

London City Council Update March 3, 2022

Good evening and thanks to everyone for coming out.

I would like to start off by talking about the contactor tank at the water treatment plant.

There have been questions posed about the current water situation in the City of London. We are in constant contact with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the water is safe for consumption.

Recently issues with our solid contact clarifier / water softening contactor tank occurred. The Water Department immediately started to work on the diagnosis and repair. A large bearing in the drive system that rotates the paddles to mix the softening agent with the water has failed. This 37-inch bearing was the industry standard, but the standard has changed to a 33-inch bearing. This has complicated the process.

There have been some residents reporting light brown water coming from their faucets. This is occurring due to the lack of softener in the water. The water softening step helps with the removal of iron. We are taking steps to backwash the current filters more often to help with this issue. We are also out detecting any leaks that may be occurring. Once we repair the solid contact clarifier / water softening contactor tank this issue should be remedied.

The 37-inch bearing to repair the solid contact clarifier / water softening contactor tank has been delivered and is on site. They are currently installing the bearing and will be receiving the chain needed to complete the repair tomorrow. We hope the repair will be completed next week and we will immediately begin to fill the tank and start softening the water. If everything goes to plan people will start seeing improvement to their water by Sunday March 13, 2022.

The County has begun debris cleanout of the creek that runs between Park Ave and Garfield behind Jacqueline Drive and the city has been clearing the creek and removing trees at the Toland Street bridge. They both have been able to clear a lot of material out which will help with the flow of the water during heavy rains. This is another step we are taking to help with the flooding issues that occur during very high rain falls.

Choice One Engineering is currently in town surveying the south end of town. They will be getting information and grades to help us come up with a plan to also help with flooding issues throughout the city. Once the report is back, we will be able to present it and start to look at a plan of action.

The installation of our new traffic, signal lights will begin on Monday, March 7th. If you come to an intersection where the signals are being replaced and not yet operating, please treat the intersection as a 4-way stop. And as always, be careful driving near construction vehicles and crews working in the street. All traffic signal lights within the city will be replaced except for the intersections of Elm & Lafayette, Elm & Keny and Maple & Center.

The first of four Town Hall Meetings to discuss the levy will be held here at City Hall on Tuesday March 8 at 6:00pm. We are very excited to be able to present the facts to the citizens and let them see the vision. The other three town hall meetings will be held on March 22nd, April 12th and April 26th.

Now on to the MOLO fun fact which is the number 15. That is the total number of years Tammy Braskett has served as the City of London Director of Parks and Recreation. Tammy has notified us that she will be leaving her position effective June 4, 2022. We would like to thank Tammy for all she has been able to do since she came back 6 years ago. We have doubled the number of kids that participate in our youth sports, the pool has become successful especially with the addition of the splash pad and Cowling Park is a destination point for many people and this is just naming a few things. Tammy will be missed but we will continue to build on what she has grown and look forward to the next chapter in that department.