

July 5, 2018

Timothy Gross, PE
Director of Public Works/City Engineer
541-574-3366
t.gross@newportoregon.gov



Nye Beach Pump Station Project Update

The City of Newport has contracted with Stettler Supply & Construction to construct improvements at the Nye Beach Sanitary Sewer Pump Station located on Beach Drive at the Nye Beach Turnaround. The project began March 20th 2018. The work has required closing of a section of Beach Drive and the middle parking lot at the Nye Beach Turn Around. The upper and lower parking lots have remained open as well as pedestrian access to the Visual Arts Center, beach and public restrooms.

The Nye Beach Pump Station has historically been susceptible to plugging because of debris from the upstream hotels and County Jail. Public Works crews daily backwash the pumps to prevent them from becoming bound up by debris and failing, which would result in an overflow to Nye Beach. The project includes installing a grinder that will reduce the debris size so that the pumps can pass it without plugging. The installation of the grinder requires that several manholes be constructed in Beach Drive so that the wastewater flow can be concentrated and passed through the grinder before flowing to the pump station. Because of the very small site footprint in Nye Beach, the wet well that stores the wastewater at the station is also very small, which means that the timeframe between a pump failure and an overflow is only about 60 seconds. When the grinder and manholes are installed and operational, the pumps in the station will be replaced with new, higher capacity pumps which will more reliably handle the flow.

During initial excavation of the site, it was discovered that the wastewater forcemain did not conform to the as-built drawings and that a significant portion of the site was covered in concrete. In order to complete the improvements, it is necessary to relocate the forcemain and remove the concrete. To do so, the pump station will need to be bypassed with temporary pumps.

Over the last two weeks, the contractor has been trying to install a reliable bypass pumping system with little success. The bypass system needs to work flawlessly before the City is willing to take the pump station out of service to perform the forcemain relocation. Our hope is that the bypass system will be operational this coming week (7/9-7/13) and the work can continue. At that time I will provide another update with an anticipated completion date. I am very sorry for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience.