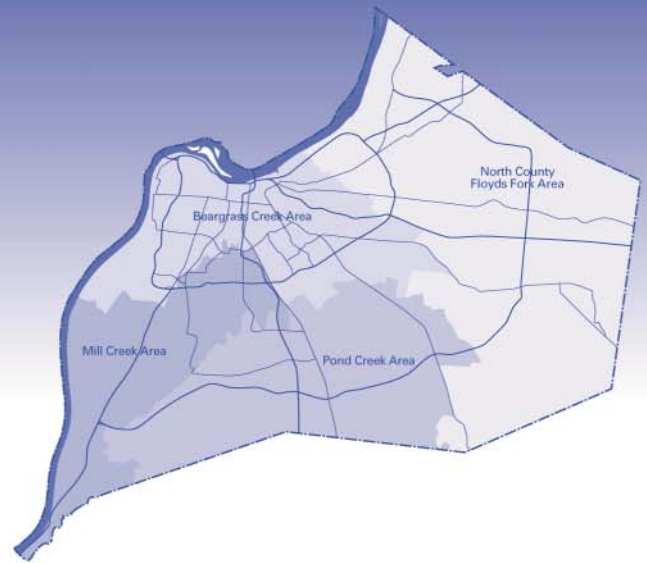
Area Team News

Mill Creek

Drainage improvements planned for **Claremore Acres** subdivision should ease roadside and yard flooding.

More than 40 properties in the neighborhood off of Lower Hunters Trace will benefit from the work.

Construction is expected to cost nearly \$74,000 and should be completed in the fall of 2003.



Pond Creek

Two neighborhoods will soon benefit from improvements under Project DRI, the partnership between Louisville Metro government and MSD to address the community's most pressing drainage problems by mid-2005.

In the **Bonaventure subdivision**, standing water problems along **Jan Way, Moody Road and Canopus Court** will be addressed while preparing the area for future roadside drainage improvements.

According to Pond Creek Area Team Leader David Schaftlein, work will focus on improving long, flat drainage channels at the rear of the properties. When completed, the project will address 15 customer requests for drainage work and benefit 25 additional properties.

The project will cost \$111,775 to complete.

Similar problems have plagued properties in the **Tin Dor subdivision**, where drainage channels are overgrown and inadequate.

The channels along rear yards of homes on **Nola, Beau Brummel and Chieftain drives** will be rebuilt with concrete, addressing 13 drainage service requests and benefiting 21 more properties.

Cost to complete the work is \$83,800.

Annual River Sweep set

The 15th annual Ohio River Sweep will be June 21 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. More than 15,000 people are expected to participate this year, along more than 1,800 miles of riverbank. Six states and 72 counties will be represented.

Groups such as Boys and Girls Clubs and assorted Scouts organizations are regular participants in the sweep. Last year some 350 volunteers collected more than 30 tons of debris in the Louisville Metro area, including car bodies, tires, appliances and trash.

Regionally, the Ohio River Sweep is organized by the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission; locally, it's MSD.

Other agencies involved are LG&E, the Louisville Water Company and the Louisville Metro government; as with past years, Waste Management, Inc. will donate landfill space for the debris collected. Volunteers will be provided with a commemorative t-shirt, gloves and plastic garbage bags.

For details about the Ohio River Sweep or to find out how to volunteer, please contact MSD's **Becky Bennett at 540-6552.**

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“Those are areas we don’t have a lot of control over,” Gee said.

But, he noted areas where MSD has cut operating costs, including reducing professional services by 35 percent and travel expenses by 38 percent.

During the five-year period through fiscal year 2008, Gee said MSD will reduce its staff by 10 percent, for approximate annual savings of \$3.3 million. “We also will continue looking internally to identify other savings opportunities.”

Sewer, drainage rates may increase

MSD’s Board has approved a preliminary resolution authorizing increases for all wastewater and stormwater charges. If approved, the new rates will be effective August 1.

The proposed rates would increase average monthly wastewater charges for residential customers by \$1.07, from \$16.39 to \$17.46. Monthly stormwater charges would increase by 25 cents to \$4.14.

According to a 2002 national survey of wastewater rates by the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies, the average monthly cost for residential wastewater service is \$19.75. MSD’s proposed rates still compare favorably, according to Finance Director Marion Gee, ranking in the lower 40 percentile nationwide.

MSD customers are invited to comment on the proposed rates. Written comments should be addressed to:

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

MSD’s Board is expected to take final action on the proposed rates in June.

Customer First at Work

“Thanks to the whole **MSD Crew** for promptly repairing the manhole and securing the area near my house. Special thanks to the **teleinspection crew** and customer service representative **Cindy Sturm.**”
--Ann Cull, Crescent Hill, 40206

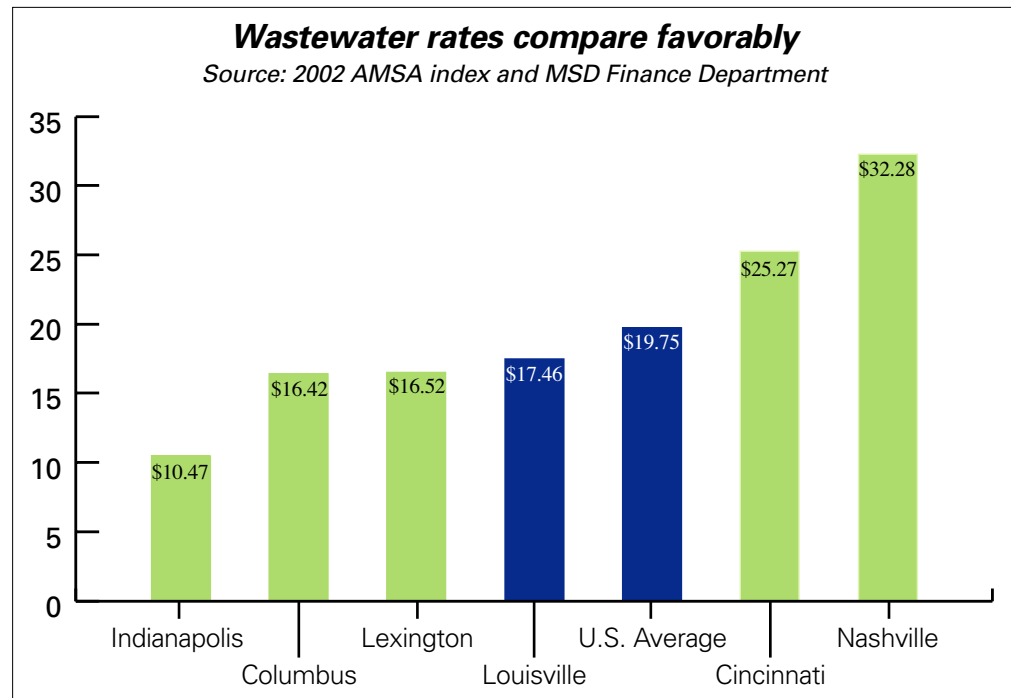
“Your crew did a great job cleaning out the drains at my property. Thanks!”
--Mike Lands, Crescent Hill, 40206

“**Barry Bivin, Derrick Eddins and Paul Rock** repaired the service connection on my property and the **teleinspection crew** located the blockage. Everyone did an excellent job and I am well pleased.”
--David Ballard, Beechmont, 40214

“Thanks to **John Tellman** for his hard work and dedication in solving the standing water problem on my property. I was impressed with his competency, knowledge and willingness to assist me.”
--Mike Mulrooney, Pleasure Ridge Park, 40258

“I would like to thank everyone at MSD, especially **Garry Dennison, Kandyce Groves and Vicki Huelsman** for the support they have given us at this difficult time.”
--Alexander Nixon, President, D.D. Williamson & Co., Clifton, 40206

“I am writing in appreciation for the exceptional work recently performed by **William Attebury** at the property my business is located on and by **John Alexander, Billy Smith and Cary Smith** at my home. These men and their crews are a credit to MSD.”
--John Bleidt, St. Matthews, 40207



Even with a proposed increase, MSD’s average monthly rates remain lower than the national average for residential customers.





MSD

Louisville and Jefferson County
Metropolitan Sewer District

700 West Liberty Street
Louisville, KY 40203-1911



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24/7 service indeed!

It's no secret that MSD personnel are at work everyday around the clock. Customer Service, Maintenance and Operations personnel are on the job at all times, responding to customer concerns and keeping wastewater, stormwater and flood protection facilities working.

Even personnel who aren't on the clock also are looking for ways to help.

On a rain-soaked Saturday afternoon in May, CERES Principles Engineer Sarah Lynn Cunningham was driving home from the grocery. Her trip was stalled by knee-deep water standing on Grinstead Drive. "A few drivers weren't bothering to go around and two cars had already stalled out," she said. "A heavy litter barrel was floating on its side in the roadway—it seemed entirely too dangerous."

As Cunningham moved away from the area to phone the police and MSD, she spotted the Maintenance Division's Gerald Dunlap and Ron Lovely approaching the flooded street. She flagged them down and they agreed the problem appeared to be clogged catch basin drains.

"Gerald and Ron put their hip waders on and got to work while I directed traffic," Cunningham said. "They found and cleared the catch basins, replaced the litter barrel and cleaned up the area a bit."

Executive Director Bud Schardein says the effort is typical of MSD employees. "Gerald and Ron had just finished their shift when Sarah Lynn, on her day off, flagged them down," Schardein said. "When MSD employees see a potentially dangerous situation, they act quickly to get it under control—even if they're not officially at work."



Clogged catch basins can cause localized flooding during heavy rains.