

COMBINED UTILITY SYSTEM

Description and Mission

The Public Utilities Division of the Public Works and Engineering Department operates the City's water and wastewater facilities, and plans for the future water and wastewater needs throughout the City. As a result of the recent debt restructuring, several new funds are being created. The primary operating fund will continue to be Fund 701 – the Water and Sewer System Operating Fund. A new fund is being created – Fund 702 – the Combined Utility System Operating Fund. This new fund is needed to pay the debt service on the newly issued System debt. Fund 702 will also serve as a pass through for funds moving from Fund 701 to Fund 708. Fund 708 – the Combined Utility System General Purpose Fund – is replacing Fund 816 (see page VIII – 72 for more details).

The Division primarily provides drinking water to homes and businesses as well as untreated water to major contract customers. Wastewater is collected throughout the city and treated for a safe return to local streams. It is one of the largest and most complex Public Utility Systems in the entire United States. The System continues to implement competitive work practices; install technology; implement procedures and enhance training in order to deliver high value service to customers; preserve facilities; and meet environmental and regulatory standards.

The Mission of the Public Utilities Division is to:

- o Supply drinking water throughout the Houston Metropolitan Regional Area.
- o Treat domestic and industrial wastewater.
- o Meet all regulatory mandates and requirements.
- o Provide regional, state and national leadership.
- o Plan future water supplies for the region.

Organization

