

- The next phase of smoke testing is schedule to begin in July of this year and will focus on remaining locations where surcharges have taken place that were not addressed in this spring's smoke testing plan.
- Areas prone to overflows are inspected and cleaned prior to heavy rain events to ensure possible obstructions are eliminated during higher anticipated flows.
- Finally the city has budgeted to expend \$500,000 dollars in this budget year, \$1 million next year and \$6 million the following year, followed by \$10 million and \$2.5 million in subsequent years to line its largest diameter sewer mains which contribute to most of our I&I problems. This is in addition to the \$32 million dollar Force Main project which will eliminate the system's largest source of I&I.

We believe that the aggressive schedule approach we are taking on the consent order items as well as the additional work planned for sewer main lining will ultimately eliminate the overwhelming majority of our sewer overflows sooner rather than later.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate that the City has expended over \$52 million in sewer system improvement over the last 5-years and has committed to spend over \$90 million on sewer system improvements in the next five years. We are ahead of schedule on all items in the C.O. and have addressed most, if not all, of the causes of the violations in the NOV letter, with projects either completed, contracts awarded, or active bids with contracts to be awarded in the next several months.

Thank you for taking the time to review the city's efforts to gain and maintain full compliance with EPD regulations. We believe our efforts demonstrate our professional and financial commitment to address and resolve these issues. Please feel free to contact me if additional information is needed.

Respectfully,



Henry Hicks  
Utilities Director  
City of Valdosta