

#### **OUR VISION**

Achieving Safe, Clean Waterways for a Healthy and Vibrant Community

# Message to the community

-aging critical infrastructure



Tony Parrott MSD Executive Director

Louisville, like many cities, is faced with aging infrastructure that must be maintained and refurbished in order to continue to serve a growing



The 1937 flood of the Ohio River led to construction of our flood protection system, including Beargrass Flood Pump Stationshown above—built in 1953. It is still operating with original parts that are no longer available for replacement.

community. Some of MSD's underground infrastructure predates the Civil War, and much of our flood protection system was built in the 1940s and '50s. In addition, an increased frequency of severe storms in recent years has amplified the need for our system to be ready to protect against the worst of today's weather.

MSD has completed an extensive analysis of these systems and has developed a Critical Repair & Reinvestment Plan to address the challenges posed by this aging infrastructure. The difficult truth is the solutions come with a price tag of \$4.3 billion over the next 20 years, including almost \$500 million to finish the remaining Consent Decree projects to meet the federal order to reduce sewer overflows.

## We want to hear from you:

Louisville can no longer avoid renewing and restoring its vital wastewater, flood protection and stormwater management facilities. Input is needed from the community to determine how soon the critical projects should be completed.

The entire Critical Repair & Reinvestment Plan is online for your review, as well as available in each of Louisville's public library branches. To view the Plan and provide feedback, visit: LouisvilleMSD.org/CriticalRepairPlan

The bottom line is this: at MSD, we're here to make Louisville a better place. A cleaner place. A healthier place. To have a real impact on the quality of life of the place we all call home. Working together, we can continue to pursue our Vision of "Safe, Clean Waterways for a Healthy and Vibrant Community."

Sincerely,

James A. Parrott MSD Executive Director



## **OUR MISSION**

Providing Exceptional Wastewater, Drainage and Flood Protection Services for Our Community

24/7/365 502.587.0603 · CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org



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# Remembering The 1937 Flood

In January 1937, seventy percent of Louisville was flooded, mainly in the western and central sections, requiring evacuations of more than 230,000 residents. Ninety people lost their lives due to the event. Property damage from that flood calculated in today's dollar value would top \$3.3 billion.

Louisville was just one of many Ohio River Valley cities to suffer devastation from the flood. On January 27, 1937 the river at Louisville reached its highest recorded level of 57.15 feet. This record still stands today. Crews at the Louisville Water pump station kept the city in clean drinking water despite being stranded at the site for days.

The Ohio River Flood Protection System—was built in response to The 1937 Flood. Construction was scheduled to begin in 1941, but was delayed due to U. S. involvement



- Protects 110 square miles of Louisville Metro
- 29 miles of floodwall and earthen levee protect when the river rises
- **16 flood pumping stations** push water through or over the levees into the river
- In 2015, MSD pumped 16 billion gallons of floodwater out of the city into the river



This page: Historical photos of 1937 Flood in Louisville, courtesy the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

in World War II. Construction finally began in 1947. The city and county governments paid for the land and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers provided the design and construction work. Each completed section was turned over to the city of Louisville. MSD became responsible for the Flood Protection System in 1987.

## The 1937 Flood, continued



Beargrass Flood Pump Station was completed in 1956 and is still serving our community today.

One piece of this system is MSD's Beargrass Pump Station —construction began in July 1953 and was completed for a cost of \$5 million in March 1956. When built, it was the second largest pump station in the world. Today, MSD crews must fabricate parts to keep the facility running because replacement parts are no longer available.

Along with age, the increased frequency of severe storms adds to the strain on our infrastructure. The need for flood protection against the Ohio River is growing. MSD estimates that \$683 million is required to ensure Louisville's Ohio River flood protection facilities continue to keep local homes and businesses safe. Lessons learned in 1937 should never be forgotten.



Pond Creek Flood Pump Station in southwestern Jefferson County

Take a look! Check out our new user-friendly website LouisvilleMSD.org

## MSD Milestones

### Welcome to MSD

Francis Becht III, Health & Safety Administrator Randal Clifton, Electrical Maintenance Supervisor Nathaniel Ferrell, Laborer-Collections Annetta Gibson, Safety & Security Investigator Yajaira Morphonios, Capital Program Controls Manager Pasqual Reynolds, Laborer-Collections

#### **Congratulations on your promotion/reclassification**

Ellis Anderson IV, Sanitary Supervisor Bruce Binkley, Master Maintenance Mechanic Caleb Deerr, Utility Worker II David Denzik, Master Maintenance Electrician Heather Dodds, Regulatory Compliance Administrator Michael Dorton, Utility Worker II James Ellsworth, Process Tech I Dan French, Records and GIS Services Manager Debra Johnson, Revenue Specialist II Mark Keller, Control Systems Specialist Kevin King, Process Tech I David Mulloy, Engineer II Jermaine Murphy, Sanitary Supervisor Robin Shaw, Records Administrator Sharon Worley, Regional WQTC Program Manager

#### Happy service anniversary

25 years	Zonetta English	Peggy Noble
10 years	Cassandra Anderson	Elbert Bledsaw Jr.
5 years	Chad Crabtree	Mike Steinbock
Congratulations on your retirement		
James Bobbitt		Julie Potempa

## Customer Compliments

I called MSD to get information about a service request at my property, and **Marya Summers** was very helpful, polite and gave me all the information I needed. She provided very good customer service.

– Kathy Anderson

Da'Rius Calloway, Christopher Hendrix, Ronald Smith, Kevin Snodgrass and Denzil Whalin came out to my property and were very neat, polite and informative. They did an awesome job. This was my first customer service experience with MSD, and it was very pleasant. — Ben Hundley

I really appreciate the work that **Pat Berry, Vikki Huelsman, Horace Gaither** and **Jeff Nalley** do for MSD's Plumbing Modification Program. I appreciate that MSD pays for this service to help protect residents' basements. What a way to give back to the community!

- Malisa Hlavacek



#### 700 West Liberty Street Louisville, KY 40203-1911



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MSD Board information: You can find information about MSD Board actions on our website, msdrecords.LouisvilleMSD.org

The public is welcome to attend MSD Board meetings. Access http://msdrecords.louisvillemsd.org/ openmsd/board.aspx for the full schedule of both regular and Board committee meetings.

#### MSD STREAMLINE · February 2017

Upcoming **Events** 

FEBRUARY 14 MSD Infrastructure Committee Meeting 1 pm, 700 West Liberty Street

FEBRUARY 16 MSD Customer Service Committee Meeting 1 pm, 700 West Liberty Street

FEBRUARY 21 Derek R. Guthrie WQTC Facility Plan Public Hearing 6 pm, Southwest Regional Library 9725 Dixie Highway

FEBRUARY 23 MSD Personnel Committee Meeting 2 pm, 700 West Liberty Street

FEBRUARY 27 MSD Board Meeting 1 pm, Open Session, 700 West Liberty Street

# Make plans now to attend Ohio River Sweep

Saturday · June 17, 2017 · 9 a.m. to Noon

# Use kitty litter on your sidewalks this winter instead of salt



When it rains or snows, all that stormwater has to go somewhere. As it flows into creeks and streams, and eventually to the Ohio River, stormwater accumulates things like sidewalk salt, which can harm our waterways. This winter use kittly litter on your sidewalks instead of salt.

Together we can achieve safe, clean waterways for our community.

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