



ORANGE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

*A public, non-profit agency providing water, sewer and reclaimed water services
to the Carrboro-Chapel Hill community.*

April 27, 2015

Mayor Lydia Lavelle
Town of Carrboro
301 West Main Street
Carrboro, NC 27510

Mayor Mark Kleinschmidt
Town of Chapel Hill
405 Martin Luther King Jr.
Boulevard
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Earl McKee, Chair of the Board
of Commissioners
County of Orange
PO Box 8181
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Dear Mayor Lavelle, Mayor Kleinschmidt and Chair McKee:

We are pleased to submit this report on our services, projects, initiatives and planning from January through March 2015.

Rates and financial management

Staff has recommended no increase in monthly rates for water, sewer and reclaimed water services. If the proposed Fiscal Year 2016 budget is approved, it will be the fourth consecutive year in which the OWASA Board has adopted a budget with no increase in monthly rates. We will hold public hearings on the proposed rates, budget and capital improvement program on May 28, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Chapel Hill Town Hall.

Preliminary engineering study for sewers in Historic Rogers Road Area

Our consultant completed the preliminary engineering study for extending sewers to serve the Historic Rogers Road Area (HRRA). The study included field investigations, meeting with Rogers Road area leaders, reviewing and adjusting our 2012 Sewer Concept Plan and identifying alternative sewer routes.

The consultant estimated the cost to install 3.5 miles of sewers is \$5.7 million for design, construction, etc. This estimate does not include costs for private plumbing installation, easement acquisition or OWASA connection fees. We will work with the County, Towns and consultant to develop estimates for these costs.

On April 23, we approved the Interlocal Agreement with Orange County for OWASA to proceed with the design and permitting phase to extend sewers in the HRRA. The Orange County Board of Commissioners will next consider the agreement. We estimate that design and permitting may begin in July 2015, take about a year and cost about \$370,000, but the time needed to acquire easements may affect the timetable.

Affordability engagement

OWASA staff continues to work with more than a dozen community agencies to help inform low and moderate income customers about ways they can reduce their OWASA bills by reducing their water use. We provided technical assistance to the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service for a pilot project to do water-saving plumbing retrofits and water leak repairs at four homes in the Northside neighborhood. The retrofits were completed in February. In March, we worked with the Jackson Center to include information about how to reduce water bills in the most recent issue of the Northside News newsletter, which the Jackson Center distributed to about 800 families, businesses and other organizations in the Northside and Knolls neighborhoods.

Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) feasibility study

We will study the benefits, costs and other aspects of advanced metering technology because of its potential to help customers become aware more quickly about unexpected increases in water use, apparent leaks, etc. and thus to enhance overall water conservation.

In January, we received 11 statements of qualifications from consulting firms and on February 19, 2015 we selected the firm of Don Schelenger and Associates. We expect to proceed with the study in June after signing of a contract in May. We expect that the feasibility study may be complete in December.

Biosolids Management

On January 8, 2015, after receiving comments from several citizens including several Orange County farmers participating in our program, we agreed to continue recycling liquid biosolids on farmland through 2015 (when conditions and resources permit), and continue recycling about half of our biosolids through composting of dewatered biosolids.

On April 9, 2015, we approved a staff proposal to study near-term options for recycling dewatered biosolids and changes to previously established biosolids management objectives. Staff plans to report back to the Board in late summer.

Capital Improvements

Current projects include:

- renewing sewers at various locations by resealing the inside of the pipes to keep out stormwater and groundwater, and
- improvements to a sewer which crosses over Morgan Creek near Rhododendron Drive.

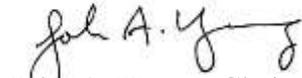
Projects which will begin this spring include:

- replacing a sewer near Brigham Road and Emory Drive in Chapel Hill.

- renovating two tanks (“digesters”) at our Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant where we treat solids to make recyclable biosolids.

We would welcome the opportunity to provide additional information to you on these or other topics.

Sincerely,



John A. Young, Chair
OWASA Board of Directors

c: Ms. Bonnie Hammersley, Orange County Manager
Mr. Roger L. Stancil, Chapel Hill Town Manager
Mr. David Andrews, Carrboro Town Manager
OWASA Board of Directors
Ed Kerwin, OWASA Executive Director

Attachments: Information regarding off-site odor elimination at the Mason Farm Wastewater Treatment Plant

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF CALLS AND E-MAILS TO OWASA
FROM NEIGHBORS REPORTING ODOR
IN THE MASON FARM WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT AREA

January-2002 to December-2015

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 Reports	2015 Events
January	11	3	9	0	8	3	8	1	3	3	4	0	3	0	0
February	7	5	2	0	8	0	4	1	0	3	3	0	4	0	0
March	9	0	7	1	10	4	1	1	0	2	8	0	0	1	1
April	9	2	4	0	9	3	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0
May	6	0	2	5	8	3	2	5	4	0	1	3	0	0	0
June	4	1	1	1	5	1	8	8	1	2	2	0	0	0	0
July	1	0	2	0	0	2	6	3	2	4	0	0	2	0	0
August	1	0	4	3	11	2	9	0	1	1	2	0	2	0	0
September	2	5	2	2	9	3	1	1	5	1	1	0	3	0	0
October	2	6	1	1	8	8	2	0	3	3	2	2	3	0	0
November	0	0	1	7	2	6	7	1	1	4	0	1	0	0	0
December	3	3	2	5	8	10	2	1	1	6	3	5	0	0	0
TOTALS	55	25	37	25	86	45	51	23	23	30	27	11	17	1	1

An “odor event” is defined as: One or more odor reports received during a 24 hour period from WWTP neighbor(s). Each odor event shall be considered to be “verified” unless OWASA determines conclusively that an alternative source other than the WWTP created the odor.

LOG OF CALLS AND E-MAILS TO OWASA
FROM NEIGHBORS REPORTING ODOR IN THE MASON FARM
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (WWTP) AREA

January 2015 – March 2015

Date call received	Time call received	Location
January 2015	No Reported Odors	N/A
February 2015	No Reported Odors	N/A
3/11/2015	8:16am	1016 Highland Woods Road

**SUMMARY OF ON-SITE HYDROGEN SULFIDE (H₂S)
ODOR MONITORING**

Month and year	Headworks Monitor			UNC Monitor			Digester Monitor			Switchgear Monitor		
	Average H ₂ S Reading (ppm)	Minimum H ₂ S Reading (ppm)	Maximum H ₂ S Reading (ppm)	Average H ₂ S Reading (ppm)	Minimum H ₂ S Reading (ppm)	Maximum H ₂ S Reading (ppm)	Average H ₂ S Reading (ppm)	Minimum H ₂ S Reading (ppm)	Maximum H ₂ S Reading (ppm)	Average H ₂ S Reading (ppm)	Minimum H ₂ S Reading (ppm)	Maximum H ₂ S Reading (ppm)
January 2015	0.0084	0.0082	0.0091 ¹	0.0002	0.0000	0.0157 ²	0.0000	0.0000	0.7263 ³	0.0000	0.0000	0.0046 ⁴
February 2015	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000 ⁵	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000 ⁶	0.0001	0.0000	0.0073 ⁷	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000 ⁸
March 2015	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000 ⁹	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000 ¹⁰	0.0000	0.0000	0.0337 ¹¹	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000 ¹²

Monitor Locations:

Headworks Monitor (#1) – Monitor located between Headworks Facility and Septage Receiving Station on south side of plant property.

Digester Monitor (#2) – Monitor located between Digester #1 and Digester #4 on west side of plant property.

UNC Monitor (#3) – Monitor located between UNC Research Building and Trickling Filter on north side of plant property.

Switchgear Monitor (#4) – Monitor located across from Switchgear building on north side of plant property.

¹ Maximum reading occurred on January 1, 2015

² Maximum reading occurred on January 6, 2015

³ Maximum reading occurred on January 30, 2015

⁴ Maximum reading occurred on January 16, 2015

⁵ Maximum reading zero all of February 2015

⁶ Maximum reading zero all of February 2015

⁷ Maximum reading occurred on February 4, 2015

⁸ Maximum reading zero all of February

⁹ Maximum reading zero all of March

¹⁰ Maximum reading zero all of March

¹¹ Maximum reading occurred on March 7, 2015

¹² Maximum reading zero all of March

Attachment 4

**E-MAILS FROM OWASA TO NEIGHBORS OF THE MASON FARM WASTEWATER
TREATMENT PLANT REGARDING ODOR ELIMINATION MATTERS**

January - March 2015

Date	Topic
January 23, 2015	Quarterly report to the Town of Chapel Hill

DISTRIBUTION LIST FOR OWASA E-MAILS ABOUT WWTP ODOR-
RELATED ITEMS

(April 15, 2015)

Area or Organization	Citizen
Highland Woods	Amanda Kingsbury
Highland Woods	Seth Kingsbury
Highland Woods	Angel Smith
Highland Woods	Jordon Sharome
Highland Woods	Ann Alexander
Highland Woods	Ann Schwab
Highland Woods	Barnes Bierck
Highland Woods	Ed and Helen Ludwig
Highland Woods	Ed Tostanoski
Highland Woods	Elisabeth Schweins
Highland Woods	Frank P. Rexford
Highland Woods	Frank Phoenix
Highland Woods	Fred Hall
Highland Woods	Lawanda Rainey-Hall
Highland Woods	Freeman and Angela Kirby
Highland Woods	Gail Wood
Highland Woods	Gary Richman
Highland Woods	Joseph Clancy
Highland Woods	Reed Johnson
Highland Woods	Kay Johnson
Highland Woods	Kendall Brees
Highland Woods	Scott Brees
Highland Woods	Lisa Bartles
Highland Woods	Rex Bartles
Highland Woods	Malcolm Forbes
Highland Woods	Mary Turner
Highland Woods	Natalia Lebedeva
Highland Woods	Carol Hadler
Highland Woods	Nortin Hadler
Highland Woods	Paul Neebe
Highland Woods	Rainer Blaesius
Highland Woods	Robert and Melissa Porter
Highland Woods	Robin Casey
Highland Woods	Katie Jamieson
Highland Woods	Richard Harrill
Highland Woods	Susannah Shearer
Finley Forest	David J. Polewka
Finley Forest	Adam Kimplead
Finley Forest	Cindy Underwood
Finley Forest	Dan Puckett

Area or Organization	Citizen
Finley Forest	Julie Maness
Finley Forest	Kathryn Conard
Finley Forest	Michael Sharpe
Laurel Hills	Bob Wendell
Laurel Hills	Carol David
Laurel Hills	Ewan Rodewald and Sharon Hodge
Laurel Hills	Marcella Grendler
Laurel Hills	Ann Wilson
Laurel Hills	Kay Goldstein
Laurel Hills	Louis Fogleman
Laurel Hills	Anne Fogleman
Laurel Hills	Pat Evans
Morgan Creek	Marilyn and Don Hartman
Morgan Creek	Laura King Moore
Morgan Creek	Betsy Malpass
Morgan Creek	Hanson Malpass
Morgan Creek	A.W. Carr
Morgan Creek	Ellen Johnson
Morgan Creek	Jeanne Langley
Morgan Creek	Jeannie Cox
Morgan Creek	Robert Huls
Reserve	Kathy Abrahams
Reserve	Ralph Abrahams
Reserve	Barbara and Edward Paradise
Reserve	Jeanne & David Jarrett
Reserve	Mark Witcher
Reserve	Steve McPhail
Reserve	Steven and Susan Frye
Reserve	James F. Howard
Reserve	Nadine O'Malley
Reserve	Doug Longman
Bayberry	William Ware
SECU Family House	Greg Kirkpatrick, Executive Director
SECU Family House	Janice Ross, Operations Manager
SECU Family House	Matt Hapgood
Ronald McDonald House	Shelly Day
St. Thomas More Catholic Church and School	Carlos Lima
St. Thomas More Catholic Church and School	St. Thomas More Church staff
Town of Chapel Hill	Bruce Heflin
Town of Chapel Hill	Bryan Walker, Captain/Police Information
Town of Chapel Hill	Catherine Lazorko, Public Information Officer
Town of Chapel Hill	Chris Blue, Police Chief
Town of Chapel Hill	Dan Jones, Fire Chief

Area or Organization	Citizen
Town of Chapel Hill	David Bonk, Planner
Town of Chapel Hill	Florentine A. Miller, Deputy Town Manager
Town of Chapel Hill	Jay Gibson, Town Engineer
Town of Chapel Hill	Jeff Clark, Patrol Captain
Town of Chapel Hill	Josh Mecimore, Police Information Officer
Town of Chapel Hill	Lance Norris, Public Works Director
Town of Chapel Hill	Larry Tucker, Engineering
Town of Chapel Hill	Phil Mason, Planner
Town of Chapel Hill	Ralph Karpinos, Town Attorney
Town of Chapel Hill	Richard Terrell, Public Works Operations Supt.
Town of Chapel Hill	Roger Stancil, Town Manager
Town of Chapel Hill	Sabrina Oliver, Town Clerk
Town of Chapel Hill	Amy Harvey, Public Affairs and Communications
UNC	Andrew Sapp, Men's Golf Coach
UNC	Frank Maynard, Finley Golf Course
UNC	Jeff McCracken, Public Safety
UNC	Jennifer Peterson, NC Botanical Garden
UNC	Jim Ward, NC Botanical Garden
UNC	Jim Ward--home
UNC	Johnny Randall, NC Botanical Garden
UNC	Karen Moon, News Services
UNC	Linda Convissor, Director of Local Relations
UNC	Margaret Holton, Water, Sewer & Stormwater Manager
UNC	Mark Steffer, Finley Golf Course
UNC	Mary Beth Koza, Director, Environment, Health and Safety
UNC	Michael Wilkinson, Golf Pro
UNC	Mike McFarland, University Communications
UNC	Ms. Jan Mann, Women's Golf Coach
UNC	Phil Barner, Energy Services Director
UNC	Robert Costa, Finley Golf Course
UNC	Ross Fowler, Finley Golf Course
UNC	Scott Ragland, News Services
UNC	Parking
UNC	Tennis Center
UNC	Willie Scroggs, Athletic Department
UNC Healthcare	Mel Hurston

Area or Organization	Citizen
UNC Healthcare	Karen McCall
City Schools	Bill Mullin
City Schools	Jeff Nash, Community Relations
City Schools	Todd LoFrese, Asst. Supt. For Support Services
City Schools	Tom Forcella, Superintendent
Orange County	Orange 911 Center Supervisor on duty
Orange County	Connie Pixley, Environmental Health Supervisor
Other utilities	Billy Miller, PSNC
Other utilities	Indira Everett, Duke Energy
Other utilities	Brenda Duke, Duke Energy
Other utilities	Steve Small, Duke Energy
Other utilities	Time Warner Cable
Other	Bill Ferrell, Meadowmont Community Association
Other	Steve Reznick, UNC Farm Assoc.
Other	Aaron Nelson, Chamber of Commerce
Other	UNC Farm (Faculty Staff Recreation Association)