

Cleanwater Program



Sunnyvale

We're rebuilding what has worked so well for so long.

For nearly 60 years, Sunnyvale's Water Pollution Control Plant (Plant) has worked tirelessly 24 hours a day and 7 days a week to provide reliable wastewater treatment for the City of Sunnyvale's residents and businesses. However, the Plant is aging, and in order to continue providing reliable service for future generations, major upgrades and replacement of key facilities are necessary. The need for additional operational reliability, accommodating more concentrated flows, and higher quality discharge are also drivers for a series of projects over the next 20-plus years. All of these projects are compiled into the Sunnyvale Cleanwater Program (Program), which is the City's long-term capital improvement program to renovate the Plant through a series of projects and upgrades.

Providing reliable wastewater treatment 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Sunnyvale's Water Pollution Control Plant located next to the San Francisco Bay

What will the Sunnyvale Cleanwater Program accomplish?

- + Protect the environment by improving the quality of water discharged into the Bay
- + Divert organic material from landfills by digesting food scraps
- + Increase renewable energy to power the Plant and reduce demand on the grid
- + Minimize costs to rate payers by selecting cost-efficient technologies
- + Meet current and future regulatory standards for water and air quality
- + Efficiently maximize the use of existing space
- + Extend the useful life of existing facilities to maximize benefits
- + Create a safer working environment
- + Provide tours and educational opportunities
- + Improve resilience by coordinating regional efforts to protect against flooding



Who Does the Work?

Some 60 dedicated staff keep the plant humming and ensure high quality work at the Plant.



Plant Operators work 24 hours a day, continually monitoring all processes.



Maintenance Mechanics ensure equipment is dependable and keep it efficient.



Environmental Compliance Inspectors work with businesses and industries to help them meet City wastewater discharge requirements.



Laboratory chemists analyze samples all throughout the treatment process.



Support staff provides regular reports to meet regulatory requirements.



Fixed Growth Reactor

Project Highlight - Headworks and Primary Treatment Facility

In fall 2017, the Program's first construction milestone was achieved. The site location was prepared for a new headworks and primary treatment facility, the first treatment steps for wastewater entering the Plant. Construction of both headworks and primary treatment facilities is underway. The contractor is also constructing a perimeter wall that will ultimately surround and protect the Plant.

Recycling Gets a Boost

While consistently meeting its service and environmental goals, the Plant reuses many byproducts of the treatment process. These include producing electricity and mechanical power from waste gases, recovering heat from engines, and producing solids used primarily as an agricultural soil amendment or alternative daily cover for landfills. The Plant also offsets the City water supply by producing millions of gallons of recycled water distributed through the City's purple pipe network for approved, non-potable uses, including irrigation, fountains, and urinal/toilet flushing.

Program Milestones

Summer 2016 – Master Plan adopted, and Programmatic Environmental Impact Report certified

Summer 2016 – Construction begins on first project to upgrade the Headworks and Primary Treatment Facility

Summer 2019 – City awards design contract for the fifth project in Program

Upcoming Milestones

Summer 2020 – Headworks and Primary Treatment Facilities begin operating

Fall 2020 – Execute EPA Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan to help finance three upcoming projects (the WIFIA program accelerates investment in our nation's water infrastructure by providing long-term, low-cost supplemental loans for significant projects)



Sunnyvale Cleanwater Program Schedule



For more information, visit us at:

Sunnyvalecleanwater.com
Phone: 408-730-7260