



# CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH PUBLIC WORKS WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

2022 ANNUAL REPORT









### WHO WE ARE

Water Pollution Control (WPC) is the City of Cleveland's sewer maintenance division and stormwater manager.

#### WHAT WE DO

WPC cleans and maintains a network of sewers, system connections and other ancillary components that facilitate the free-flow and transfer of wastewater. Our work helps sustain Cleveland's 1,436 miles of sewer lines, more than 43,500 catch basins/ storm drains, 11 pump stations and two stormwater basins.

The City has both combined and separate sewers, covering a drainage area of approximately 75.6 miles, of which approximately 6.8 square miles drain into natural waterways, including Lake Erie and the Cuyahoga River. Combined sewers (91%) carry stormwater and wastewater to three treatment plants. In separate sewers (9%), stormwater travels untreated to nearby waters.

We also educate the public on best practices to reduce water pollution. One way we do this is by inviting residents to tour our stormwater demonstration project at the WPC Kirby Road Facility, where there are two rain gardens, a bioswale, pervious pavers in our parking lot and three cisterns that collect and hold 15,000 gallons of rain water that is reused for irrigation and to wash equipment.

Cleveland is a Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4s) city designated by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. WPC has the authority to enforce EPA stormwater regulations and laws designed to eliminate illicit discharges.

#### **OUR VISION**

WPC is an innovative steward and leader in the stormwater and wastewater industry and a model customer service provider.

### OUR MISSION

To provide superior leadership, excellent customer service, and innovative stormwater and wastewater infrastructure management for a safe and sustainable environment.



JUSTIN M. BIBB Mayor

### MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I extend my gratitude to the dedicated team at Water Pollution Control (WPC) for their efforts in safeguarding our environment and enhancing the quality of life for our residents.

Throughout my first year as mayor, I met with many of the first responders, engineers, customer service representatives, and support staff who work tirelessly to ensure that WPC is both environmentally responsible and resilient.

Significant projects in 2022 such as WPC's targeted evaluation of our sewer systems, are a critical step in ensuring sustainable wastewater systems, a protected environment, and a healthy community.

Their continued efforts are not only appreciated by my office but also by the residents of our great city.

The 2022 Annual Report serves as a demonstration of WPC's collective accomplishments, and I am confident this is only the beginning of the great things we will do together. Their work is a cornerstone of our shared vision for a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable Cleveland.

Throughout this report, you will also see that WPC has remained operationally and fiscally sound and as always, show themselves to be good stewards of the funds entrusted to them.

Their work is impactful, and I look forward to the positive partnerships and essential services Water Pollution Control will provide Clevelanders for many years to come.

Sincerely,

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**Justin M. Bibb,** Mayor



BLAINE A. GRIFFIN Council President



BRIAN KAZY Councilman, Ward 16 Utilities Committee Chairman

### **MESSAGE FROM CITY COUNCIL**

The 2022 Water Pollution Control (WPC) annual report highlights a year of achievements, resilience, and innovation. WPC delivered on the expectations presented to City Council, providing sewer maintenance, customer service, answering emergency calls 24/7 and meeting operational goals.

As we returned to a new type of post-pandemic normalcy, we were glad to see the WPC education and outreach teams attend many of our in-person neighborhood events, educating residents and highlighting the role we all play in creating a more sustainable city.

We would like to express our appreciation to the entire team at Water Pollution Control for their professionalism, dedication, and continuous efforts. Their contributions are vital in ensuring that our sewer systems are properly maintained and reliable.

As you review this annual report, I encourage you to reflect on the remarkable progress we've made as a community. We also encourage you to visit the WPC website at www.clevelandwpc.com and learn more about the division, send emails to get answers to your questions, and provide feedback for work done well by WPC employees.

Together, our dedication to environmental stewardship will continue to positively shape Cleveland's future.

Sincerely,

Blaine A. Guffin

Blaine A. Griffin, Council President

Brian Kazy, Chairman, Public Utilities Committee



MARTIN J. KEANE Public Utilities Director



DANIELLE GRAHAM Public Utilities Executive Commissioner



RAMONA LOWERY Water Pollution Control Commissioner



**TERRELL COLE** Water Pollution Control Deputy Commissioner

### **OUR LEADERSHIP**

We are proud to share the 2022 Water Pollution Control (WPC) annual report, which highlights the accomplishments and contributions of our division and our vital role in sewer maintenance and stormwater management. This document also underscores the innovative solutions implemented throughout the year, in accordance with EPA standards for water quality and environmental protection.

As you review its contents, you will find detailed financial reports and examples of how we are carefully investing the funds entrusted to us.

In 2022, our targeted sewer system evaluation and collection system assessment provided a look at the health of our infrastructure and helped prioritize which projects were part of the city's Capital Improvement Program. We also conducted a field work program of manhole inspections, sewer screening, sewer cleaning, closed-circuit television inspections, and flow & rainfall monitoring. These efforts resulted in recommendations for significant structural, operational and maintenance improvements.

Among many successful partnerships this year, WPC worked with Cleveland Metroparks and the Ohio Department of Transportation to investigate and implement a solution to surface flooding in the Upper Edgewater Park pedestrian tunnel. Along Canal Road, east of Old River Road, engineers and sewer maintenance teams coordinated with Cleveland Water and other agencies to replace damaged sewer infrastructure.

These types of critical projects and partnerships are reflected in the report and essential to the sustainability of our wastewater systems, the protection of our environment and the health of our community.

As part of our strategic approach to staffing and succession planning, we hired eight employees and promoted five team members this year. Employees also participated in the complimentary Department of Public Utilities (DPU) and Commercial Driver's License (CDL) courses. Those who earned a CDL are now eligible for promotion to Sewer Maintenance Unit Leader, a critical role within the division.

WPC also celebrated its 5th Annual Veterans Breakfast, an event to honor veterans who work in our division and thank them for their service.

As always, we extend our sincere appreciation to the entire team at Water Pollution Control, not only for the essential role they play in our division, but throughout DPU. Their dedication and professionalism are instrumental in our mission to be an innovative steward and leader in the stormwater and wastewater industry, and a model customer service provider.

We hope you find this report informative and useful. We welcome any comments or suggestions on how we can improve future reports to better serve your needs.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin J. Keane, Director

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Ramona Lowery, Commissioner

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Danielle Graham, Executive Commissioner

**Terrell Cole,** Deputy Commissioner

### WPC EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARDS 2022



LOVELL FORD Team First Spirit Award



CYLAN WILLIAMS Spotlight Award



DEXTER FRIERSON Spotlight Award



SHAD CURRY Spotlight Award



**ENRIQUE GONZALEZ** Team First Spirit Award



MOSES BUTLER Team First Spirit Award



FELICIA CLINKSCALES Spotlight Award



GARY POWELL Spotlight Award



JEFFERY LEE Spotlight Award



MAURICE GRAYER Leadership Award



**ARTHUR JENKINS** Team First Spirit Award



JOYCE WHITE Spotlight Award



MARCEL ALBOTA Spotlight Award



RAMONA LOWERY-FERRELL Leadership of Year Award



TINA JONES Leadership Award



LEE RITTERBECK Team First Spirit Award



YOLANDA MCKNIGHT Spotlight Award



BERNARD JOHNSON Spotlight Award



MANDY BRUNCAK Top Sewer Service Worker



LORETTA JOYCE Leadership Award



MICHAEL SMITH Outstanding Performance of the Year



# PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Water Pollution Control's sewer maintenance unit is an essential frontline public service that most people do not think about until streets flood or wastewater backs up into their basements. Each year WPC leadership set operational goals based on performance and expectancy to ensure the free flow of wastewater and stormwater. Operational goals are based on various criteria, including preventative maintenance, benchmarks, customer service standards and industry best management practices.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	2022	2021
Linear feet of sewer lines cleaned	254,504	210,397
Linear feet of sewer lines televised	195,894.5	168,129
Number of catch basins inspected	25,675.0	19,989
Number of catch basins cleaned	11,609.0	11,734
Response time during working hours – WIB	38.9 minutes	42.2 minutes
Response time during off hours – WIB	42.1 minutes	49.2 minutes
Number of house connections repaired	304	304
Average time to complete catch basin repairs	11.5 days	10.67 days
Average time to complete house connection repairs	2.8 days	2.4 days
Total completed sewer maintenance work orders	5,674	5,361

### CAPITAL SPENDING

PROJECT NAME	2022 EXPENDITURE
Buckeye Road	135,556.74
Catch Basins & Manholes	297,269.23
E. 185th Part 1 (Pawnee to Lake Erie)	82,110.00
E. 185th Part 2 (Nottingham to Pawnee)	87,600.00
East 105th Street (Phase II)	106,190.42
Emergency Sewer Install	78,161.32
General Engineering Services	21,527.95
General Engineering Services	165,369.94
IT Hardware	8,515.44
Program Management Team I	594,810.34
Rehab and Relining Sewers	721,017.00
SCADA	310.00
Security Improvements Phase II	110,611.81
Sewer Connections	19,287.38
Sewer Installation	402,610.53
Vehicles 2019	193,510.00
Vehicles 2021	177,227.00
West 65th Street	25,497.60
TOTAL	\$3,227,182.70

### FINANCIALS

The following tables are from Water Pollution Control's (WPC) financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2021 and December 31, 2022. Statements of cash flows show the exchange of money between the division and others, such as customers and suppliers. The statements also outline the state of the division's overall net assets. To view the city of Cleveland's entire financial audit report, visit the Ohio Auditor of State's website at www.auditor.state.oh.us. To view the WPC 2022 annual report online and to learn more about the sewer maintenance division, visit www.clevelandwpc.com.

### STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES & CHANGES IN NET POSITION

2022 and 2021

		(In thousands
OPERATING REVENUES	2022	2021
Charges for services	\$ 32,559	\$29,625
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	32,559	29,625
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Operations	8,138	6,308
Maintenance	10,417	9,648
Depreciation	5,720	5,242
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	24,275	21,198
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	8,284	8,427
NON-OPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE)		
Investment Income	676	28
Interest Expense	(1,821)	(1,844)
Amortization of bond premiums and discounts	260	\$265
Gain (loss) on disposal of assets	(68)	(20)
Other	14	12
TOTAL NON-OPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSE), NET	(939)	(1,559)
NCOME (LOSS) BEFORE CAPITAL AND OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS	7,345	6,868
Capital and other contributions	312	5,104
NCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET POSITION	7,657	11,972
NET POSITION, BEGINNING OF YEAR	126,412	114,440
NET POSITION, END OF YEAR	134,069	126,412

# STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

2022 and 2021

#### ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

CAPITAL ASSETS	2022	2021
Land	\$295	\$295
Land Improvements	289	243
Utility Plant	233,670	225,048
Buildings, structures and improvements	11,537	11,475
Furniture, fixtures, equipment and vehicles	15,697	14,470
	261,488	251,531
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(142,424)	(136,956)
	119,064	114,575
Construction in Progress	16,566	21,678
CAPITAL ASSETS, NET	135,630	136,253
NET OPEB ASSET		
Net OPEB Asset	1,519	878
Net Pension Asset	182	-
RESTRICTED ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,413	3,339
Accrued Interest Receivable	9	-
TOTAL RESTRICTED ASSETS	3,422	3,339
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	84,480	81,703
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	912	-
Receivables		1,788
Accounts Receivable - net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$3,447	141,306	131,878
Unbilled Revenue	1,922	1,832
Accrued Interest Receivable	55	1
Due from other governments	360	382
Due from other City of Cleveland departments, divisions or funds	37	48
Materials and Supplies	916	834
Prepaid Expenses	82	62
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	230,070	218,528
TOTAL ASSETS	370,823	358,998
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension	1,795	1,190
OPEB	11	477

(In thousands)

(In thousands)

#### NET POSITION, LIABILITIES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

NET POSITION	2022	2021
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$90,267	\$89,592
Restricted for Capital Projects	-	20
Restricted for Debt Service	2,712	2,673
Unrestricted	41,090	34,127
TOTAL NET POSITION	134,069	126,412
LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS-EXCLUDING AMOUNTS DUE WITHIN ONE	YEAR	
OWDA Loans	13,694	14,057
OPWC Loans	-	5
Accrued Wages and Benefits	357	313
Revenue Bonds	31,642	32,597
Net Pension Liability	4,284	7,399
TOTAL LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS	49,977	54,371
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	2,006	1,397
Customer Deposits and Other Liabilities	192	179
Payable from Restricted Assets	912	1,788
Accrued Wages and Benefits	1,309	1,545
Due to other City of Cleveland Departments, Divisions or Funds	2,668	2,593
Amounts due for billing on behalf of others	173,328	165,173
Accrued Interest Payable	180	185
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt, Due Within One Year	1,063	1,030
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	181,658	173,890
TOTAL LIABILITIES	231,635	228,261
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension	1,795	3,309
OPEB	11	2,683
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	1,806	5,992

# STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

2022 and 2021

		(In thousands)
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2022	2021
Cash Received from Customers	\$30,207	\$27,377
Cash Payments to Suppliers for Goods and Services	(10,151)	(10,402)
Cash Payments to Employees for Services	(10,204)	(9,931)
Cash Receipts on Behalf of Other Communities	441,706	427,888
Cash Payments on Behalf of Other Communities	(442,139)	(424,348)
Other	492	692
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	9,911	11,276
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from Sale of Revenue Bonds, Loans and Notes	-	1,933
Acquisition and Construction of Capital Assets	(6,027)	(11,436)
Principal Paid on Long-Term Debt	(1,030)	(1,059)
Interest Paid on Long-Term Debt	(1,826)	(1,871)
Capital Grant Proceeds	334	5,260
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(8,549)	(7,173)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Interest Received on Investments	613	27
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	1,975	4,130
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	86,830	82,700
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	88,805	86,830
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	86,830	82,700

#### RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	(In thousands	
	2022	2021
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	\$8,284	\$8,424
ADJUSTMENTS		
Depreciation	5,720	5,242
(INCREASE) DECREASE IN ASSETS		
Accounts Receivable, net	(9,428)	1,213
Accrued and Unbilled Revenue	(90)	115
Due From Other City of Cleveland Departments, Divisions or Funds	11	(19)
Materials and Supplies, net	(82)	(133)
Prepaid Expenses	(20)	3
Net Pension Asset	(182)	-
Net OPEB Asset	(641)	(878)
(INCREASE) DECREASE IN DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension	(605)	442
OPEB	466	599
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	609	259
Customer Deposits and Other Liabilities	13	(2)
Accrued Wages and Benefits	(192)	467
Due to other City of Cleveland Departments, Divisions or Funds	75	(114)
Amounts Due for Billings on Behalf of Others	8,155	2,066
Net Pension Liability	(3,115)	(2,450)
Net OPEB Liability		(6,715)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES		
Pension	2,033	1,118
OPEB	(1,100)	1,636
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS	1,627	2,849
NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED FOR) OPERATING ACTIVITIES	9,911	11,276
SCHEDULE OF NONCASH CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE RELATED TO CAPITAL ASSETS	912	1,788



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