

## Statement from MSD Executive Director Tony Parrott

Along with the Louisville community, MSD continues to mourn the loss of Louisville Metro Police Detective Deidre Mengedoht. Her death is a tragedy. Our deepest condolences go out to her family and the Louisville Metro Police Department who serve our community every day.

I also want to provide clarification as we move forward. MSD's initial decision to retain legal counsel for tractor trailer driver Roger Burdette, was based on what we knew at the time of the accident—specifically, that an employee was involved in an accident while on the job and in an MSD vehicle. After further consideration with the MSD Board and leadership, MSD decided we would not be involved in Mr. Burdette's criminal defense.

We understand that our initial decision has upset many and for that we apologize. Please know that no written contract was formalized with the defense attorney and no MSD funds have or will be used for defense in Mr. Burdette's criminal case. In addition, MSD has begun the process to terminate Mr. Burdette's employment through MSD and union contract processes. He has been on unpaid status since being arrested.

Since the accident occurred, I've heard from our employees and our customers and I know they are hurting. I share in this pain. This is an extremely difficult time for the community and especially for those of us working in public service.

As public servants, we get into this line of work to strengthen the community in which we live. And we do that by working together. This accident involved one employee, not all of our employees. I value the work of our employees—performed day in and day out—to manage and treat wastewater, provide drainage solutions and protect residents from flooding. Providing safe, clean waterways for Louisville is our mission and I appreciate their partnership in rising to meet that challenge for the community.

Detective Mengedoht will be dearly missed.

# STREAMLINE

News and Events at Louisville MSD · Year End 2018

## OUR VISION

Achieving Safe, Clean Waterways  
for a Healthy and Vibrant Community



The repair to MSD's sewer line under Main Street is complete and the roadway is open to traffic.

## Main St. sewer repair is complete

They say necessity is the mother of invention. That's certainly the case on Louisville's West Main Street where MSD recently completed an innovative repair to a vital underground sewer pipe at risk of caving in and threatening public health and safety.

One of Louisville's largest sewer pipes runs underneath Main Street. Formed in concrete out of a hand-dug tunnel in 1958, this important pipe is seven feet wide and carries 40 percent of Louisville's wastewater. After an earlier cave-in at different location, MSD conducted a remote-control video inspection to assess the pipe's structural condition.

— Continued on page 2



## OUR MISSION

Providing Exceptional Wastewater, Drainage  
and Flood Protection Services for Our Community

**24/7/365**

502.540.6000 · [CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org](mailto:CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org)



— Continued from Page 1

## Main St. sewer repair...

What was found was concerning to the agency. A section between Fourth and Seventh streets was in imminent danger of collapse. More than 12 inches of the pipe's original thickness had worn away, leaving only 2 or 3 inches of pipe.

Given Main Street is bustling with business, arts and entertainment, digging up the road to install new pipe was not feasible. So, MSD engineers and expert consultants developed a solution that was more than a repair; MSD essentially built a new pipe inside the old one.

To do this, millions of gallons of wastewater that flows daily through the pipe needed to go somewhere. First, a “pump-

**“We are thankful for the collaboration of the many business, tourism and arts organizations that call Main Street home.”**

— MSD Executive Director  
Tony Parrott

around” was constructed to divert the wastewater and empty the damaged section of pipe — essentially building a temporary sewer system on the surface. This enabled crews to safely enter the pipe and, just as important, allowed customers to continue

to flush and send used water down the drain. While there were lane closures, Main Street and its businesses and attractions were able to remain open as the repair occurred underground.

Once inside the pipe, crews fortified the existing pipe and then pieced together state-of-the-art, corrosion-resistant panels, formed them to the shape of the old pipe and sealed them together.

This complex project involved many partners. MSD is thankful for the collaboration of Louisville Metro Government; the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and Division of Water; U.S. EPA Region 4; utility partners at Louisville Water and LG&E; and, the many businesses, tourism and arts organizations that call Main Street home.

The \$20 million emergency repair project is symptomatic of the larger issue our community faces with aging underground infrastructure. The chance of a cave-in is not limited to Main Street, as MSD maintains more than 3,300 miles of sewer



The photo on the left shows what the pipe under West Main Street looked like before the repair. The exposed rebar is actually what should be the second layer of rebar. The first layer and the concrete that surrounded it had worn away.

The photo on the right shows the newly repaired pipe, sealed in corrosive resistant PVC panels forming a new pipe inside the old pipe.

lines across Louisville, and much of the system is 50, 75 or even more than 100 years old. We respond to reports of cave-ins in all parts of the community.

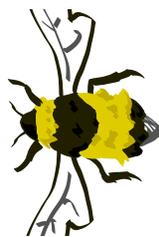
Learn more about our Critical Repair & Reinvestment Plan to address not only aging pipes, but also upgrade outdated flood protection and wastewater treatment facilities — visit [LouisvilleMSD.org/CriticalRepairPlan](http://LouisvilleMSD.org/CriticalRepairPlan).



Have you noticed this out on Main Street? MSD Project Manager Heather Dodds shows off the gift from Boyer Inc crews out of Houston, Texas — where everything is bigger. They left us with an oversized manhole within a manhole cover.

## Boring of the Waterway Protection Tunnel to begin in January

“Bumblebee’s” parts have buzzed into town. The massive, 412-foot long machine that will excavate MSD’s \$200 million Waterway Protection Tunnel is named “Bumblebee” in honor of Muhammad Ali. The name is the result of a competition and vote among MSD employees.



# BUMBLEBEE

## WATERWAY PROTECTION TUNNEL

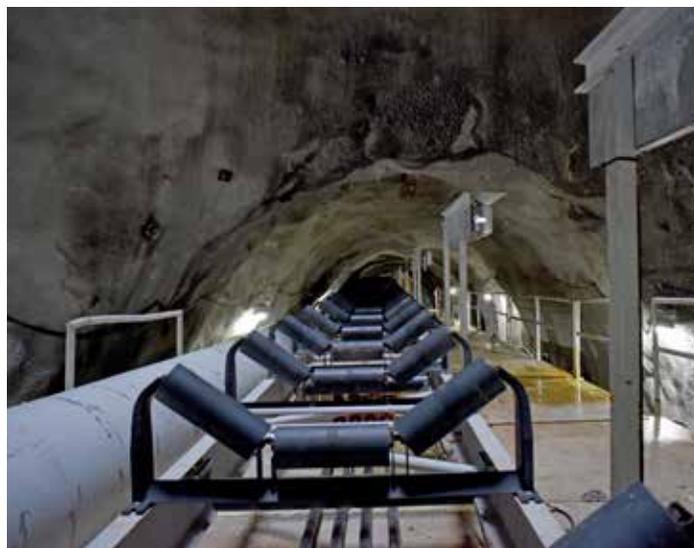
Parts for the boring machine arrived in Louisville on more than 50 tractor-trailer trucks, with the cutterhead shipping in from Italy. A crane was used to lower Bumblebee’s parts into the working shafts at the 12th and Rowan streets site where workers have been busy as bees assembling the parts underground.

Beginning in January and continuing throughout the year, Bumblebee will carve through more than four miles of solid bedrock, 18 stories underground. It will move forward with 3.5 million pounds of thrust, applying nearly 1.5 million pounds per foot of torque. The machine is expected to cut through more than 140 linear feet of rock per day.

Once complete, MSD’s Waterway Protection Tunnel will help prevent wastewater and stormwater from overflowing during periods of heavy rain – ultimately reducing pollution in the Ohio River and Beargrass Creek. The Waterway Protection Tunnel will have the capacity to store 55 million gallons of combined wastewater and stormwater until capacity is available in the MSD sewer system. The contents are then pumped back into the system, conveyed to MSD’s Morris Forman Water Quality Treatment Center for proper treatment and release to the Ohio River. The tunnel is slated to be operational by the end of 2020.



Assembly for Bumblebee’s giant 22-foot diameter cutterhead proceeds underground in preparation for cutting through 4 miles of rock to form MSD’s Waterway Protection Tunnel.



This conveyor system allows removal of the excavated rock as Bumblebee’s cutterhead buzzes through 4 miles of rock.

## 2018 surpasses 2011 for wettest year on record



**Above:** Floodwaters rush out of MSD's Pond Creek Flood Pumping Station. **Right:** The station sits idle when water levels are normal.

Seven years ago — in 2011 — Louisville Metro set a record for the amount of rainfall in a year. In 2018, the community had a glimpse of what was to become of that record when the area had a swollen Ohio River and a record-breaking amount of rain for February at 10.47 inches.

From mid-February to mid-March Louisville experienced its worst flooding in 20 years. By February 23, all 16 of MSD's flood pumping stations were in full service, with more than 150 underground floodgates closed, and 29-miles of floodwall and earthen levee keeping the river out of our city.

On Saturday evening, February 24, Louisville Metro was inundated with heavy rains. Most areas received 2-3 inches, with some getting as much as 4 inches of rain. Our 16 flood pumping stations operated at full capacity for four hours, pumping out a total of 8 million gallons per minute. River levels rose 2.3 feet in 12 hours.

Then again in September — usually a dry month for the area — Louisville received a record-breaking 10.91 inches of rain for the month. We finished 2018 with a new record 68.83\* inches of rain in Louisville Metro.

During these periods of flooding, MSD personnel worked around the clock to ensure that the Flood Protection System kept the river at bay and out of the city. Once the water receded, MSD started the process of cleaning up, assessing the damage to our system and preparing for the next time.



### Damage to our Flood Protection System

MSD's damage claim with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the February/March 2018 flooding is more than \$10,497,000, including damage at 13 of our 16 flood pumping stations.

Currently, four of our flood pumping stations have pumps under repair. Beargrass Creek, Paddy's Run, Pond Creek and Upper Mill Creek flood pumping stations have work ongoing to restore damaged pumps and bring the facilities back to full capacity. Overall, our flood pumping capacity is down by 17 percent due to the damaged sustained during the February and March flooding event.

Our Ohio River Flood Protection System consists of 29 miles of concrete wall and earthen levee, more than 150 floodgates, 79 street closures, and 16 flood pumping stations. These stations, which are along the system, move inland water to the river when the floodwalls and levees are sealed. MSD has also developed a system of stormwater storage basins to relieve surface flooding.

**For access real-time rain gauge information visit:  
[RainGauge.LouisvilleMSD.org](http://RainGauge.LouisvilleMSD.org)**

\*Reflects results from the rain gauge at Louisville International Airport.

## MSD employees truly care... collecting nearly \$104,000 for charity



The MSD Cares Close-Out Event at the Central Maintenance Facility wrapped up successfully, with MSD Cares donations and pledges reaching \$103,870 for area charities, far surpassing the goal of \$85,000.

“This shows you the true compassion that our employees have when it comes to supporting charities that give back to those in the community who are in need,” said Sandra Gibson, chair of the MSD Cares Giving Campaign.

Included in the total were funds raised by MSD employees throughout the year, including a golf scramble, bowling tournament, Halloween costume contest and a talent show.

MSD Cares-supported charities include Metro United Way; Fund for the Arts; Wednesday’s Child; and Water Charities: Engineers Without Borders, Louisville Water Foundation, Water for People and WaterStep.

### The MSD Cares volunteer committee members include:

**Sandra Gibson** – MSD Cares Chair

**Vanessa Graves** – MSD Cares Co-chair

**Cassandra Anderson**  
**Yozette Borges**  
**Rhonda Boyle**  
**Brian Bradley**  
**Greg Brewton**  
**Dana Burns**  
**Tonya Callahan**  
**Todd Cook**  
**Robert Cosgrove**  
**Gina Davis**  
**June Embers**  
**Zonetta English**

**William Ford**  
**Cathy Geary**  
**Annetta Gibson**  
**Janice Hamilton**  
**Lamont Hawkins**  
**Troy Henderson**  
**Staci Huber**  
**Charles McCutchen**  
**Dana Price**  
**Tori Perkins**  
**David Radke**  
**Gwen Reed**

**Connie Rhodes**  
**Barbara Roberson**  
**Kevin Schmidt**  
**Mike Scott**  
**Robin Shaw**  
**Darron Stone**  
**John Sutton**  
**Anne Trout**  
**Donnie Thomas**  
**Eldra McWhorter**  
**Eric Weidner**

## Wagoner appointed to Jefferson County Environmental Trust Board

MSD Associate Engineer II Erin Wagoner has been named to the Jefferson County Environmental Trust, following the retirement of previous member and MSD representative Scott Porter. Founded in 1997, the Trust promotes stewardship of natural and cultural resources; advises Metro Council on matters of land conservation; and, educates the community about the need to preserve natural areas.

## Customer **Compliments**

**Johnny Caudill** and **Ricky Tobin** came to take care of the drain opening under the roadway near my home. They did a fantastic job and went out of their way to make sure it was right.

The work is more than a job to this crew and their supervisor **Troy Smith**. They are all about making the customer happy and leaving the property as good or better than it was. Your people are the best.

— Tony Buongiorno

I am a member of the Board of the Indian Woods Condominium Association. We recently had extensive sewer repair work on our property, and I was the Association’s representative in this endeavor. I dealt with MSD employee **Steven Leong** for this project. He was courteous, competent and incredibly responsive to our needs and requests. He was an absolute pleasure to work with and made my job of answering to the residents and our board very easy. MSD is to be commended for having someone like Mr. Leong on its staff. He represents the organization in a professional manner and makes ratepayers rest a bit easier about how their dollars are spent.

— Tom O’Sullivan

**Dustin French-Marzian** and **David Reynolds** did an excellent job on the ditch regraded near my home. I appreciate their hard work.

— Mary Devore



## Plan your rain garden now

Rain gardens help infiltrate rainwater before it reaches the drainage system, and reduce the amount of stormwater and pollutants running into storm drains, combined sewers or streams. For your **FREE Rain Garden Guide**, contact MSD Customer Relations at **502.540.6000**, or online at **CustomerRelations@LouisvilleMSD.org**. Or download the brochure at **LouisvilleMSD.org/HowYouCanHelp**



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The public is welcome to attend MSD Board meetings.  
For MSD Board information and meeting schedule visit:  
LouisvilleMSD.org/About-Us/MSD-Board



## Upcoming Events

**JANUARY 15**  
**Open House Floodplain Map Review**  
4:30-7:30 PM, Jefferson County East Government Center  
200 Juneau Drive

**JANUARY 16**  
**Open House Floodplain Map Review**  
4:30-7:30 PM, Jefferson County Government Center  
7201 Outer Loop

**JANUARY 17**  
**Open House Floodplain Map Review**  
4:30-7:30 PM, Southwest Government Center  
7219 Dixie Highway

**JANUARY 28**  
**MSD Board Meeting**  
1 PM, Open Session, 700 West Liberty Street

**JANUARY 31**  
**Can You Dig It? Contractor Outreach Event**  
10 AM, Kentucky Center for African American Heritage  
1701 W Muhammad Ali Boulevard

## Help keep street drains flowing

Catch basins and street gutter drains cannot function properly when their grates are clogged with leaves, ice and snow.

Please clear away debris from catch basin grates — if you can do so safely.

If a basin still does not drain, contact **MSD Customer Relations** — at **502.540.6000** — we will send someone to help.

