

# Common Council Update

## Utilities Committee

February 26, 2024

Eric Horvath, Public Works Director



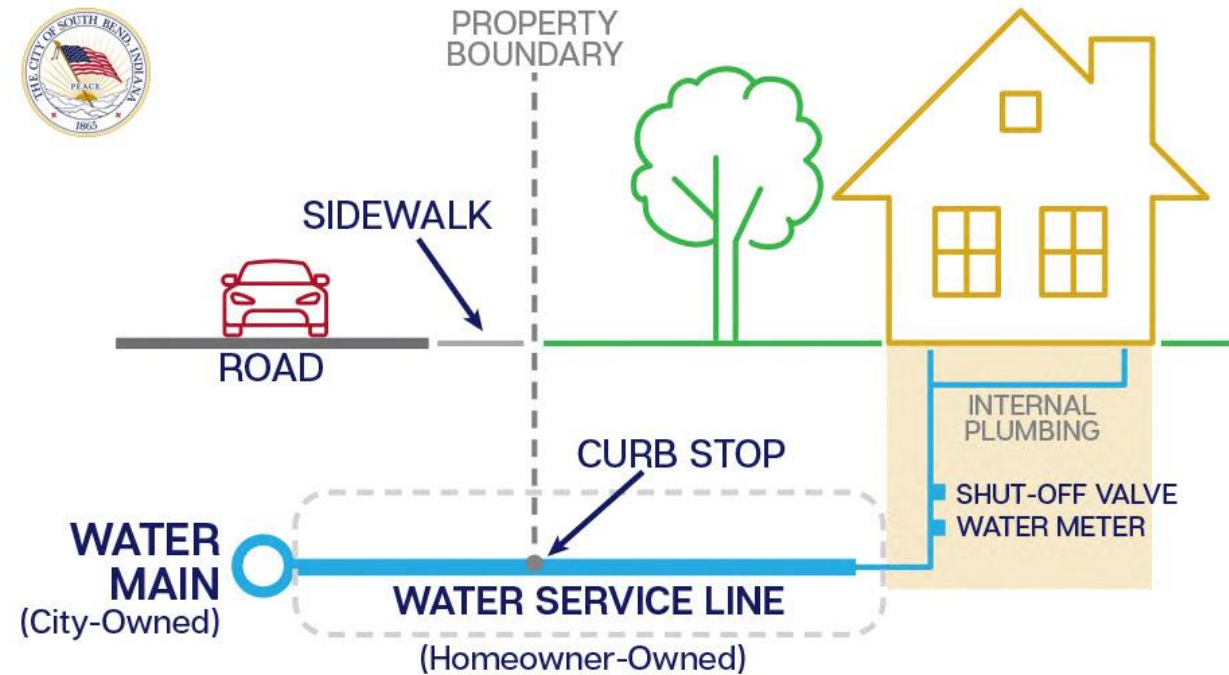
CITY OF SOUTH BEND  
PUBLIC WORKS

# Lead Service Lines

# Water Service Line Material Inventory



- New EPA regulations requiring public water utilities to identify and map all drinking water service line materials connecting from City water mains to the customer's home by October 2024.
- Water service line is the pipe that carries water from the City's water main in the street to the house or building.
- The property owner owns the service line from the water main to the house.



# Water Service Line Material Inventory



- To create the inventory, the City is using:
  - Data-driven predictive modeling
  - Water insurance and main break reports
  - Residential surveys and field verification
  - Inventory will be regularly updated and maintained



**Help the City Identify Your Water Service Line Material**

The City of South Bend distributes clean, safe drinking water to homes and businesses that meets all state and federal water quality standards. As part of new Environmental Protection Agency's regulations, public water utilities are now required to identify all drinking water service line materials that connect from City water mains to the customer's home.

Since the City cannot visit every home to determine the material of water service lines, we're asking for your help. The process to identify a service line is simple and should only take five minutes.

The QR code below includes a brief instructional video on how to identify your water service line and upload a photograph of the service line material.

**Take the City's Service Line Survey!**



[southbendin.gov/service-line](https://southbendin.gov/service-line)



COPPER  
GALVANIZED STEEL  
LEAD  
PLASTIC





# Home Water Testing for Lead

- City Water customers can get their water tested for lead for free.
- Test requires water to not be used for six hours prior to testing.
- If results show lead levels higher than 10 parts per billion, the City will provide a water pitcher filter.
- Customers can request a lead sampling kit by calling 311 or emailing [waterquality@southbendin.gov](mailto:waterquality@southbendin.gov).

# Utility Assistance Program (UAP)

# Utility Assistance Program (UAP)



- Enrollment in program can reduce water and sewer bills by up to \$25.50 per month for qualifying customers
- Program is open to homeowners and tenants
- Apply online at [southbend.in.gov/UAP](https://southbend.in.gov/UAP)
- Monthly discount is for one year and applicant must reapply every year
- 2,810 customers currently enrolled



# Utility Assistance Program

- To be eligible, applicants must:
  - Meet income guidelines (Be at or below 80% of the area median income)
  - Receive sewer service from the City
- Residents who meet income guidelines are assigned one of four tiers of credit

Income Eligibility Cutoffs as a Percentage of Area Median Income (AMI)*	Credit Amount
>60% - 80% of AMI	\$8.00
>45% - 60% of AMI	\$14.25
>30% - 45% of AMI	\$19.25
>0% - 30% of AMI	\$25.50



# Addressing Combined Sewer Overflows

# Long Term Control Plan

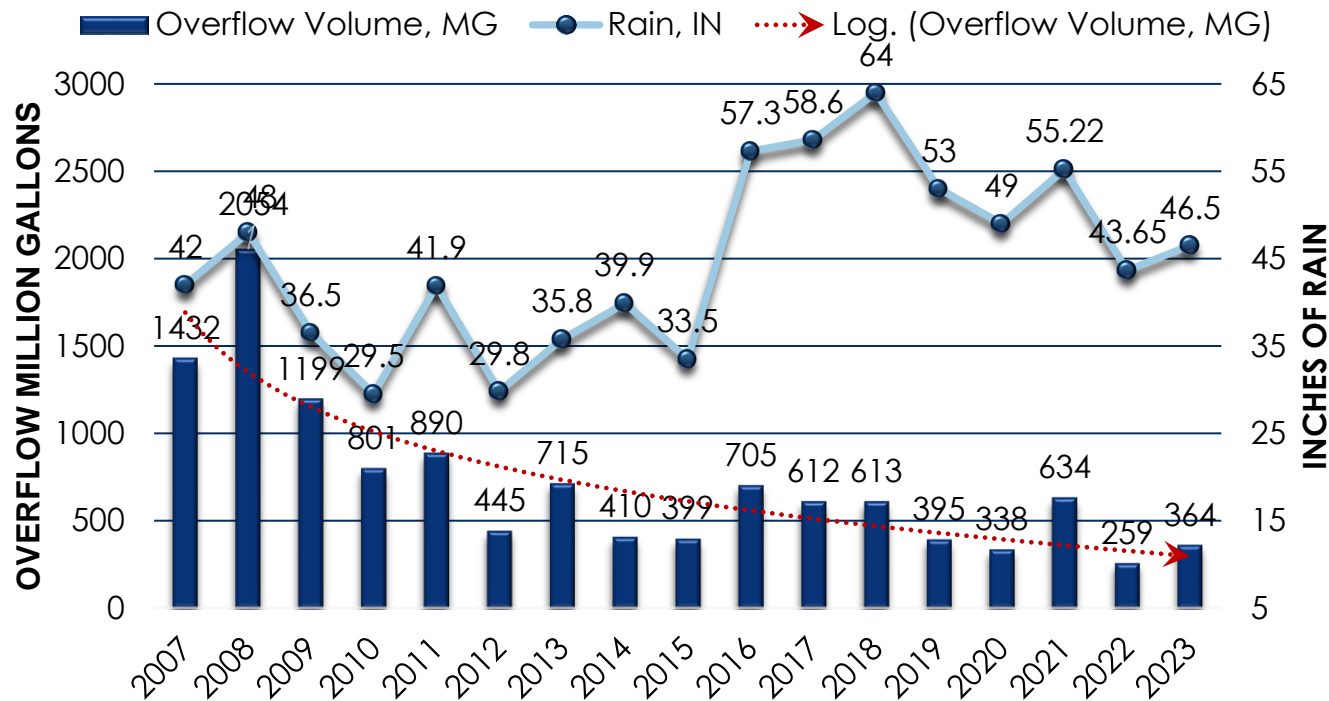


- Initial Long Term Control Plan developed in 2012 to address Combined Sewer Overflows into the St. Joseph River.
  - Phase 1 of Plan completed at cost of almost \$150 Million
  - Phase 2 was expected to cost an additional \$700+ Million
- In 2022 a new Plan was finalized and approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of Justice (DOJ) called SAGE – **S**marter **A**lternative for **G**reener **E**nvironment
  - Cost: \$276 Million
  - Timeline: 2022 - 2038

# Smarter Alternative for Greener Environment



- Smart sensors in our sewer system have allowed the City to model and better predict how the sewer system will handle stormwater during rain events.



# Plan Funding



- The SAGE Plan includes the following projects that will reduce overflows into the river:
  - 4 large Combined Sewer Overflow storage tanks
  - Major upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Plan
  - New sewer interconnects, green stormwater infrastructure, new river crossing, among other things.
- Low interest loan secured from Indiana's Clean Water Act – State Revolving Loan Fund.
  - Funding approved in 2023
  - Tank and current WWTP improvements - \$32 Million

# Current Projects



- First CSO storage tank has begun construction
- Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades underway
- Second CSO storage tank project to begin engineering soon (late 2024)



# Water System Upgrades

# Fellows Booster Pumping Station

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- Construct a new booster pumping station along with distribution pipe improvements, 3-phase 480V electrical transformer (AEP) and improved electrical feed to the facility, and generator back-up power.
- Budget: \$8.2 M
- 2024 Construction



# South Distribution & Facility Improvements

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- Install additional water main from South WTP into South pressure zone
- Install new dry chlorine scrubbing equipment and replace fluoride, chlorine and phosphate discharge piping
- Budget: \$5.5 M
- 2024 Construction







# Edison Water Treatment Plant Improvements

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- Improvements include:
  - Rehabilitation of 8 filters including underdrains, air scour, filter media, blowers, valves and actuators
  - Fluoride System Upgrades
  - Electrical and Controls Upgrades
- Budget: \$8 M
- 2025 Construction

