



Lake County Public Works Annual Update

Austin McFarlane

Director

May 07, 2025

Public Works Mission: Deliver exceptional, financially sustainable, reliable, drinking water and wastewater services in a safe manner, ensuring high quality service, public health and environmental stewardship.

PW Staffing



98 Full Time Employees



2 Part-Time Employees



52% of staff is
represented by Local
150

<2% Vacancy
6% Turnover Rate



Prime Positions Filled: (2) Assistant
Directors



- a) Cristo Rey
- b) PW Summer Intern Program
- c) Workforce Development Youth Summer Program
- d) Skill Bridge

Action Teams

Functional Work Groups within the organization whose mission is to:

- (a) identify the issue and work with management on the solution
- (b) participate in our development and allow for staff voice
- (c) recommend opportunities for staff growth and create an enriched working environment.

❖ Safety

❖ Sustainability

❖ Technology

❖ Employee Engagement

❖ Diversity Equity and Inclusion

❖ Succession Planning

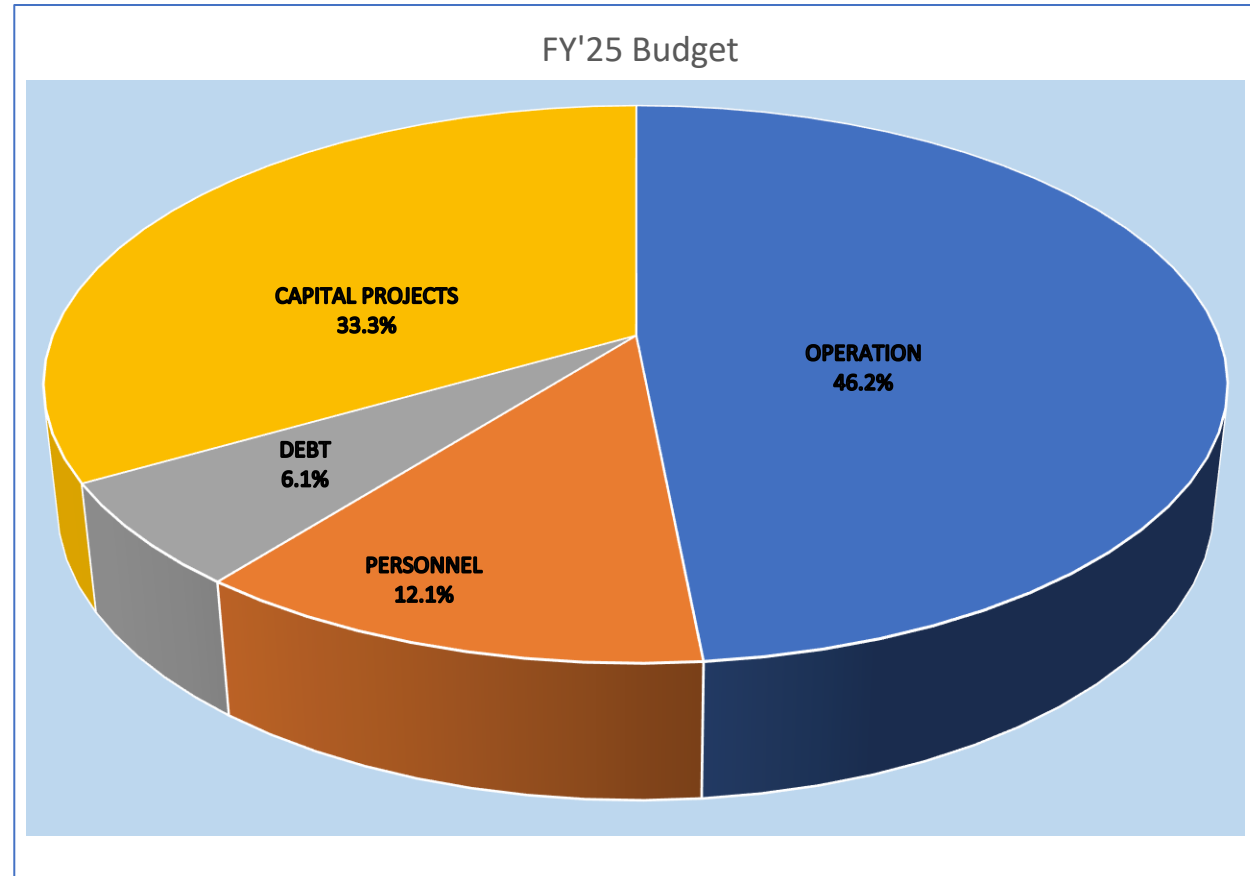
Budget – FY'25

- Operations = \$32M
- Personnel Cost = \$8M
- Debt Service = \$4M
- Capital = \$22M

(5-yr CIP) = >\$87M

(10-yr CIP) = >\$159M

Delinquent Payments
3.0%



FY'24 Milestones

PW FY'24 Theme – “Building for the Future”

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| a) Wildwood Water System | a) Pekara Water System |
| b) Antioch Township Sanitary Sewer | b) Saunders Road Sanitary Sewer Improvements |
| c) Vernon Hills Water System | c) Northwest Sanitary Sewer Improvements |
| d) Highland Lake Water System | d) Hawthorn Woods/Forest Lake Water System |



05/07/2025



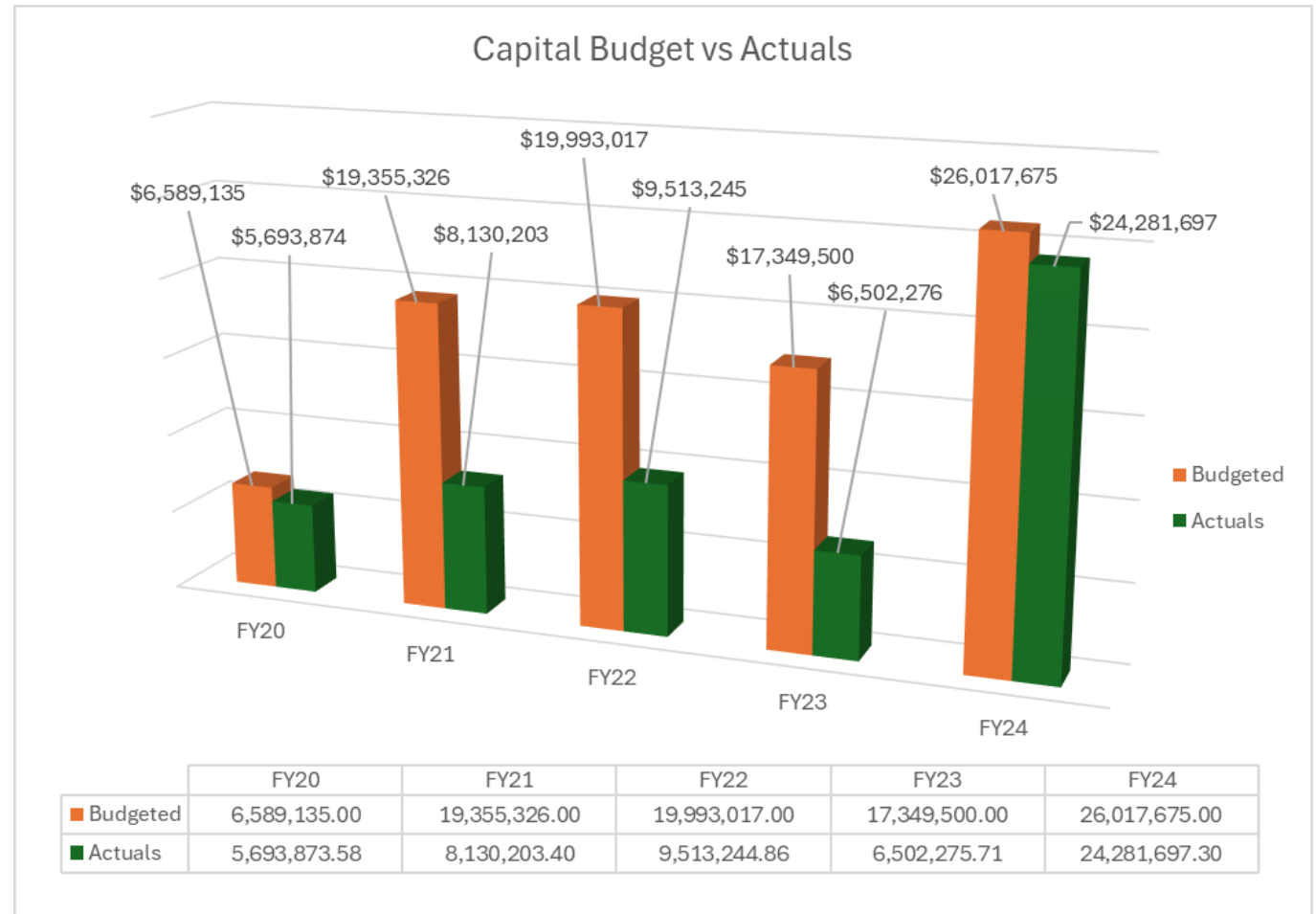
FY'24 Milestones

LCPW ARPA Funded Projects	Total ARPA Budget	Design Status	Construction Status	Target Construction year
Oak Terrace Water System Replacement	\$ 2,500,000			
Phase 1 (Test Well, water main replacement)		100%	100%	2022
Phase 2 (Well house, water connection)		100%	25%	2025
Highland Lake Water System Improvements	\$ 2,500,000			
Phase 1 (Highland Lake Water Company Interconnection)		100%	100%	2023
Phase 2 (well, well house, storage)		70%	0%	2026
Pekara Lake Michigan Interconnect	\$ 1,100,000	100%	95%	2025
Mill Creek WRF UV Disinfection	\$ 1,000,000	100%	98%	2025
DPR WRF Blowers Replacement	\$ 1,500,000	100%	10%	2026
DPR WRF Disc Filter Installation & Clarifier Covers	\$ 6,300,000	100%	30%	2026
DPR WRF UV Disinfection	\$ 5,500,000	100%	40%	2026
Antioch Sewer Prelim Design	\$ 1,000,000	20%	N/A	N/A
TOTAL =	\$ 21,400,000			

FY'24 Milestones

Staff Effort:

- a) Capital Improvement Program “Reboot” in 2020
- b) PW substantially increased the amount of planned construction activities
- c) 93% of the budget was utilized as a result of project readiness and staff effort



FY'24 Milestones

A. SCADA Program

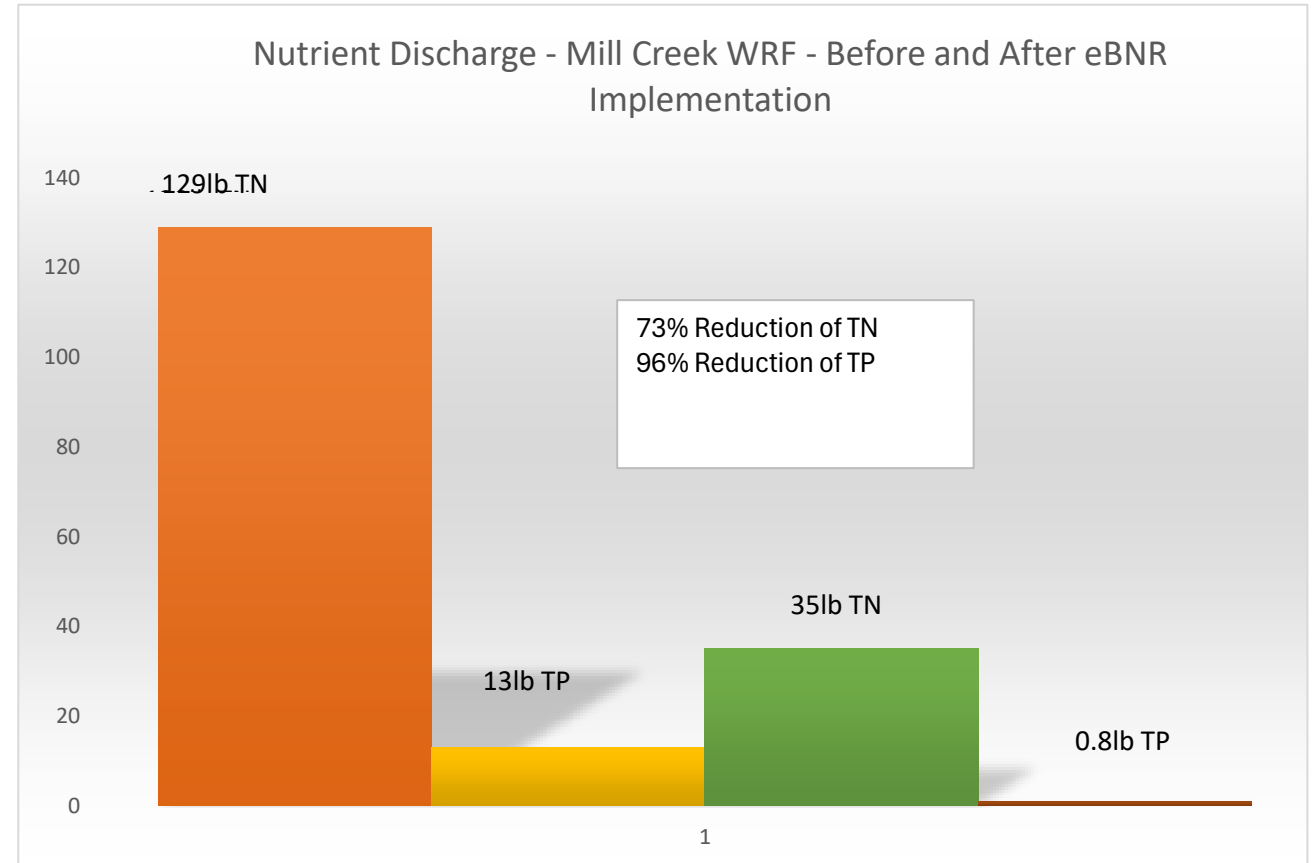
(Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition)

B. Fitch Rating

C. Pretreatment Program

D. Lead/Copper Program

E. Nutrient Removal & Sustainability



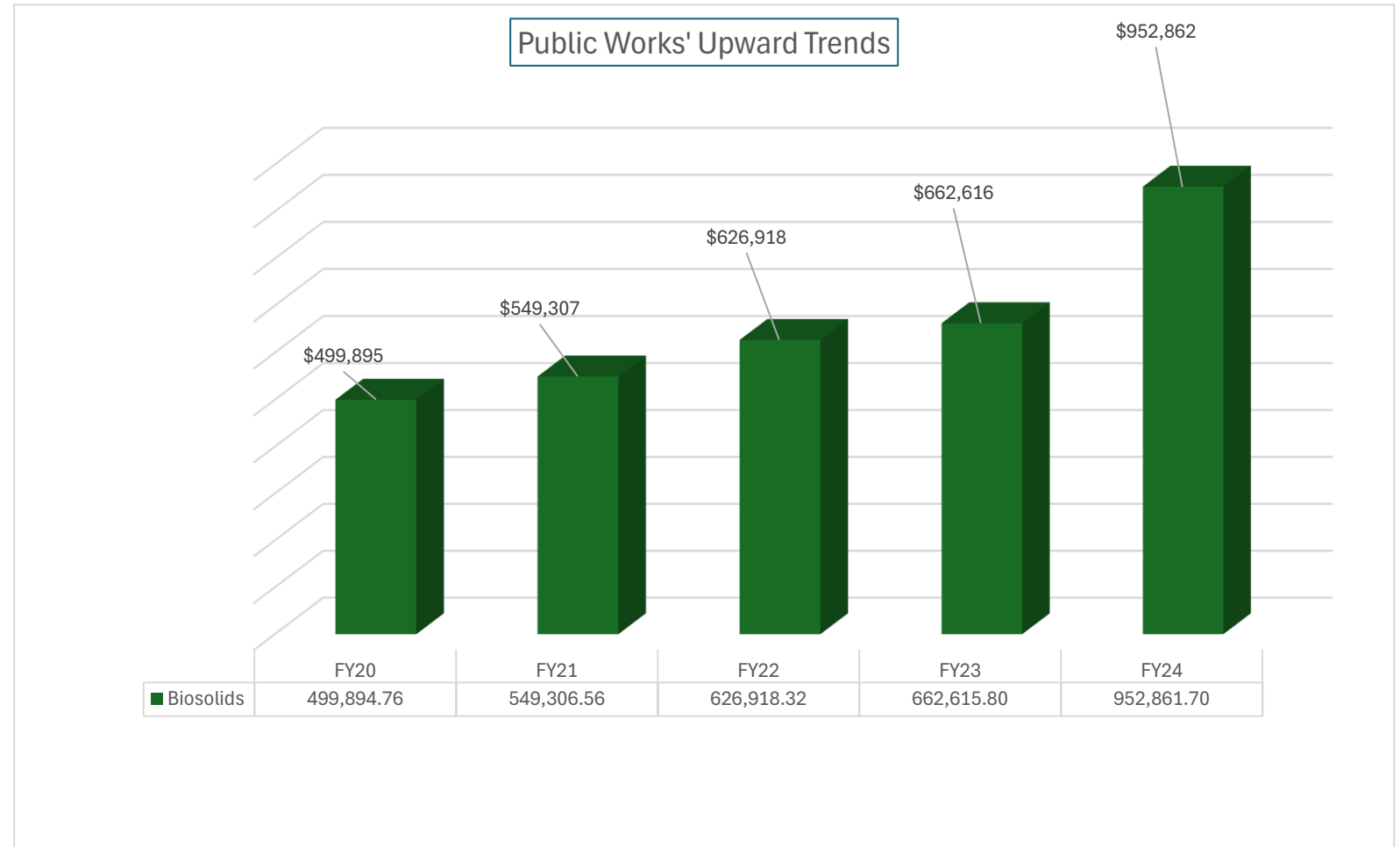
Challenge – Biosolids Program

Primary concerns:

- a) Cost
- b) Regulation
- c) Impact

a) Cost

- CPI/Fuel
- Prevailing Wage



Challenge – Biosolids Program

b) Regulation

- Radium
- PFAS (Hazardous Material)
- EPA Risk Assessment on Biosolids
- Liability Issue



c) Impact

- ✓ Limitation on Disposal Sites
- ✓ Potential impact to Public Health and further impairment of waterways
- ✓ Increasing cost
- ✓ Beneficial Use reduction

Challenge – Biosolids Program

2024 Bio-Solids Summary Report

Des Plaines River WRF			
Plant	Month	Trucks	Yards
DPR	2024-Jan	43	1204
DPR	2024-Feb	46	1288
DPR	2024-Mar	42	1176
DPR	2024-Apr	41	1148
DPR	2024-May	47	1316
DPR	2024-Jun	44	1232
DPR	2024-Jul	45	1260
DPR	2024-Aug	40	1120
DPR	2024-Sep	36	1008
DPR	2024-Oct	34	952
DPR	2024-Nov	34	952
DPR	2024-Dec	46	1288
Total		498	13944

New Century Town WRF			
Plant	Month	Trucks	Yards
NCT	2024-Jan	32	896
NCT	2024-Feb	29	812
NCT	2024-Mar	25	700
NCT	2024-Apr	27	756
NCT	2024-May	25	700
NCT	2024-Jun	25	700
NCT	2024-Jul	25	686
NCT	2024-Aug	33	924
NCT	2024-Sep	26	728
NCT	2024-Oct	20	560
NCT	2024-Nov	17	476
NCT	2024-Dec	30	840
Total		314	8778

Mill Creek WRF			
Plant	Month	Trucks	Yards
MLC	2024-Jan	6	168
MLC	2024-Feb	5	140
MLC	2024-Mar	6	168
MLC	2024-Apr	5	140
MLC	2024-May	6	168
MLC	2024-Jun	5	140
MLC	2024-Jul	7	196
MLC	2024-Aug	5	140
MLC	2024-Sep	5	140
MLC	2024-Oct	7	196
MLC	2024-Nov	3	84
MLC	2024-Dec	5	140
Total		65	1820

- Annual Production - 24,000 cubic yards
- Rate - \$41.35/cubic yard – land applied (Class-B)
- Rate - \$109.00/cubic yard - landfill



Questions?