COMBINED UTILITY SYSTEM

Description and Mission

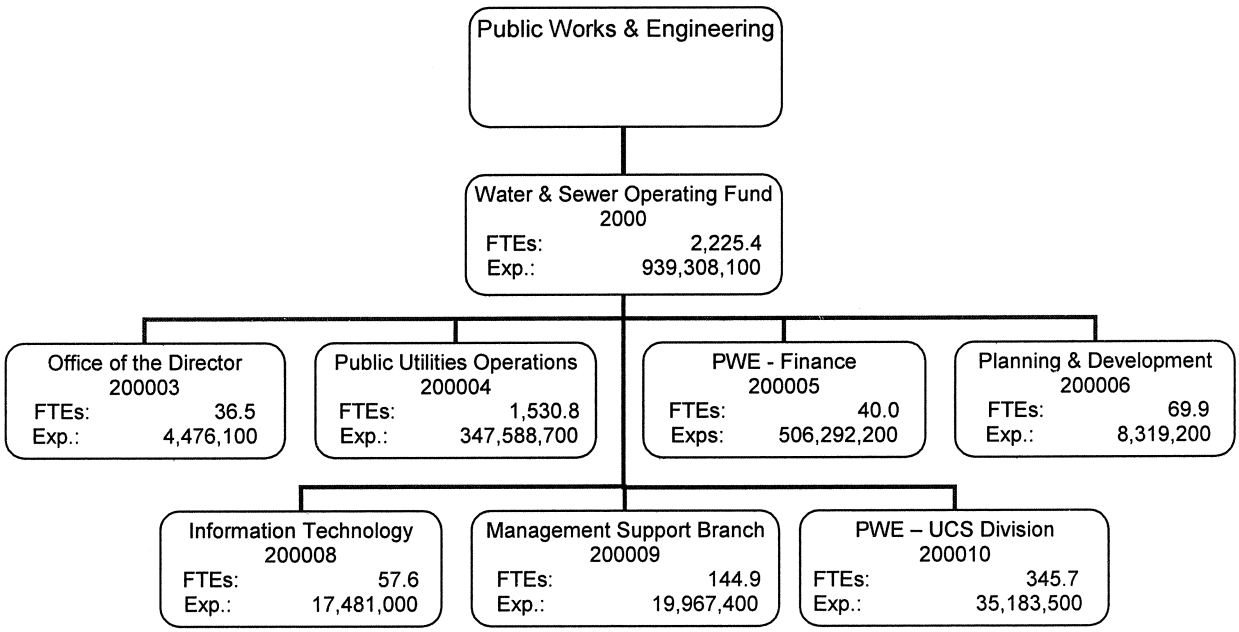
The Combined Utility System (CUS) of the Public Works & Engineering Department is composed of three separate funds: the Water and Sewer System Operating Fund 8300, the Combined Utility System Operating Fund 8301 and the Combined Utility System General Purpose Fund 8305.

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:

- Monitor City's use of groundwater to maintain compliance with mandates of Harris-Galveston Coastal Subsidence District.
- Maintain compliance with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) clean and safe drinking water standards, as well as, American Water Works Association (AWWA) Partnership for Safe Water 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.
- Implement a new network operations center that ensures a highly secure and reliable application infrastructure, network infrastructure and support services.
- Develop a mobile work order system and service applications to track service requests and analyze work orders to enhance utility customer service.

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.
- Expand the implementation and support of WiMax (wireless) initiatives across PWE divisions.

COMBINED UTILITY SYSTEM
Department Organization