

**Sewer is Sexy ...seriously???**



**Okay, so maybe sewer isn't sexy...**

**But this is a really important topic that we need to discuss.**

**We've tried to make this an engaging and fun presentation about poop.**



The sewer treatment plant is a pond system with pre-treatment for the industrial users. Then everything is treated in Pond 1, to Pond 2 and Pond 3, and finally out to the wetlands.



**The current system**

**We want to improve the plant to make sure we stay in compliance with the State's permit rules and to prepare Hammond for future growth.**



# The problems

- Inadequate aeration – need oxygen/bubbles for happy bugs
- High ammonia levels – takes away oxygen
- Reduced detention during heavy rainfall
- No capacity for future growth



# The problems



- **INADEQUATE AERATION** – We need more oxygen from aerators or “blowers”. The bacteria or “bugs” in the ponds need oxygen to break down what comes in (think about what goes down the drain or is flushed down toilets – soap, grease, food, toilet paper, and, well... poop).
- **HIGH AMMONIA LEVELS** – Sometimes ammonia is high, which takes oxygen away from the bugs and makes them less effective.

# The problems

- **REDUCED DETENTION TIME** – When it rains a lot, the additional stormwater flushes everything through the system faster. For example, the average flow is 4.1 million gallons per day (MGD), but in heavy rainfall, it can increase to 6 MGD or even as high as 11 MGD.
- **NO ROOM FOR FUTURE GROWTH** – We need more physical space to prepare for future growth in Hammond.



# The solution

Add another pond that will increase capacity by 8 million gallons per day. This makes sure we can handle heavy rains and that we're ready for future growth.



**Add more aerators/blowers.** The new aerators add more oxygen and make the bugs happy with their bubbles. Happy bugs create a better work environment – more efficient and within compliance.

# The financing

The plant improvement is estimated at \$2.1 million. We're proposing to use the Clean Water State Revolving Loan, which is a federal program run by the State:

- 20-year loan with less than 1% interest (.95%)
- Only have to pay on what we actually use

We'll pay back the loan from the money that already comes into the City through your water/sewer bill payments. We don't have to add an extra fee to pay it.



# The election

So why haven't we already started?  
According to the City's charter,  
Hammond citizens must approve  
the loan before we can start.

**So you get to decide.**

Vote on November 16, 2019. Early voting is November 2-9.

The ballot language is long and wordy. Look for the key words of Sewer Revenue Bonds and \$2,100,000.



# The ballot

The ballot is asking:

- Should the City take out \$2.1 million in sewer revenue bonds (“a loan”)...
- To pay for upgrading the sewer treatment plant and...
- That the loan will be for less than 22 years and less than 1% interest and...
- That the loan will be paid back from sewer revenues (your water/sewer bills)?



**YES** = take out the loan for this project

**NO** = don't take out the loan

# The official language

Shall the City of Hammond, State of Louisiana (the "City") under the authority of (i) Article VI, Section 37 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, (ii) Section 524 of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, as amended, (iii) Section 5-08 of the City's Home Rule Charter, and other constitutional and statutory authority supplemental thereto, incur bonded debt and issue up to Two Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (**\$2,100,000**) of **Sewer Revenue Bonds** (the "Bonds") **to finance** the acquisition and construction of additions, extensions and **improvements to the City's wastewater** collection, treatment and disposal system (**the "System"**), including equipment and fixtures therefor, and also including costs of issuance, such Bonds to mature over a period **not to exceed twenty-two (22) years** from the date of issuance, **to bear interest at a rate of not more than one percent (1%) per annum**, and to be payable from a pledge and dedication of the **income and revenues of the System** after payment of the reasonable and necessary expenses of operating and maintaining the System?



**Questions?**

**Call 985-277-5653**