

COMBINED UTILITY SYSTEM

Description and Mission

The Combined Utility System (CUS) of the Public Works & Engineering Department is composed of three separate funds: the Water and Sewer System Operating Fund 8300, the Combined Utility System Operating Fund 8301 and the Combined Utility System General Purpose Fund 8305.

The department's mission is to plan, design, construct, operate and maintain Houston's critical public infrastructure systems to provide excellent drinking water and wastewater collection and treatment, as well as, provide superior customer service to our utility customers and do so responsively, efficiently, and in an environmentally responsible fashion.

Department Short Term Goals:

- Further reduce the City's use of groundwater to achieve compliance with mandates of Harris-Galveston Coastal Subsidence District.
- Maintain compliance with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) clean water standards, as well as, American Water Works Association (AWWA) meter fire safety standards.
- Expand fixed network system coverage and implementation of automated meter reading functionality to enhance consumption data collection, improve services to water customers through leak identification, usage patterns and billing accuracy.
- Complete implementation of an Integrated Disaster Recovery/Data Storage System for consolidated mainframe and open systems.

Department Long Term Goals:

- Continue to train and develop a group of professional water and wastewater managers and operators to ensure continued reliable and efficient operation of the utility in the coming decades.
- Continue neighborhood sanitary sewer rehabilitation program. This will provide a reliable system to the citizens and reduce repair costs in the future.
- Continue fire hydrant rehabilitation program. This will provide reliable water access to City fire fighters in response to future fire emergency calls that protect citizen lives and property.
- Implement and support wireless WiMax initiatives.
- Increase the number of preventive maintenance repairs at wastewater facilities by 100% (2,100 vs. 4,300) in order to maintain high operational efficiency and reduce service interruption.

COMBINED UTILITY SYSTEM Department Organization

