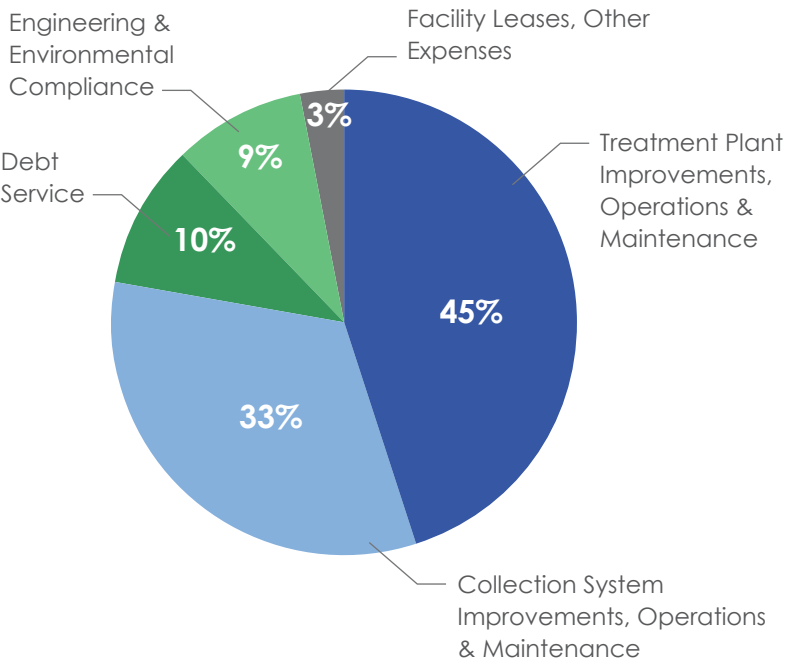


How your sewer fees are used



How Are Sewer Projects and the Clean Water Program Funded?

All properties that tie into the sewer collection system pay sewer use fees, which are used to fund the Clean Water Program as well as the city's ongoing operations and maintenance expenses. The City is pursuing a number of different financing options for the program, including state and federal loans, revenue bonds, and grants.

Private Sewer Lateral Cost-Sharing Program

Each year, the City funds a cost-sharing program to help property owners offset the cost of replacing their private sewer lateral (the connection from their property to the City's wastewater collection system). More information is available on the City's website at <http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/PrivateSewerLaterals>.

More Information

Please visit the Clean Water Program website:
www.CleanWaterProgramSanMateo.org.
For questions, call (650) 727-6870 or email info@CleanWaterProgramSanMateo.org.

The Clean Water Program goals are:



Replace aging infrastructure and facilities



Build wet weather sewer system capacity assurance to prevent overflows



Meet current and future regulatory requirements



Align with the City of San Mateo and Foster City's sustainability goals



More Information about the San Mateo Wastewater Collection and Treatment System

Informational Opportunities and Important Dates

February 1

Community Meeting, 6:30-8:30 pm
City Council Chambers
330 W. 20th Street
San Mateo, CA 94403

February 19

Rate proposal ordinance introduced at City Council

March 5

City Council public hearing on proposed rate restructuring and increase

Wastewater Collection and Treatment in San Mateo

Our wastewater collection and treatment system is vital to the health and well-being of our community.

The underground collection system includes 234 miles of sewer lines and 26 pump stations. Homes and businesses are connected to a network of sewer lines that flow to San Mateo's wastewater treatment plant. Maintaining the collection and treatment system is a 24-hour operation that is managed by the City's Public Works Department. It is the mission of the Public Works Department to ensure that the wastewater treatment plant and underground collection system operates properly and provides reliable service to the community, meets regulatory requirements, maintains infrastructure, and aligns with the environmental and sustainability goals of the City. The City conducts maintenance and operation, routine inspections for damage, and cleaning on a year-round basis. We work with businesses and residents to reduce the amount of fats, oils, and grease (FOG) that enter the system. FOG can be a major source of system blockages and backups.

Our treatment plant and collection system require routine maintenance and upkeep to keep operating properly, efficiently, and safely. As the system ages, repairs become necessary for reliable functionality. Eventually, some components break down or deteriorate and require total replacement. Some of the current wastewater treatment infrastructure has been in place for up to 75 years and is nearing the end of its useful life.



Diluted raw sewage overflowing out of manhole and onto street.

Additional capacity is also required to meet increasing regulatory requirements to prevent overflows and to protect human and environmental health. Sewer system overflows are common in the existing system during heavy rains, resulting in untreated wastewater contaminating streets and surface water supplies, traveling all the way into the Bay. The State has issued the City a Cease and Desist order for these overflows. The City has developed a comprehensive plan to respond to these multi-pronged challenges —the Clean Water Program.

The Clean Water Program has the following goals:

- To replace aging pipes and facilities.
- To meet current and future regulatory requirements and increase system capacity during heavy rains.
- To align with long-term sustainability goals.

The Clean Water Program's planned capital improvements will protect public health and the water quality of San Francisco Bay. The improvements will include expanding and upgrading the wastewater treatment plant, improving pump stations, enlarging or replacing pipes, and identifying and correcting sources of inflow.

