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MSD's Community Benefits Program Reaches \$2 Million in Local Impact *Schools, parks and community organizations benefit through MSD construction projects*

LOUISVILLE, KY – A school's new playground. Improvements to a neighborhood park. Hundreds of hours of volunteer labor or mentorship. All these and more comprise the more than \$2 million in local impact from Louisville MSD's new Community Benefits Program.

While MSD's core function is managing the community's wastewater, stormwater and flood protection facilities, it recently launched the Community Benefits Program to leverage economic, environmental and social impacts through the utility's large-scale engineering, construction and professional service projects.

MSD's Community Benefits program—launched in 2019—focuses on the utility's construction projects over \$2 million or professional service contracts over \$200,000. During the contractor proposal stage, MSD encourages contractors to voluntarily submit community-benefit commitments they will pursue if awarded the project. These can include charitable contributions, volunteer hours, or in-kind services to area nonprofits or schools.

"MSD strives to be a good neighbor every day and we seek to forge partnerships with firms that also have strong commitments to the local community and that apply their resources to provide a positive impact to the communities we serve together," said Sharise Horne, MSD's director of community benefits and partnerships. "We want one-plus-one to equal three for our community."

Outcomes of MSD's Community Benefits program thus far include but are not limited to:

- Planning and construction of a new playground at Whitney Young Elementary
- Improvements to Chickasaw Park through Wilderness Louisville
- Weekend meals throughout the school year for more than 290 students at Engelhard Elementary through Blessings in a Backpack
- Volunteer hours to build and rehab homes for Habitat for Humanity
- 125 trees through the Urban Forestry Program of Louisville Grows
- Supporting minority entrepreneurs through OneWest's "Plan Room," an accelerator for design, construction and supply firms
- Workforce development initiatives through KentuckianaBuilds at the Louisville Urban League
- Scholarship support to STEM-focused students through ACE Mentor Program
- Apple pens and stylus holders for students at the all-girls school, Grace James Academy for Excellence Pathways to Equity apprenticeship program

MSD engineering and construction contractors who have contributed toward the \$2 million in community benefits include:



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- AECOM
- Brown and Caldwell
- Burgess & Niple
- Flynn Brothers Contracting
- Gonzalez Companies
- Greeley and Hansen
- Hazen and Sawyer
- HDR
- Heritage Engineering
- Jacobs
- MAC Construction
- OBCO
- RA Consultants
- Stantec Consulting Services
- Strand Associates
- Temple & Temple Excavating & Paving
- Tetra Tech
- Ulliman Schutte Construction

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About MSD

The Louisville/Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) works to achieve and maintain clean, environmentally safe waterways for a healthy and vibrant community. The organization's more than 670 employees provide wastewater management, drainage and flood protection services across the 376 square miles of Louisville Metro, and wastewater service in portions of Bullitt and Oldham counties. In addition to operating and maintaining Louisville Metro's sewer system, floodwall system, water quality treatment centers and flood pumping stations, MSD invests in hundreds of infrastructure improvement projects each year, plants more than 1,000 trees and other vegetation annually to enhance water filtration and reduce runoff, and provides numerous outreach programs to inform and educate the community about protecting our waterways.