

2016

# Collection System Odor Control Master Plan





Wastewater Engineering Services Division
Wastewater Collection Systems Division
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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

#### INTRODUCTION

The City of Los Angeles has prepared the 2016 Collection System Odor Control Master Plan (OMP). The master plan is an annual review and evaluation of City's on-going collection system odor control program and efforts. A proactive plan to manage, address and document the sewer odors. The City continues to control and mitigate foul sewer odors through the implementation of the master plan recommendations. A natural phenomenon within any wastewater collection system is the production of odorous gases especially hydrogen sulfide. The City has been working diligently to address and manage these odor issues. The current drought conditions and the mandatory water reductions have created a unique situation and challenge for the collection system. Due to reduced wastewater flows and lower velocities to move debris downstream, odor complaints and odor levels have increased. Nevertheless, a multitude of odor control and response measures are in place to address the on-going challenges and protect the public health and the environment as well as the collection system infrastructure from sewer odor nuisance. These measures include:

- On-going sewer air pressure and odor monitoring;
- Air management and migration control through hydraulic flow adjustments, air curtains and trap maintenance holes;
- Air treatment utilizing carbon scrubbers and state of the art air treatment facilities which include biotrickling and carbon scrubber systems
- Sewer cleaning and maintenance;
- Chemical addition for hydrogen sulfide control;
- Sealing sewer maintenance holes to control unintended emissions;
- Sewer construction repair, relief and replacement; and
- Sewer Odor Hotline response and investigation

These odor control measures have produced a successful odor control program in the City of Los Angeles. As a result, sewer odors and odor complaints will continue to be addressed. A more detailed description of the City's collection system odor control measures will be presented, including special studies, investigations and activities to proactively mitigate and control sewer related odors.

#### **EVALUATION OF THE COLLECTION SYSTEM**

The City has identified and studied key areas of the wastewater collection system based on the frequency of odor complaints and targeted these areas for detailed monitoring and analysis. These areas will be categorized as "Areas of Concern (AOC)" and "Areas of Study (AOS)". Sewer air pressure measurements and hydrogen sulfide (H2S) concentrations were taken in these areas to quantify the characteristics that can cause

odors in the collection system. The Odor Master Plan will present an assessment of the odor generation of each of the identified area and will present and recommend a strategy for addressing and controlling odors.

The Five (5) Areas of Concern (AOC) with an unusually high frequency of complaints in the collection system were identified as odor hot spot areas in the City. They are:

- AOC-1 East NOS and NEIS/ECIS Corridor
- AOC-2 La Cienega San Fernando Corridor LCSFVRS-WHIS-LCIS
- AOC-3 South Los Angeles Area NOS/Maze-ECIS-SCAIS
- AOC-4 Baldwin Hills/Culver City NORS-ECIS-NOS-NCOS-WLAIS-WRS
- AOC-5 East Valley Area AVORS-EVRS-VORS-NHIS-NOS

One (1) Area of Study (AOS) was identified as potential area where odor concerns could be an issue. Further studies will be developed to understand the potential issues that may arise in this area:

AOS-1 Venice/Playa del Rey Area - CIS/LNOS/COS/NCOS/NORS

#### **SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **AOC-1 East NOS and NEIS/ECIS Corridor**

- Continue to monitor pressure and hydrogen sulfide levels on an annual basis
- Continue to implement current odor control measures. Determine the need for additional odor control measures including chemical addition and/or additional air treatment
- Monitor and evaluate the sewer system conditions after flows have been restored back to the original configuration prior to the NOS Rehabilitation Units 2 and 5
- Monitor and evaluate air flow dynamics after the air curtain is re-installed at the Mission and Jesse NOS/ECIS diversion and after completion of emergency repair of NOS up stream of M&J ATF
- Evaluate air flow dynamics by manipulating sewage flow throughout the various diversion structures
- Evaluate long term need for the Enterprise Siphon

#### AOC-2 La Cienega San Fernando Corridor – LCSFVRS-WHIS

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor the H<sub>2</sub>S levels and evaluate the effectiveness of magnesium hydroxide addition for the collection system odor control on an annual basis

- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Re-evaluate the system after the planned carbon scrubber upgrades

#### AOC-3 South Los Angeles Area – NOS/Maze-ECIS-SCAIS

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor the H<sub>2</sub>S levels on an annual basis to evaluate the effectiveness of caustic shock dosing
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Reevaluate the system after the planned CIP improvements, including MLK carbon scrubber replacement, NOS and Slauson Sewer rehabilitation
- Implement a large diameter cleaning project for flat sloped sewers in the area

#### AOC-4 Baldwin Hills/Culver City – NORS-ECIS-NOS-NCOS-WLAIS-WRS

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor H₂S levels on an annual basis to evaluate the effectiveness of chemical addition
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Reevaluate the system after the planned CIP improvements, including NORS/ECIS carbon scrubber replacement and WLAIS rehabilitation
- Evaluate the possible transfer of air from the NOS to the NCOS to take advantage of the negative (vacuum) air pressure on the NCOS.

#### AOC-5 East Valley Area – AVORS-EVRS-VORS-NHIS-NOS

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor H<sub>2</sub>S levels on an annual basis to evaluate the effectiveness of chemical addition
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Reevaluate the system after the planned CIP improvements, including Radford carbon scrubber replacement

## AOS-1 Venice/Playa Del Rey Area - CIS/LNOS/COS/NCOS/NORS

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Study the impact of air pressurization on the system during the HTP scrubber shut down periods
- Continue to monitor the H<sub>2</sub>S levels on an annual basis
- Determine possible chemical addition points and/or optimization studies to address H<sub>2</sub>S generation from within the Venice Pump Plant force main and the LNOS
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Conduct H<sub>2</sub>S characterization of the outfall sewers entering the HTP

The purpose of the Collection System Odor Master Plan is to present an assessment of odor issues within each area of concern and area of study and develop a strategy for proactively addressing and managing sewer odors in the City of Los Angeles. The goal is to protect the public health and safety and be a good neighbor for the surrounding community.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Odor Control Master Plan is an annual review and evaluation of City's ongoing collection system odor control program and efforts. It is a proactive plan to manage and address the sewer odors which will be documented. The City continues to control and mitigate foul sewer odors through the implementation of the master plan.

#### 1.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of the Odor Control Master Plan is to be both educational and functional. This document will provide a background of the odor issues in the City's wastewater collection system and present a proactive plan to manage and address the sewer odors.

The general objectives of the Odor Control Master Plan are:

- Provide an overview of odor issues associated with the wastewater collection system.
- Document and evaluate the current odor control program.
- Document the efforts to characterize odors and identify their causes within the collection system.
- Provide recommendations to effectively manage odors in the collection system.
- Provide a proactive systematic approach to odor prevention and control.

#### **1.2 OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the City's wastewater collection system odor control program is to proactively address sewer odor issues in the wastewater collection system by performing the following activities:

- Monitoring the wastewater collection system;
- Documenting and responding to odor complaints;
- Operating and maintaining odor control scrubbers and air treatment facilities;
- Chemically treating sewers to reduce hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) generation;
- Investigating and pilot testing new technologies to identify better materials or processes to control odors.

Additionally, in an on-going effort to better understand the nature of sewer odors, the odor control program includes an effort to investigate the character of odors throughout the collection system and evaluate the current operation and maintenance policies and practices.

The effort to monitor the sewer system will involve developing and implementing a city-wide odor and ventilation monitoring system including installing hydrogen sulfide gas monitors (data loggers) in sewer maintenance holes, installing sewer air pressure monitors to measure pressure differences in key locations to detect the potential for off-gassing to the atmosphere, and collecting data to determine the odor-causing characteristics of sewage. After sufficient amounts of data have been collected, it will be analyzed along with the sewer system's physical characteristics including the location of system restrictions and sewer gas constrictions such as siphons, in order to identify and prioritize potential causes and sources of odors. The City will also conduct various innovative tests such as concurrent air withdrawal and air pressure measurement tests to verify the cause of venting gasses from the sewer system and to help identify and validate appropriate solutions.

The City already has a system in place for documenting and responding to odor complaints and will continue this effort in order to work with the residents to promptly and effectively address their concerns.

The City has developed and implemented an extensive system of capital improvement projects to reduce odors and improve the overall operation of the collection system. These projects include the reconstruction of major sewers which reduce the system's off-gassing by increasing sewer headspace, the construction of permanent gas/odor removal and treatment facilities, and chemical injection systems that will inhibit the generation of hydrogen sulfide gas within the wastewater collection system.

The City has embarked on efforts to identify and evaluate new technologies to mitigate and resolve odor issues. New technologies will be implemented where appropriate, through either the operation and maintenance program or the capital improvement program. When implemented the City will optimize the operation of the technologies by monitoring and adjusting the systems to ensure maximum effectiveness.

The overall strategy and goal is to implement a community-supported odor control program that will keep the public informed at various levels and to inform and advise the Board of Public Works and the City Council at every stage of the program and to protect the public health and safety of the community.

#### 1.3 CONTRIBUTING FACTOR

Although a number of potential odorous compounds can be released from sanitary sewer collection systems, sewer odor complaints generally result from the presence of hydrogen sulfide. The occurrence of hydrogen sulfide in untreated wastewater begins with the biochemical reduction of inorganic sulfates to liquid sulfide. A combination of several environmental and physical conditions determines the rate at which this occurs.

#### Dissolved Oxygen (DO)

When the DO level is below about 1 mg/L, as it is in most municipal waste streams, surface reduction to liquid sulfide will occur. Bacteria residing in the slime layer that lies beneath the wastewater surface on the inside wall of the sewer pipe or wet well cause the sulfate reduction.

#### Wastewater pH

The reduced sulfate exists as sulfide and bisulfide ions and hydrogen sulfide in varying concentrations, depending on wastewater pH.

#### Temperature

Because the bioactivity of the sulfate-reducing bacteria in the slime layer increases as wastewater temperature rises, odor generation will tend to accelerate during the warmer months.

#### Liquid stream velocity

A lower wastewater velocity causes an increase in total liquid sulfide. When the velocity is less than scouring velocity, solids deposition will occur, tends to provide a site for sulfate reduction if DO is low.

#### Surface area

As wastewater flow depths increase, the surface area of the slime layer increases. This occurs in flat gravity sewers, force mains, and wet wells. These typically are the locations of high liquid-sulfide production in a sanitary sewer system.

#### Detention time

As wastewater detention times increase in pipe systems and wet wells, oxygen consumption increases. This reduces DO and creates conditions favorable for sulfate reduction.

#### Wastewater turbulence

When flows are turbulent, the wastewater's surface area increases. The partial pressure of the hydrogen sulfide above the surface of waste stream is reduced slightly by this condition. To maintain equilibrium, hydrogen sulfide is stripped from the solution to the atmosphere. Turbulent conditions are created at drops, sharp bends, and slope reductions in the system.

#### 2.0 TASK DESCRIPTIONS

The following general tasks are the basis of the odor control program:

- Monitor and respond to odor complaints.
- Measure hydrogen sulfide levels and air pressure in sewers to determine the quantity and quality of sewer venting gas.
- Collect and test samples to determine the characteristics of the sewage
- Research physical characteristics of the sewer system including the location of restriction and sewer gas constrictions such as siphons and slope reductions.
- Analyze all data and information collected and determine the causes of the odors.
- Identify available, appropriate solutions and any technology available to help manage, mitigate, or eliminate odors.
- Evaluate the various alternatives and technologies.
- Recommend cost effective alternatives that are supported by the community.
- Keep the community informed through meetings with the Odor Advisory Board and public outreach efforts such as attending community meetings and distributing informative literature.
- Implement the recommendations through the operation and maintenance program or the capital improvement program.
- Monitor the performance of new applied technologies and make improvements as necessary.
- Summarize all of the findings, requirements, recommendations, and results in this master plan so that it becomes the blue print for mitigating sewer odors in our neighborhoods.
- Manage the odor control program and monitor its effectiveness. Make adjustments and improvements to the system as necessary to maximize performance.

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#### 3.0 ODOR CONTROL MEASURES

#### 3.1 Introduction

Municipalities face daily challenges in their effort to control and mitigate sewer-related odors. LA San has implemented a successful program to control and reduce odors within its collection system which has resulted in significant improvements. Various measures are employed to reduce the generation and release of odors from the sewer system. They include:

- odor complaint response and investigation;
- routine sewer maintenance;
- chemical addition;
- air withdrawal, treatment and management;
- sewer construction and repair; and
- on-going monitoring of sewer air pressure and odor concentration.

This section discusses these various odor control measures and procedures the City uses as part of the Odor Control Program.

# 3.2 Odor Complaint Response and Investigation



The Bureau of Sanitation, Wastewater Collection Systems Division (WCSD) responds to various odor complaints from the public. However, complaint investigation is geared toward identifying and mitigating sewer-related odors. Nonsewer odor issues are referred to other city departments or outside agencies for follow-up investigation and mitigation efforts.

The public can file an odor complaint through a 24-hour, operator-assisted odor

complaint hotline (1-866-44SEWER) or use the City's website at <a href="www.lasewers.org">www.lasewers.org</a>. The City is trying to emphasize the 3-1-1 phone number for government services and information as the best way to file an odor complaint. Additional complaints are received through direct contact from the public and referrals from council offices and other city departments.

The odor complaint response and investigation involves the following process:

- 1. The complaint is directed to the appropriate maintenance yard
- 2. A field crew investigates the complaint, identifies the source and determines/implements necessary actions to mitigate the odor such as cleaning the sewer, sealing maintenance holes, inspecting trap maintenance holes for structural integrity and function, or referring the matter to other city departments or outside agencies if it is not related to sewers.
- 3. The crew documents its findings and actions on an Odor Complaint Response Form and submits document for review and data entry.
- 4. For hotline complaints, WCSD informs the complainant within 7 days of the complaint about the findings, actions, and/or status of investigation and also gathers feedback. A 30-day callback is conducted if the complainant so requests.
- 5. Follow-up inspections are conducted if necessary
- 6. Problems not correctable by maintenance staff are referred to WCSD's Engineering Section for further investigation and possible solution. Typical engineering activities include:
  - reviewing sewer plans
  - conducting on-site field visits
  - reviewing odor complaints in the surrounding area
  - reviewing available flow monitoring data
  - monitoring pressure and H<sub>2</sub>S levels and evaluating the data
  - requesting repair of trap maintenance holes or other sewer structures by an oncall contractor
  - proposing capital improvement projects (CIP) such as hydraulic relief pipes, air treatment facilities, chemical addition, etc.

Sewer related complaints are caused by sewer ventilation in which foul air is forced out and released from maintenance holes and trap maintenance holes or other sewer structures or facilities such as pump plant and treatment plants; or by sewers that have become septic due to debris build-up causing a surcharged or hydraulically loaded system; or by properties with house connection laterals directly connected to large diameter sewers. For fiscal year FY 2015/2016, 276 sewer related odor complaints were received and investigated. Compared to last fiscal year FY 2014/2015, sewer related complaints decreased by 13% from 317 to 276. The decrease in complaints was mainly attributed the aggressive sewer odor mitigations that are in place. The interim carbon scrubbers constructed 10 years ago have exceeded their service life and consequently, the performance levels of these units have declined due to frequent breakdowns caused by corrosion. On-going maintenance and repairs continue to make them serviceable. However, to address this, capital improvement projects to replace and upgrade the interim carbon scrubbers are underway to replace these units over a five year period. In addition, the current drought conditions and mandatory water

reductions have created a unique situation and challenge for the collection system. Due to reduced wastewater flows and lower velocities to move debris downstream, odor complaints and odor levels have trended upwards.

The City continues to pursue odor remediation measures to reduce complaints. Ongoing measures include: upgrading and/or installing trap maintenance holes and house connection traps where needed, completion and activation of the third Air Treatment Facility at Mission and Jesse, continued operation of the carbon scrubbers and ATFs, and addition of odor control chemicals in the collection system. Overall, the implementation of the projects mentioned above and continued maintenance has made a marked improvement to the reduction of the sewer related odor complaints

All sewers related odor complaints were properly investigated and addressed, while non-sewer related odors were referred to the appropriate City department or other government agencies.

#### 3.3 Routine Sewer Maintenance



Routine sewer maintenance is necessary to allow the wastewater to flow freely and unimpeded in the sewer pipe. Obstructions in the sewer slow the sewage and cause debris to settle. As discussed earlier, this promotes the generation of hydrogen sulfide. Preventive maintenance includes sewer cleaning, root control, and trap inspection and/or maintenance. Other maintenance includes sealing sewer maintenance holes or other access points, where needed, to prevent the release of foul odors.

#### 3.3.1 Sewer Cleaning and Root Control

Sewer pipes are inspected and cleaned periodically to prevent conditions that exacerbate hydrogen sulfide generation. There are several traditional cleaning techniques used to clear blockages. They include hydroflushing, rodding, and bucketing.

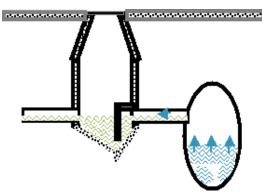
Hydroflushing— Directs a high-velocity stream of water against the pipe wall. This process removes debris and grease build-up and clears blockages within small-diameter pipes.

Rodding – A continuous or sectional rod with a blade at the end is inserted into the pipe and rotated. This action breaks-up grease deposits, cuts roots, and loosens debris.

Bucketing – A cylindrical "bucket" with one closed end is pulled through the line, removing sediment and other material. This process partially removes large deposits of silt, sand, gravel, and some types of solid waste.

All sewers are cleaned at least once every five years and more frequently in known "hot spots". Approximately 6928 miles are cleaned annually. In addition to hydraulic and mechanical cleaning, chemicals are applied into root infested sewers to clear the roots from the pipe. Approximately 349 miles of sewers are treated annually.

#### 3.3.2 Trap Maintenance Hole Inspection and Cleaning

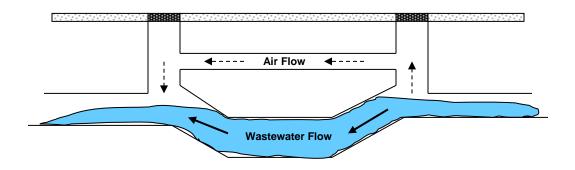


Trap maintenance holes are inspected and cleaned on a quarterly basis. These structures are used to prevent the migration of sewer gases throughout the collection system. They are typically located where small sewers, 6-inches to 15-inches, connect to large interceptor and outfall sewers since high gas pressures are more prevalent in large sewers. Trap maintenance holes act similarly to p-traps

used in residential plumbing by creating a water seal that blocks the sewer gases.

#### 3.3.4 Siphon Inspection and Cleaning

Sewer siphons descend to carry sewage under obstructions such as rivers, storm drains, or other utilities, and then regain elevation after passing the obstruction. The siphon always remains full of water, causing the sewage to move very slowly through a siphon during periods of low flow. For this reason, siphons and other submerged lines are prone to debris deposition and are likely sources of high  $H_2S$  generation. To prevent this, siphons are cleaned quarterly.



Siphons are also noted for releasing venting odors at the inlet structure because the full pipe blocks the air flowing downstream with the sewage. High turbulence at the siphon inlet aggravates this problem by stripping H<sub>2</sub>S out of solution and sending it airborne, adding to the odor. An air duct called an "air jumper" conveys the airflow past the siphon from the inlet to the outlet structure. Air jumpers often follow the sunken (inverted) path of the siphon line, allowing condensate to collect and impede the air movement unless it is drained. To prevent this, inverted airlines either drain automatically with pump systems or are dewatered manually using a vacuum truck. The pump systems are inspected periodically and manual vacuuming is performed on an as-needed basis.

#### 3.3.5 Sealing Maintenance Holes



Sewer maintenance holes provide access for maintenance crews. However, they also provide a route for sewer gases to escape when pressures build up. Sewer gasses can become pressurized for multiple reasons. At times of high sewage flow, the sewage occupies a greater proportion of sewer volume than at times of low flow. As a consequence, some air in the sewer is displaced and finds its way out through maintenance holes or other access structures. Conversely, as flows decrease,

fresh air is drawn into the sewers. This is a natural ventilation process that occurs in the collection system. As sewage flows, air in the pipe's headspace is dragged with it. Higher velocity flows will tend to pull in and drag more air down the pipes. When this air is blocked by an obstruction, it will vent through any relief available such as nearby maintenance holes. In areas where odors continuously vent, maintenance holes are sealed. Typically, this is done as part of regular maintenance activities or in response to odor complaints.

# 3.4 Chemical Control Technologies

Chemical or "liquid phase" control technologies limit the production of hydrogen sulfide by preventing sulfides from forming in sewage. There are numerous chemicals and methods employed for controlling sulfides, depending on the conditions under which they are being employed. For example, chemicals can halt new sulfide production or neutralize existing sulfides. The Bureau of Sanitation has researched and tested many types of liquid phase treatment since the early 1990s. Pilot studies were conducted to measure the performance of various chemical applications such as sodium hydroxide (caustic soda), ferric chloride addition, ferrous chloride, hydrogen peroxide, calcium nitrate (Bioxide), and magnesium hydroxide (Thioguard). The City began routine application of odor control chemicals in 1997.

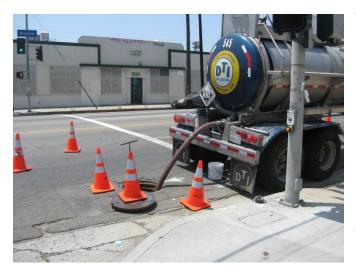
Developing a chemical control program requires an extensive survey of the collection system in order to accurately choose a chemical and locate an injection point that will be effective. This process is described below.

- 1. Review odor complaint history Look for repeat odor complaints in a community.
- Review collection system maps Check size and type of nearby sewers(local sewer, interceptor sewer, or outfall sewer), pipe slope, flow rates and levels, locations of maintenance holes, junctions or tributary structures, and any pump plants or siphons.
- 3. Preliminary sampling Sample the wastewater for total and dissolved sulfides, pH, and temperature. Hydrogen sulfide is measured using hand held meters and/or continuous data logging monitors. Sample all major tributary points to the problem area and proceed toward the upstream reaches. This is a quick and effective method to isolate problem areas requiring further investigation.
- 4. Determine baseline H<sub>2</sub>S profile and sulfide mass loading Once a problem area is isolated, additional samples are taken to develop the baseline data profile which includes maximum, minimum, and average H<sub>2</sub>S levels over a period of 24-hours or more. This will be compared with data taken during the trial-and-error applications to measure effectiveness. Analysis of dissolved sulfide concentrations in samples along with known flow information helps determine the amount of sulfide present and where it is coming from.
- 5. Determine location for chemical injection The monitoring data will identify the area generating sulfide. The injection point will be located at the most upstream reach of the generation zone to ensure adequate treatment.

Although there are theoretical formulas and rules regarding the dosing requirements for each liquid phase treatment process, it is not an exact science. Field analysis of the results and subsequent adjustments are required. Therefore, trial and error applications are common until an adequate dose level is achieved. Continuous monitoring is necessary to determine a cause-and-effect relationship of each treatment. Monitoring for  $H_2S$  is typically performed inside the maintenance holes because hydrogen sulfide dilutes immediately after exhausting into ambient air making concentrations much lower in the air outside the maintenance hole. Along with monitoring, each application should be correlated with the corresponding number of odor complaints in the affected area. A reduction in the number of odor complaints is an indication that the dosing levels are working.

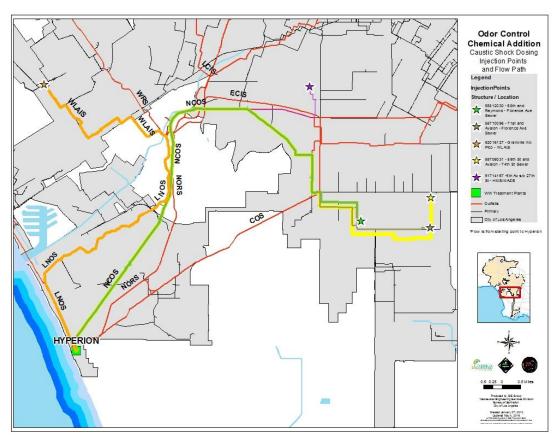
Currently the Bureau of Sanitation is using a 50% sodium hydroxide solution called caustic soda and continuous Thioguard (60% magnesium hydroxide) addition to chemically control odors in the collection system.

#### 3.4.1 Caustic Shock Dosing Application



The Bureau of Sanitation has been using caustic soda in a process called "caustic shock dosing" routinely since 1997 to control sulfide generation. The selection of this treatment was based on positive past experiences and its success in neighboring municipalities such as Los Angeles County and Orange County. Additionally, this treatment is ideal for the sewers targeted due to their long detention times which

allow adequate contact time for treatment. Furthermore, caustic shock dosing is a very flexible process and can be mobilized quickly to treat any area of the collection system.



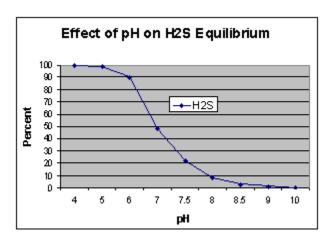
Periodic caustic shock dosing can effectively remove all sulfide forms. It inactivates, or kills, the biological slime layer where sulfates are transformed to sulfides.

Monitoring has shown that the slime layer requires 3 to 5 days to re-form and reach full sulfide production again, depending upon pH, temperature, and contact time of the caustic soda. It rebounds more quickly in warmer weather. Therefore, the frequency of the shock dosing schedule varies with the seasons so as to prevent a complete rebound of hydrogen sulfide production.

Caustic soda is added directly to the wastewater stream through a maintenance hole upstream of the area to be treated and at the sulfide-producing zone. It is added at a volume and rate sufficient to elevate the pH above 12.5 for at least 30 minutes to inactivate or kill the sulfate-reducing bacteria. Continuous pH monitors are placed downstream of the application point to confirm that adequate treatment levels are attained. Caustic soda is applied upstream of the sulfide-generating area 1 to 3 times per week, depending on the generation rate and time of year. It is currently being applied to sewer reaches upstream of the Maze area which accounts for approximately 46% of the sulfide loading to the Maze Area Sewer System. The caustic injection in the South Los Angeles area is conducted on the Florence Ave Sewer, 74<sup>th</sup> Street Sewer and Hollywood Main Sewer. These sewers are tributary to the Maze. Caustic shock dosing is also performed on the WLAIS. Higher H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations are a result of high dissolved sulfide generation caused by solids deposition in the large diameter sewer.

As a safety precaution, all chemical applications are scheduled in advance and announced to all collection system personnel to avoid accidental contact with the chemical as it passes down the sewer system. Additionally, the treatment plant is notified prior to application. A shock dose schedule bulletin is distributed to wastewater collection system personnel, including those at treatment plants and the Bureaus of Engineering and Contract Administration. The bulletin includes location, date, time and volume of caustic soda to be added to the collection system.

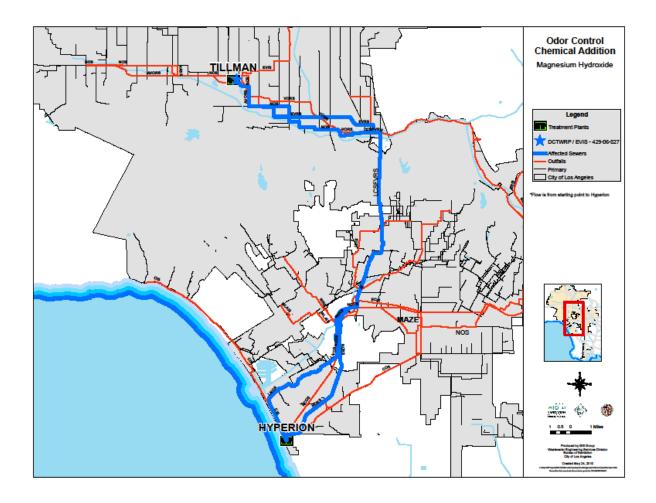
#### 3.4.2 Magnesium Hydroxide Continuous Addition



As the pH of wastewater rises, the natural state of sulfides in the wastewater shifts away from offensive H<sub>2</sub>S gas and towards dissolved sulfides in solution. Magnesium hydroxide raises the pH of wastewater and has a residual buffering capacity that maintains an elevated pH for a significant distance downstream of the application point. For this reason, magnesium hydroxide is

continuously added to wastewater to raise and buffer its pH to within a range of 7.5 and 8.6. As the graph shows, at a pH of 7, approximately 50% of all sulfides exist as  $H_2S$  gas. At pH 8, that number falls to 10% and at pH 8.6, only 3% of sulfides exist as  $H_2S$  gas while the vast majority of sulfides are held in solution in the form of disulfide and dissolved sulfide. A slight drop in pH results in a significant increase in  $H_2S$  produced and thus emitted into the atmosphere. Consequently, maintaining a high pH provides effective odor control.

The City has been using a 65% magnesium hydroxide slurry as a non-hazardous means to regulate the pH of its wastewater since September 2003 as the result of a successful pilot testing. This application requires 20 to 25 gallons of magnesium hydroxide per million gallons of wastewater to control odors. Currently, magnesium hydroxide is injected from the Tillman Water Reclamation Plant and is introduced to AVORS to raise the pH of the downstream sewers in the NOS, EVRS, and the LCSFVRS. See the following figure for the chemical flow path. This benefits both the Studio City area, Hollywood and Mid-City areas. In July 2013, Thioguard application on the NOS from LAGWRP started to address the high concentration of H2S resulting from the release of biosolids back to the NOS from the LAGWRP.

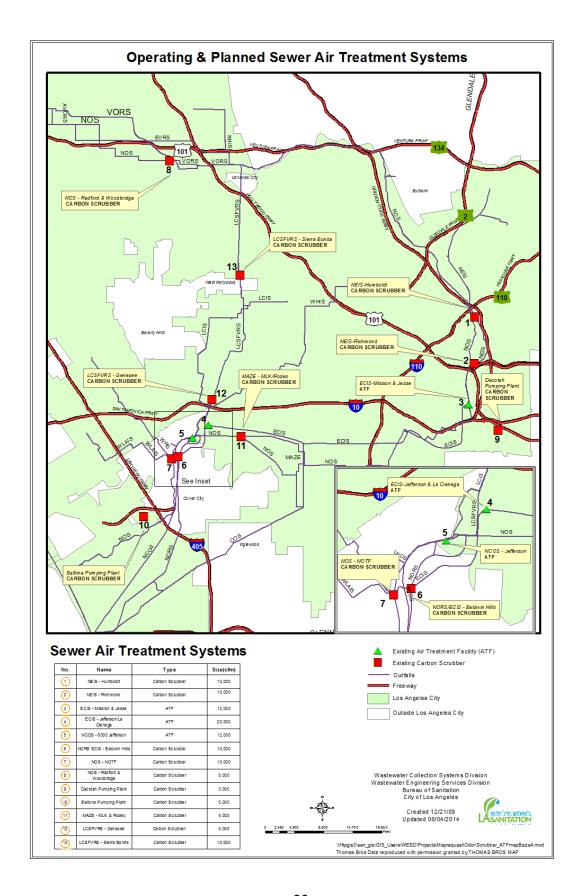


# 3.5 Air Withdrawal, Treatment and Management

The City has conducted multiple studies of sewer gas pressure and odors. The studies have identified distinct high pressure zones in sewers including:

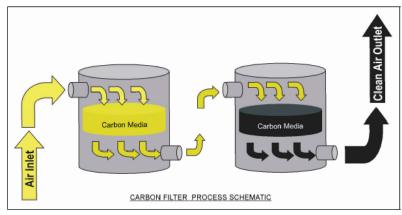
- North Outfall Sewer (NOS)
- Maze Area Sewer System (Maze)
- La Cienega San Fernando Valley Relief Sewer (LCSFVRS)
- North Outfall Replacement Sewer (NORS)
- West Los Angeles Interceptor Sewer (WLAIS)
- Westwood Relief Sewer (WRS)

To address the high pressure zones and localize odor hot spots in the collection system, carbon scrubbers and permanent air treatment facilities were constructed to alleviate and mitigate the odor emissions from the collection system. See the following figure:



#### 3.5.1 Carbon Adsorption

Conventional carbon adsorption systems offer an effective approach to controlling odors in many situations. In municipal installations, odorous air is typically directed through a vessel containing adsorption media, such as activated carbon. Odorous compounds in sewer gases are adsorbed onto the media. Adsorption systems in the



City's wastewater collection system are generally configured as single media bed system. Activated carbons are highly porous materials. Due to large surface areas, activated carbon is able to adsorb hydrogen sulfide, other reduced sulfur compounds and volatile organic compounds (VOC). These odor-causing compounds are attracted to and adhere to the carbon's pore structure. This process relieves the air pressure in the system while preventing the release of odors. There are currently thirteen carbon scrubbers operating in the wastewater collection system.



Scrubbers are operated under a permit issued by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). As required by the permit, an operations staff monitors the hydrogen sulfide concentration of the influent air and the treated emissions in order to gage the performance of the scrubber. The typical hydrogen sulfide removal rate is 99%. These readings are posted on a quarterly basis on the City's odor website at

<u>www.lasewers.org</u>. Carbon media in each unit is replaced periodically before expected odor contaminant breakthrough. The frequency of change-out, range from monthly to quarterly to bi-annually depending on the contaminant loadings to the carbon scrubber.

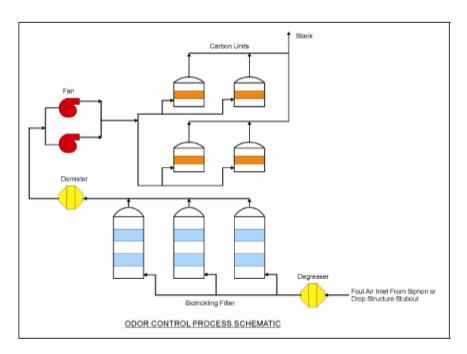
Ten carbon scrubbers are installed at sites to address localized odor hotspots within the collection system. They include:

- 1. NORS/ECIS Junction
- 2. NEIS Drop Structure Humboldt and San Fernando Rd
- 3. NEIS Richmond
- 4. LCSFVRS Sierra Bonita
- 5. LCSFVRS Siphon Genesee
- 6. NOS Siphon Radford
- 7. Maze/NOS Junction Rodeo and Martin Luther King
- 8. WLAIS/NOS Junction North Outfall Treatment Facility (NOTF)
- 9. Ballona Pump Plant
- 10. Dakotah Pump Plant

These units have been in operation for 10 years and have reached their operational useful life. There are plans to upgrade existing units to insure continued operability.

#### 3.5.2 Air Treatment Facilities (ATF)

The City has elected to use Air Treatment Facilities (ATF) using a 2-stage odor control system employing biotrickling filtration technology followed by a carbon adsorption polishing step.



Biotrickling filter technology utilizes microbial cells that are attached to a medium inside the reactor, which then oxidize the odorous constituents to odorless compounds. The odor contaminants transfer from the gas to the liquid phase and subsequently to the

microbial biofilm, or it is transferred directly from the gas to the biofilm, where it is oxidized biologically to odorless compounds. The oxidative by-products, namely sulfuric acid, are the removed through the trickling effluent. The treated effluent is then polished by carbon adsorption.



Three ATFs have been constructed and are in operation. They include the ATF at East Central Interceptor Sewer Siphon and LCSFVRS (Jefferson & La Cienega), the ATF at North Central Outfall Sewer Siphon (NCOS) and the ATF at Mission and Jesse. The ATFs were strategically placed to reduce the long standing odor issues in the South Los

Angeles/Baldwin Hills area and in the Boyle Heights/East LA area. The ATF at ECIS is designed to ventilate and treat the ECIS at the siphon and the LCSFVRS to mitigate sewer gas emissions. The facility treats 20,000 cfm of foul air. The ATF located at 6000 Jefferson Blvd is designed to ventilate the pressurized North Central Outfall Sewer (NCOS) in order to mitigate emission of sewer gas. The facility will treat 12,000 cfm of foul air. A third ATF at Mission and Jesse with a capacity to treat 12,000 cfm of foul began operation in June 2015. This ATF will withdraw air from the ECIS/NEIS Junction and the NOS.

#### 3.5.3 Trap Maintenance Holes



There are over 400 trap maintenance holes in the collection system. These structures are constructed at the downstream end of local sewers up to 15-inches in diameter prior to their connection to large diameter sewers. Large diameter sewers are the source of ventilation in the collection system. To prevent the migration of air from the large diameter pipes to the local sewers, the trap maintenance holes serve to

block the migration of airflow from the large diameter pipe. Trap maintenance holes act similarly to p-traps used in residential plumbing by creating a water seal that blocks the sewer gases.

#### 3.5.4 Hydraulic Flow Management



Flow management plays a major role in odor control, especially in the area of air dynamics and ventilation. Hydraulic flow has an influence on air movement. It is well documented that on major interceptor and outfall sewers, hydraulic flow will drag the air above it. As a result, air moves within the pipe. Throughout the day, as part of the diurnal pattern of flow, the wastewater flow will rise and fall. When flows rise, air is

pushed out the system. Conversely, when flows fall, air is pulled into the system. The air pressure is significant especially in sewers that are at or reaching capacity, meaning the hydraulic flow levels are high. Balancing flows in the system by splitting flows at diversion structures will relieve air pressure in the system.

#### 3.5.5 Air Curtains

Air curtains proved to be effective tools in controlling the air movement in the sewers. The purpose of the air curtain is to isolate the air movement in the interceptor sewer and control movement of sewer air from entering other portions of the collections system. Air curtains are installed at major diversion structures. Air curtains have been installed at NORS Diversion Structures 1, 2, and 3; NOS/NCOS to LCSFVFRS diversion structure; 23<sup>rd</sup> and Trinity NOS to ECIS diversion structure and the NOS/ECIS diversion structure upstream of the Mission and Jesse ECIS drop structure.

#### 3.6 Sewer Construction and Repair

Sewer construction and repair play an important role in the City's odor control effort. Some odor problems are inherent in a given sewer's design and require auxiliary sewers to be built. Some problems are the result of failing components which need repair or replacement. Additionally, the City has been engaged in a large capital improvement program constructing new, major sewers which have multiple benefits for the collection system as a whole, one of which is odor control.

The City is continuously identifying locations where house connection laterals from private properties tie directly into a large outfall sewer instead of a small, local sewer. This is a direct source of odors since large sewers are much more likely to have high odor levels and high gas pressures. A direct connection allows odors from the large line to escape up the house connection and into the house or property. To address this issue, the City constructs local sewers adjacent to the large sewer to which the house connections will be reconnected in order to isolate the properties from the odor source. A trap maintenance hole is constructed at the end of the local line before connecting back to the large diameter sewer. In special circumstances, the City will also install house connection traps on the private sewer lateral to control the migration of sewer gases from the City sewer to the private property. This requires consent from the property owner to install such a device on to their private lateral and agreement from the property owner to maintain the house connection trap.

Trap maintenance holes are inspected quarterly as part of an odor complaint investigation. The Bureau has identified all known problematic trap maintenance holes and has begun a program of replacing them on a systematic basis. The City is replacing existing trap maintenance holes with a new standard design. The new design will ensure a continuous seal and allow crews better accessibility to maintain the trap maintenance hole without compromising the seal. It is expected that these upgrades will significantly improve sewer odor releases where trap maintenance holes are located. The City will continue to upgrade and install trap maintenance holes where needed.

The City's program of constructing new and rehabilitating major sewers has many benefits, including odor control. The new sewers provide much-needed additional capacity to the collection system and relieve the existing sewers, which are carrying flows over their intended capacity. This not only improves the hydraulic capacity of the system, but also decreases the air pressures in the pipe's headspace above the flow. As flow is diverted from the existing sewers, the air space in these pipes increases and the air pressure therefore decreases. This reduces the likelihood of sewer gases venting out of the sewer system. The City continues to assess the hydraulic needs of the wastewater collection system and provide hydraulic relief where needed, reducing air pressure in the system.

### 3. 7 Monitoring

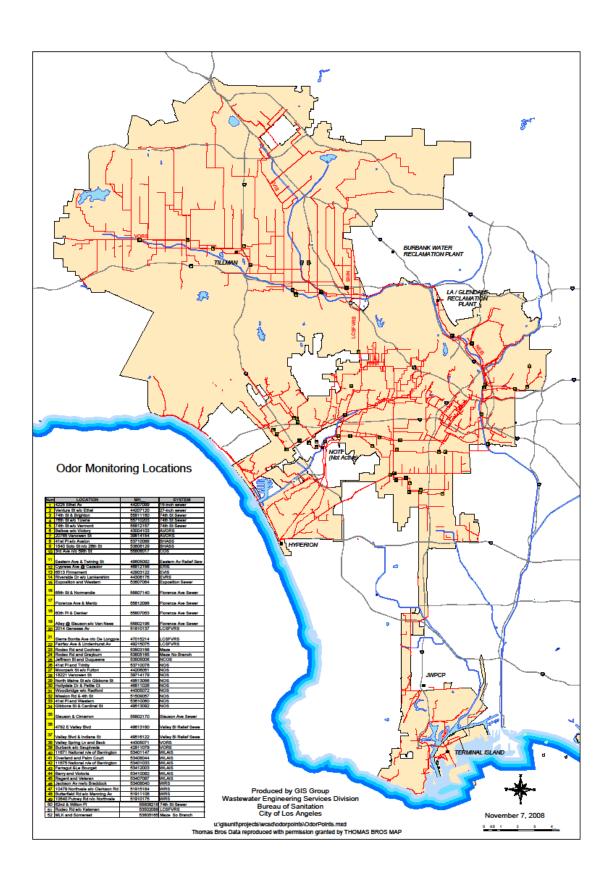
The collection system is regularly monitored in order to identify the source and cause of sewer related odors. A number of monitoring stations have been established at strategic locations in order to measure the parameter associated with odors. See the following figure.

These locations include known odor hotspots, outfall and interceptor sewers, pressure zones, areas of turbulence, sharp slope change in sewer pipes (grade breaks), and sewer

pipes with long detention time such as flat, low-velocity sewers. Parameters evaluated are:

- Wastewater Characteristics includes total and dissolved sulfides, pH, and temperature. These characteristics determine the potential for H<sub>2</sub>S formation.
- H<sub>2</sub>S Gas Concentration determines potential for odor complaints if released.
- Air Pressure determines potential sites of odor release
- Sewer Odor Complaints helps evaluate effectiveness of odor control measures and helps identify potential hotspots in the collection system

Monitoring is conducted at least annually at designated points to gage the variation in odor generation and to monitor the adequacy and effectiveness of any chemical treatment. It is also used to confirm the location and potential of odor hotspot locations. This information is used as part of the annual odor master planning efforts.



# Annual Odor Complaint Report Collection System Odor Control Program July 2015 to June 2016

This report covers odor complaints received during Fiscal Year 2015/16.

#### **Sewer Odor Hotline Program**

The Bureau of Sanitation receives odor complaints regarding possible sewer odors through the 24-hour Odor Hotline or other non-hotline sources. The Bureau investigates all the complaints received and determines whether or not they are sewer or non-sewer related odors. A brief overview of each element is as follows:

#### **Hotline**

- 24-hour Odor Complaint Hotline at 1-866-44SEWER or on-line at <u>www.lasewers.org</u>. All phone calls to the odor hotline are answered by operator.
- 2. 3-1-1 City-Wide Call Center

#### Non-Hotline

- 1. Direct contact from the public
- Council District Office or other referrals

The odor complaints are divided into four category types:

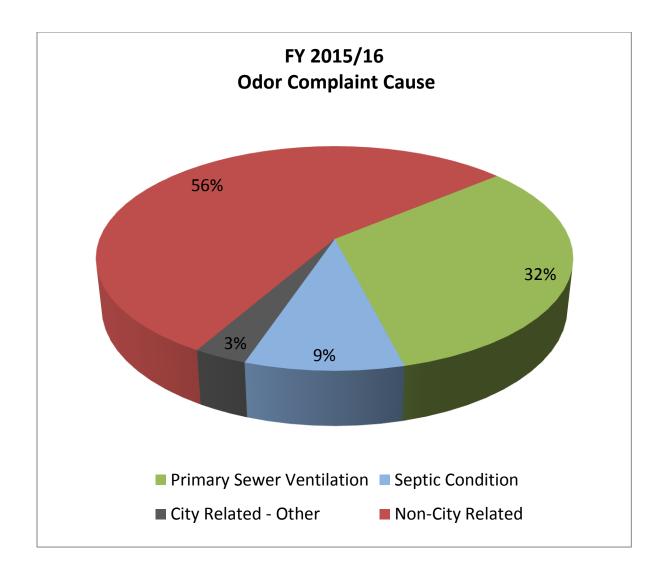
**Primary Sewer Ventilation** - Sewer related odors emitted due to positive pressure from maintenance holes, scrubbers, defective trap maintenance holes, diversion structures, treatment plants or other sewer structures.

**Septic Condition** - Sewer related odors due to septic conditions caused by blockage from grease, roots, and other debris or full, slow moving sewers

Other City Related Issues - Non-sewer related odors from stormwater catch basin, debris basin or channel odors, dirty alley, and standing water. Typically these complaints are forwarded to the Bureau of Sanitation's Wastewater Collection System Division Stormwater Section, Watershed Protection Division, Bureau of Street Maintenance, or other City Bureaus

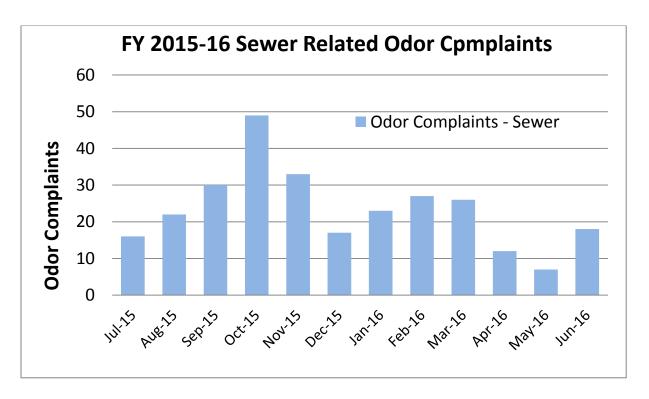
**Non-City Related Issues** - These are non-sewer related odors due to owner trouble, dead animal, other odors not involving city facilities, such as Los Angeles County Flood Control District and Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County. This category also includes no odors detected at time of investigation.

A total of 678 odor complaints, hotline and non-hotline, were received and investigated during this reporting period. 22% or 148 of the total complaints originated from the 24-hour Odor Complaint Hotline or the 3-1-1 City Wide Call Center.



Of the 678 odor complaints investigated in this fiscal year, 41% or 276 were related to the sewer system. 59% or 398 of the total odor complaints received were non-sewer sources (Figure 1) such as from storm water catch basins, dirty alleys, and standing water or owner trouble. Figure 2 presents the location and cause of the odor complaints investigated this fiscal year.

Compared to last fiscal year, sewer related odor complaints decreased by 13% from 317 complaints in FY 2014/15 to 276 complaints in FY 2015/16 (Figure 3). Sewer ventilation is the primary cause of sewer related odor complaints. Foul odors emitting out of the wastewater collection system attribute to 78% of the sewer related odor complaints received (Figure 4). Sewer ventilation is the forcible release and escape of foul sewer gases from various sources including outfall/interceptor sewer, leaking trap maintenance holes, direct connection house connection to large diameter sewers, emissions from air scrubbers and air treatment facilities, and odors from wastewater pumping plants and treatment plants. Septic sewer odors account for the remaining 22% of the sewer related odor complaints received. Septic conditions are caused by sewer blockages caused by roots, grease, and/or other organic debris which create septic or anaerobic conditions in the pipe to cause foul odors.

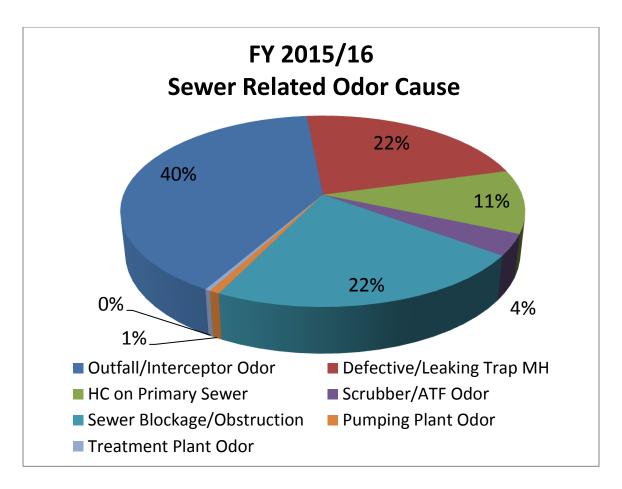


The City continues to address sewer related odor complaints by implementing its odor control program. Sewer odor control includes vapor phase and wastewater liquid phase treatment to address sewer odors. Vapor phase treatment consists of biotrickling filters and carbon adsorption scrubbers to reduce sewer ventilation along the major outfall and interceptor sewers and pumping plants. Bureau of Sanitation completed the start-up and optimized the operation of its 3<sup>rd</sup> Air Treatment Facility, the 12,000 cfm Mission and Jesse Air Treatment along the NOS and ECIS/NEIS junction in the Boyle Heights area. The ten carbon adsorption scrubbers operating in the collection system have met or have exceeded its useful operating service life. Capital improvement projects to replace

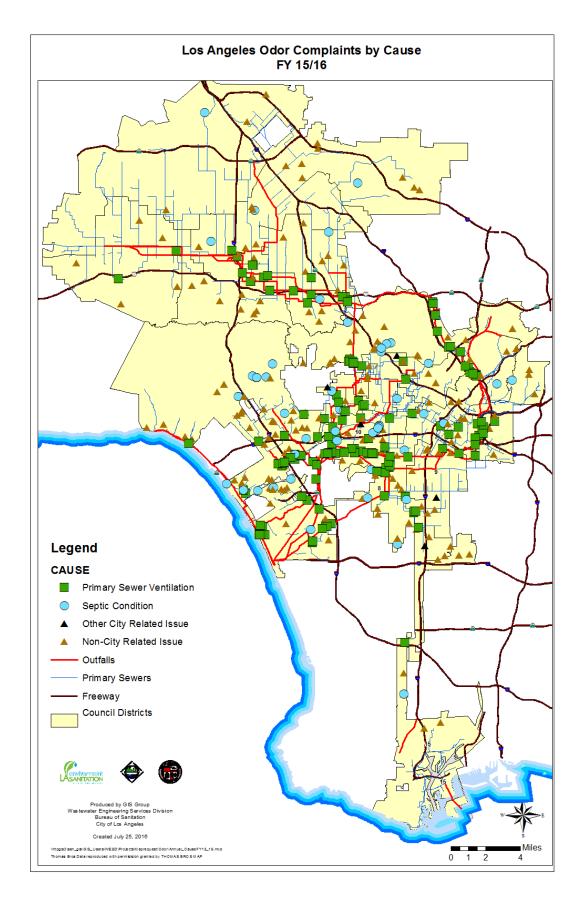
and upgrade the existing aging units have been initiated. The Bureau of Sanitation plans to upgrade and replace its 10 carbon adsorption scrubbers over the next 5 years. The first two carbon scrubber projects NORS/ECIS scrubber and the MLK scrubber are currently in progress. In the meantime, maintenance activities of these units have stepped up to ensure on-going operation of the units. The Bureau completed a pilot study of a new carbon vessel design system with suspended media for an all-around flow through the carbon bed to allow higher flow rate with less foot-print. This system also contains a deflection plate to reduce the moisture in inlet air stream for a longer carbon life. The test result showed better performance and extended carbon life compared to a standard design deep bed scrubber. Plans are underway to evaluate a full scale unit for operation in the collection system.

Wastewater liquid phase treatment involves the use of odor controlling chemical to reduce the concentration and the generation of hydrogen sulfide gases formed in the collection system. Bureau of Sanitation uses caustic (sodium hydroxide) shock dosing along sewers subject to septic conditions and high sulfide generation caused by low velocity and surcharge conditions in the South Central Los Angeles Area Interceptor Sewer and West Los Angeles Interceptor Sewer Systems and a continuous addition of Thioguard (magnesium hydroxide) to control hydrogen sulfide levels in the collection system along the North Outfall Sewer, East Valley Relief Sewer and La Cienega San Fernando Relief Sewer.

The Bureau conducts periodic monitoring in the collection system to measure the effectiveness of the vapor phase and liquid phase treatment and to document the odor characteristics at designated points in the collection system in terms of potential odor generation and odor hot spots. On-going periodic monitoring of the collection system includes measuring hydrogen sulfide, air pressure and wastewater characteristic such as dissolved sulfides



Overall, the activities and projects mentioned above and the on-going maintenance activities will address sewer related odor complaints. The Bureau's collection system odor control efforts are geared toward maintaining the health, safety and quality of life for its constituents.



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## 4.0 AREAS OF CONCERN AND AREAS OF STUDY

The areas of concern and areas of study were selected based on the history and/or frequency of sewer related odor complaints, and the physical sewer characteristics that may potentially contribute to the generation and release of odors in the area. The following figures show the locations of all odor complaints investigated during FY 2015/2016.

This section will provide an analysis for each of the five locations identified as Areas of Concern (AOC) and one location identified as Area of Study (AOS). Areas of Concern (AOC) are areas with a history and/or high frequency of odor complaints in the collection system. These areas are the odor hot spot areas in the collection system. Areas of Study (AOS) are areas that potentially can be areas of concern due to intermittent odor complaints that have developed. Further studies will be developed for these areas to understand the potential issues that may arise in the area

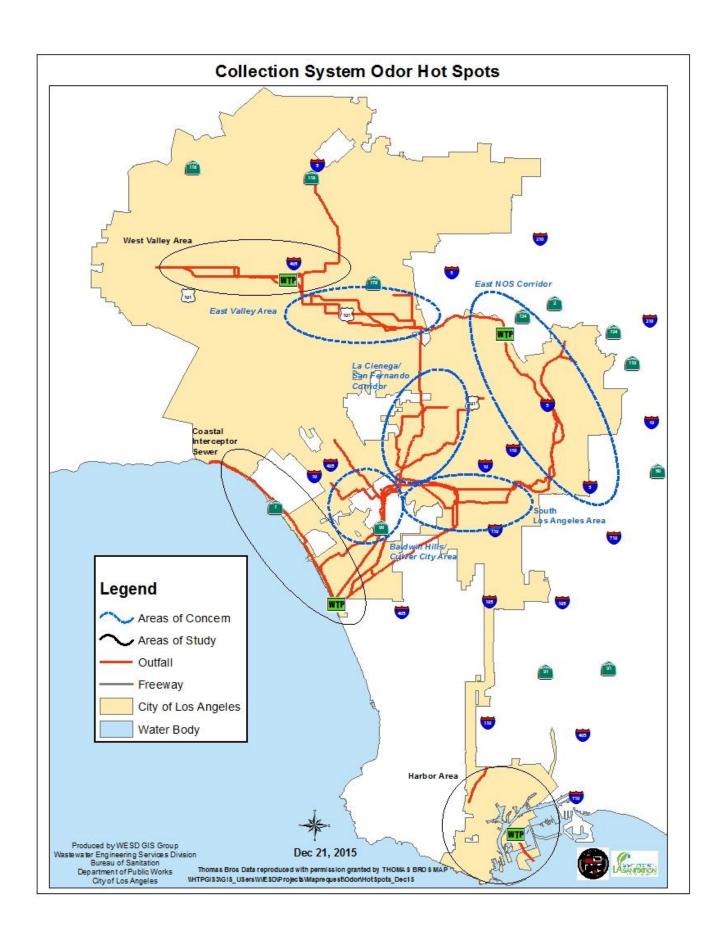
The following figure identifies each of these areas on a map of Los Angeles. Monitoring locations within these areas were selected based on odor complaint history and a detailed review of the physical characteristics of the collection system that can contribute to odor generation and release. The physical sewer characteristics that may trigger odor generation or release include flat or severe pipe slopes, pipe diameter constriction, major junction structures, and proximity to an inverted siphon. Each AOC and AOS will contain an introduction, discussion and analysis, conclusion, and recommendations.

#### **AOC - Areas of Concern**

- AOC-1 East NOS and NEIS/ECIS Corridor
- AOC-2 La Cienega/San Fernando Corridor LCSFVRS-WHIS-LCIS
- AOC-3 South Los Angeles Area NOS/Maze-ECIS-SCAIS
- AOC-4 Baldwin Hills/Culver City NORS-ECIS-NOS-NCOS-WLAIS-WRS
- AOC-5 East Valley Area AVORS-EVRS-VORS-NHIS-NOS

#### **AOS - Areas of Study**

AOS-1 Venice/Playa del Rey Area – CIS/LNOS/COS/NCOS/NORS



## 4. 1 AOC-1 - East NOS and NEIS/ECIS Corridor

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This section provides a discussion and analysis of the sewer characteristics that may contribute to collection system odors on major sewers along the eastern corridor of the North Outfall Sewer (NOS) system, the Northeast Interceptor Sewer (NEIS) and East Central Interceptor Sewer (ECIS). The area of concern covers the NOS starting at the Los Angeles Glendale Water Reclamation Plant (LAGWRP) north of Atwater Village and moving southerly to the Enterprise Siphon located in the Boyle Heights area. The terminus of the Northeast Interceptor Sewer (NEIS) begins at San Fernando Rd north of Division St and moves southerly to Mission and Jesse where NEIS ends and the ECIS begins. The NOS receives returned biosolids from LAGWRP which makes it more susceptible for odor generation and potential odor complaints to occur. In addition, there are several major sewer structures along this segment that may increase the potential for sewer air pressurization, migration, and release. The major sewer structures along the NOS/NEIS/ECIS include 3 siphons and 3 diversion structures and 3 drop structures. The siphons include Fletcher/Gilroy, Aliso/Mission and Enterprise siphons. Portions of the NOS wastewater flow is diverted at major diversion structures including the Humboldt diversion to NEIS and Mission and Jesse diversion to ECIS. Both diversion points connect to drop structures conveying the NOS wastewater flows to NEIS and ECIS deep tunnel sewer, respectively. Flows from the Eagle Rock Interceptor Sewer are diverted to the Terminus of NEIS at the Division St diversion structure. In Early 2015 and through 2016, the majority of NOS flows were being diverted to the ECIS at Mission and Jesse to reduce flows to the NOS Sewer Rehabilitation Units 2 and 5 projects occurring downstream in the South Los Angeles area. This also resulted in the temporary removal of an air curtain at the Mission and Jesse NOS/ECIS diversion. Hence, the sewer air flow and H<sub>2</sub>S conditions may be significantly different from previous monitoring performed in the same area.

To address odor issues along this portion of the NOS, NEIS and ECIS, there are existing odor control facilities and mechanisms along the major sewers. They include magnesium hydroxide chemical addition facility, 2 carbon scrubbers, the Mission and Jesse air treatment facility, trap maintenance holes on local sewers connected to the NOS. House connection traps on properties connected directly to the NOS were monitored with data logging instruments which measure sewer air pressure and hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S). The Mission and Jesse Air Treatment Facility located in the Boyle Heights area is the third biotrickling filter and carbon scrubber unit that was commissioned in July 2015.

#### **MONITORING LOCATIONS-2016**

Table 4.1.1 shows the list of maintenance holes tested along the East NOS/NEIS/ECIS Corridor from LAGWRP to the Enterprise Siphon at the Los Angeles River. Figure 8.1 displays a map of these locations.

	Table 4.1.1 - East NOS/NEIS/ECIS Corridor Monitoring Locations							
ID	LOCATION	MH NO.	SEWER	JUSTIFICATION				
1	Fletcher / 2 Fwy	468-11-045	NOS	Siphon Pressure Effect				
2	Blake & Oros	495-05-024	NOS	Slope Reduction				
3	Barranca & Avenue 18	495-09-054	NOS	Drop Structure & Junction Structure Effect				
4	Near 632 Clarence-20 inch	515-09-139	NOS	Back pressure effect				
5	Mission & 6th	515-09-154	NOS	Drop Structure & Junction Structure Effect				
6	Mission & 4th	515-09-054	NOS	Drop Structure & Junction Structure Effect				
7	Mission & 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	515-13-001	NOS	Drop Structure & Siphon Pressure Effect				
8	Mission u/s Enterprise Siphon	515-13-003	NOS	Siphon Pressure Effect				
9	Mission & Kearney	515-05-288	NEIS	Deep Tunnel Effect				

#### **MONITORING RESULTS AND ANALYSIS**

Table 4.1.2 shows the sewer air pressure and/or  $H_2S$  monitoring results at the designated maintenance holes along the eastern corridor of the NOS/NEIS/ECIS. Where available, a comparison of air pressure results for the last two years and current year average  $H_2S$  monitoring is provided.

	Table 4.1.2 - East NOS/NEIS/ECIS Corridor Monitoring Results								
ID	LOCATION MH NO. SEWER		Avg. Sew	essure	Avg. Hydrogen Sulfide (ppm)				
				2016	2015	2014	Avg./High		
1	Fletcher / 2 Fwy	468-11-045	NOS	0.28	0.13	0.26	4/27		
2	Blake & Oros	495-05-024	NOS	0.04	0.03	0.045	46/150		
3	Barranca & Ave 18	495-09-054	NOS	-0.08	-0.13*	-0.05	8*		
4	Near 632 Clarence-20 inch	515-09-139	NOS	0.06	-	-	0/6		
5	Mission & 6th	515-09-154	NOS	0.33	0.33	0.41	158/307		
6	Mission & 4th	515-09-054	NOS	0.10	-	-	275		
7	Mission & 7 <sup>th</sup> Street	515-13-001	NOS	0.45	0.41	0.44	89/200		
8	Mission u/s Enterprise Siphon	515-13-003	NOS	0.35	0.2	-	152		
9	Mission & Kearney	515-05-288	NEIS	0.65	0.66	-	-		

<sup>\*</sup> Hand Held Instrument

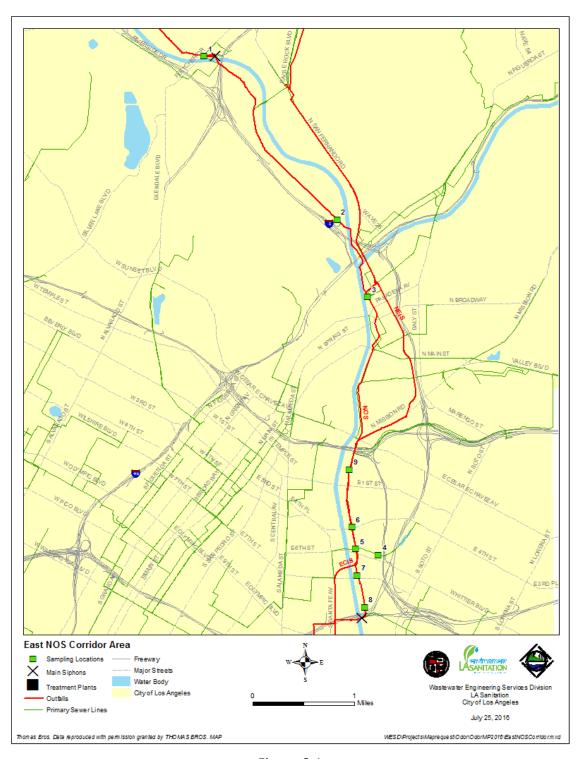


Figure 8.1

#### **DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

The eastern corridor of the NOS in the Atwater Village between LAGWRP and the Fletcher/Gilroy Siphon had slight increase in odor complaints in comparison to last year. Odor complaints were relatively moderate in the area. Although it was anticipated that sewer pressures will remain high due to the siphon back pressure effect from the Gilroy siphon, the implementation of odor control measures addressed the odor affecting the community. Sewer pressure ranged on an average from 0.28 inches water column (in. w.c.) from the Fletcher/Gilroy Siphon to 0.04 in. w.c. just south of LAGWRP, respectively. The Fletcher/Gilroy siphon does not have an airline at the siphon to convey air downstream. The odor control measures implemented over the past few years include the installation of house connection gas traps on homes directly connected to the NOS, the installation and/or upgrade of trap maintenance holes on local sewers connected to the NOS, and sealing maintenance holes. The application of magnesium hydroxide, which started in July 2013, continues on the NOS from the LAGWRP to control sewer gas concentrations in the NOS

Further downstream of the Fletcher/Gilroy Siphon, trap maintenance holes were constructed on local sewers just upstream of the NOS slope reduction at the LA River near Blake and Oros. Average sewer pressures along this portion of the NOS are moderate at 0.04 in. w.c. with average H<sub>2</sub>S at 46 ppm.

The NOS at the NOS/NEIS Humboldt Diversion Structure is not affected by the diversion of flow to the NEIS. This is indicated by the air pressures at Barranca and Avenue 18. The diurnal pressure measured at this location is an average of -0.08 in. w.c. The diversion of the NOS to NEIS shows that air is being pulled down the NEIS drop structure at Humboldt. A 10,000 cfm carbon scrubber is located at this drop structure. This scrubber was running passively for the majority of time. However on May 20, 2016 this scrubber was turned on at its maximum capacity of 10,000 cfm in an effort to ventilate the high pressure and reduce odor in NOS near Mission and 6th.

The southerly area along the eastern NOS/NEIS/ECIS corridor in the Boyle Heights area is between the Mission & Kearny and the Enterprise Siphon. At this location lie the NOS/NEIS/ECIS diversion structure, the 12,000 cfm Mission and Jesse Air Treatment Facility (ATF) and the Enterprise Siphon. Significant air pressurization continues to exist on the NOS. This is where the air pressures and the H<sub>2</sub>S levels are highest. The NEIS at Mission and Kearney has an average air pressure of 0.65 in w.c with over an inch on the high end. Directly upstream is the 10,000 cfm Richmond Carbon scrubber, which is currently operating in the passive mode. The high volume of air in NEIS appears to be dragged to the Mission and Jesse NOS/ECIS drop structure and migrating back to the NOS from the NOS/ECIS diversion structure coupled with the fact that the Enterprise siphon downstream does not have an outlet for the air to get through. This is confirmed from the significant air pressures on the NOS upstream and downstream of the

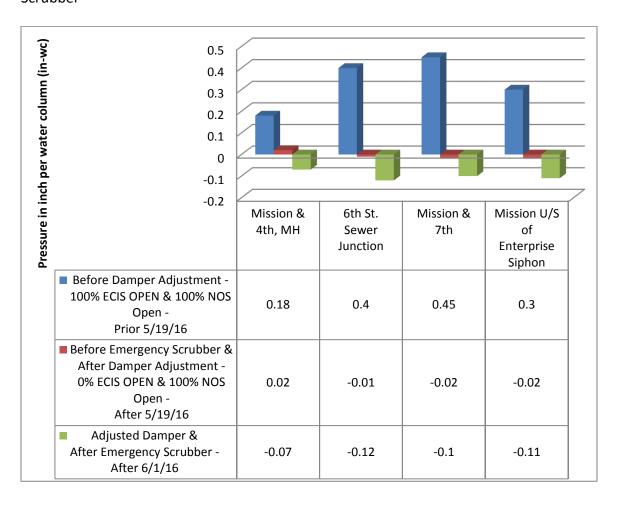
diversion structure, with an average between 0.33 in. w.c. and 0.45 in. w.c. at Mission and  $6^{th}$  and Mission and  $7^{th}$ , respectively. Furthermore, the Enterprise siphon also contributes to the back pressurization upstream of the siphon due to lack of an airline. The pressures averaged at 0.35 in. w.c. and the  $H_2S$  levels were 200 ppm max with an average of 89 ppm. The high  $H_2S$  at this location is due to a lack of flow velocity in the Enterprise Siphon creating septic condition and significant  $H_2S$  generation to address the high ventilation pressures. Adjustments were made to the ATF air dampers to pull more air from the NOS (100%) than from the ECIS (25%).

Due to on-going odor complaints (May 2016) stemming in this area, several odor control measures were implemented that resulted in negative (suction) pressure.

Summary of the followings steps that were aggressively implemented to alleviate the foul odor:

- Reinstalled "Air Curtain" on NOS/ECIS diversion to block foul air from the deep tunnel back to a shallower NOS.
- Reinstalled all 11 "stop Logs" to divert the NOS flow from the Enterprise siphon.
- Adjusted ATF dampers to be fully closed for the ECIS and a 100% open for the NOS
- ATF "Air Return line" was fully closed to keep any recirculating air from reaching the NOS
- Activated the 10,000 CFM Humboldt scrubber.
- A 10,000 CFM "Emergency scrubber" was installed at Mission and 6<sup>th</sup>, approximately 500 yards upstream from the Mission & Jesse ATF.
- A new "Air Curtain" was fabricated and installed on the local tributary sewer line along the 6<sup>th</sup> St. to block back pressure from the NOS.
- To address the high H<sub>2</sub>S conditions on the NOS, Thioguard (magnesium hydroxide) dose at the LAGWRP was increased to control the H<sub>2</sub>S.

The combination of all these measures resulted in creating negative pressure readings. The chart below shows the effect of Damper's adjustment along with the "Emergency Scrubber"



#### **CONCLUSIONS**

The odor complaints along the NOS in the Atwater Village to Barranca and Avenue 18 have been significantly reduced and remained stable for the past two years by effectively implementing odor control measures. However, downstream in the area of Mission and Kearny to Enterprise Siphon, air pressurization and high  $\rm H_2S$  levels are occurring due to ventilation from the NOS/ECIS drop structure and back pressurization from the Enterprise Siphon which does not have an air jumper. Existing hydraulic

conditions along the eastern NOS/NEIS/ECIS corridor are contributing to the significant air pressure and high  $H_2S$  occurring in the area of Mission and Jesse. Although the Mission and Jesse ATF is currently in operation, further studies will need to be performed after hydraulic conditions are restored back to original conditions along the NOS to determine if ventilation and  $H_2S$  conditions will be effected.

This reach along the NOS that starts from Mission and Kearny to Mission and Jesse ATF and the NOS towards the Enterprise Siphon will be closely monitored to alleviate the current ventilation issues.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue to monitor pressure and hydrogen sulfide levels on an annual basis
- Continue to implement current odor control measures. However, determine the need for other methods including chemical addition and/or increased air treatment
- Evaluate the sewer system condition after flows have been restored back to the original configuration prior to the NOS Rehabilitation Units 2 and 5
- Evaluate air flow dynamics after the air curtain is re-installed at the Mission and Jesse NOS/ECIS diversion
- Evaluate air flow dynamics by manipulating sewage flow throughout the various diversion structures
- Determine the best hydraulic use of the Mission and Jesse
- Evaluate long term hydraulic rest for the Enterprise Siphon
- Evaluate the need for an additional carbon scrubber and/or activate the passive carbon scrubber at Richmond Avenue

#### **EMERGENCY WORK AT NOS COLLAPS**

On July 18, 2016 part of NOS along Mission Road, under the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge collapsed. An emergency contractor was assigned to repair the collapsed section. After several days, 3 other locations along the Mission road also collapsed up-stream of the NOS/ECIS Diversion Structure, causing a large sewage spill in this area. As an effort to control the spill, and repair the collapsed pipes several by-passes were installed to by-pass the NOS and other local sewers from Mission & 6<sup>th</sup> to the ECIS after NOS/ECIS diversion structure.

As the result of the by-passes and diversion, the dampers for Mission and Jesse ATF was adjusted several times to control the pressure and odor in this this area. The pressure and  $H_2S$  levels will be closely monitored during the next few months and air dampers at Mission and Jesse ATF will be adjusted accordingly to balance the sewer pressure and control odor in this area.

## 4.2 AOC-2 La Cienega/San Fernando Corridor-2016

#### INTRODUCTION

This section provides a discussion and analysis of the sewer ventilation and the hydrogen sulfide characteristics that may contribute to collection system odors on the major sewers along the La Cienega/San Fernando Corridor which include the La Cienega San Fernando Valley Relief Sewer (LCSFVRS), La Cienega Interceptor Sewer (LCIS) and West Hollywood Interceptor Sewer (WHIS). The area of concern begins with the LCSFVRS at Valley Spring Lane Forman diversion structure. The LCSFVRS was constructed to relieve the NOS at the lower end of the San Fernando Valley and travels south through the Santa Monica Mountains to the West Hollywood area. The sewer continues south and travels through the Genesee Siphon and connects with the NOS near the intersection of Rodeo Road and Jefferson Boulevard in Baldwin Hills. The LCSFVRS can be diverted to the East Central Interceptor Sewer (ECIS) at Jefferson and La Cienega. The Wilshire- Hollywood Interceptor Sewer (WHIS), which conveys flow for the Wilshire/Hollywood area, is tributary to the LCSFVRS at Washington and Fairfax. The LCIS begins at the intersection of Melrose and Alta Vista where it receives flows from the West Hollywood area. LCIS travels south and connects to the NOS near Rodeo and Jefferson. Along this route are two siphons, the Stearns Siphon, consisting of two 33inch diameter pipes and the Burchard siphon, a 45-inch single barrel pipe. Additionally, the LCIS can be diverted to the LCSFVRS at the Clinton/Poinsettia diversion structure on the upper segment and at the Blackwelder diversion structure on the lower segment.

To address odor issues along the La Cienega/San Fernando Corridor several odor control measures have been implemented to address the historical odors stemming from sewer ventilation caused by severe slope changes, siphons causing air back pressure, and large diameter sewer air dynamics. Two carbon scrubbers operate on the LCSFVRS, they include the 10,000 cfm Sierra Bonita scrubber on the upper reach and the 5000 cfm Genesee scrubber on the lower reach at the Genesee Siphon. Further south, the 20,000 cfm La Cienega and Jefferson Air Treatment Facility pulls air from LCSFVRS. A chemical addition program, implemented since 2005, continues with the injection of magnesium hydroxide injection from the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant (DCTWRP) to reduce hydrogen sulfide generation downstream from DCTWRP to the LCSFVRS.

#### **MONITORING LOCATIONS**

Table 4.2.1 shows the list of maintenance holes tested along the La Cienega/San Fernando Corridor.

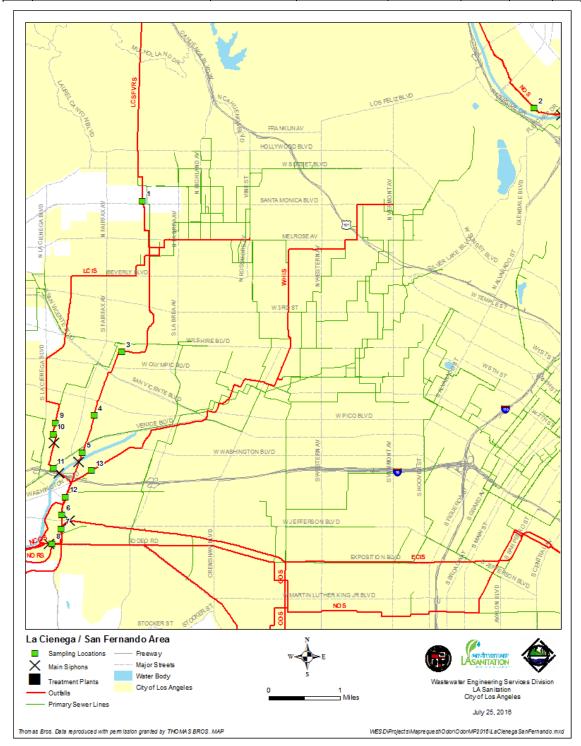
	Table 4.2.1 – La Cienega/San Fernando Corridor Monitoring Locations							
ID	LOCATION	MH NO.	SEWER	JUSTIFICATION				
1	Gardner n/o Santa Monica	492-04-109	LCSFVRS	Slope Reduction				
2	Hauser and 3rd	468-11-026	LCSFVRS	Pipe Ventilation Drag				
3	8th and Spaulding	518-03-209	LCSFVRS	Pipe Bend				
4	1500 Genesee n/o Pickford	518-07-165	LCSFVRS	Siphon Pressure Effect				
5	Genesee and Venice u/s Siphon	518-10-137	LCSFVRS	Siphon Pressure Effect				
6	La Cienega n/o Jefferson (KLOS)	535-02-024	LCSFVRS	Pipe Ventilation Drag				
7	La Cienega (See's Candy)	535-02-052	LCSFVRS	Upstream of Diversion Structure				
8	Rodeo and Kalsman	535-02-089	LCSFVRS	Pipe Bend				
9	Crescent Hts and Airdrome	518-06-235	LCIS	Pipe Diameter Change				
10	18th and Crescent	518-10-247	LCIS	Pipe Bend and Siphon Pressure Effect				
11	Burchard and Venice	518-10-199	LCIS	Siphon Pressure Effect				
12	Fairfax and Smiley	518-14-122	LCIS	Upstream of Diversion Structure				
13	Washington w/o Curson Ave	518-05-003	WHIS	Pipe Ventilation Drag				

## **MONITORING RESULTS AND ANALYSIS**

Table 4.2.2 shows the sewer air pressure and/or  $H_2S$  monitoring results at the designated maintenance holes along the eastern corridor of the LCSFVRS/LCIS/WHIS corridor. \* Indicates a Handheld measurement. \*\*Monitoring by BOE Consultant

	Table 4.2.2 - La Cienega/San Fernando Corridor Monitoring Results								
ID	LOCATION	мн no.	SEWER	Avg. Sewe	er Air Pre	essure	Avg. Hydrogen Sulfide (ppm)		
				2016	2015	2014	Ave./High		
1	Gardner n/o Santa Monica	492-04-109	LCSFVRS	-0.28	-0.17	0.06	8/80		
2	3rd and Hauser	468-11-026	LCSFVRS	-0.02	0.06	0.09	1		
3	8th and Spaulding	518-03-209	LCSFVRS	-0.10	0.05	0.06	-		
4	1500 Genesee n/o Pickford	518-07-165	LCSFVRS	0.05	0.09	0.06	-		
5	Genesee and Venice u/s Siphon	518-10-137	LCSFVRS	0.10	0.21	0.20	1*		
6	La Cienega n/o Jefferson (KLOS)	535-02-024	LCSFVRS	0.08	0.13	-	12/57		
7	La Cienega (Sees Candy)	535-02-052	LCSFVRS	0.10	-	-	-		
8	Rodeo and Kalsman	535-02-089	LCSFVRS	0.0 1	-	-	3/23		
9	Crescent Hts and Airdrome*	518-06-235	LCIS	0.00	-	-	-		
10	18th and Crescent*	518-10-247	LCIS	0.00	0.02	-	18.8/76**		
11	Burchard and Venice*	518-10-199	LCIS	0.03	0.21	-	14.4/76**		
12	Fairfax and Smiley*	518-14-122	LCIS	0.07	0.07	-	-		

	13	Washington w/o Curson Ave*	518-15-003	WHIS	0.09	-	_	-
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#### **DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

The La Cienega San Fernando Corridor can be divided into an upper reach and lower reach in terms of odor and ventilation issues. The upper reach, which ends at 3<sup>rd</sup> and Hauser, is influenced by the significant slope and grade change of the LCSFVRS. Air is dragged into the steeply sloped LCSFVRS from the Valley Spring Lane and Foreman diversion structure as it travels through the Hollywood Hills. As flows reach the bottom of the Hollywood Hills, the sewer slope flattens causing a hydraulic jump; wastewater velocity decreases due to a flattening of the sewer slope and consequently causes air ejection and odor release. The upper reach included average air pressures ranging from -0.28 in. w.c at Santa Monica and Gardner to -0.10 inches at 8<sup>th</sup> and Spaulding. This area is treated by the 10,000 cfm Sierra Bonita scrubber. The addition of this scrubber significantly improved the ventilation issues caused by the pipe slope changes on the LCSFVRS. H<sub>2</sub>S levels are 8 ppm average with a high close to 80 ppm. Odor complaints have subsided over the past 3 years.

The Lower reach is influenced by air continuously being dragged with the flow until it reaches the Genesee siphon. The Genesee siphon is not capable to convey the air passed the siphon causing air back pressure that reaches up to a few miles upstream under worst conditions. Relatively moderate pressures of up to 0.10 in. w.c. was measured upstream of the siphon where normally it reaches above 0.50 in w.c.

Currently the 5,000 cfm Genesee scrubber treats the air to address this issue. However this scrubber has reached the end of its life cycle and is slated for replacement and upgrade to a 10,000 cfm unit. The proposed carbon scrubber for this site will be using a new all-around flow carbon scrubber recently pilot tested at Hyperion Water Reclamation Treatment Plant and showed a significant longer carbon life at bench scale pilot testing. The new carbon vessel design utilizes larger surface area with smaller foot print and capability to separate the moisture from inlet air stream which results in loger carbon life.

The air Downstream of the Genesee siphon, the tributary sewers, the LCIS, the WHIS, and a diversion structure that share headspace with the East Central Interceptor Sewer (ECIS) contribute to the air migrating to the LCSFVRS. Air pressures along this segment range from 0.01 in. w.c. to 0.08 in. w.c. between La Cienega and Jefferson and Rodeo and Kalsman, which is considered normal for this reach. This segment is treated by the 20,000 cfm Jefferson and La Cienega ATF. Approximately, 8000 cfm of the LCSFVRS and 12,000 cfm of the ECIS is treated by the Jefferson and La Cienega ATF.

The LCIS is influenced by the LCIS/LCSFVRS diversion structure at Clinton and Poinsettia where air from the LCSFVRS may migrate to the LCIS. Downstream on the LCIS, the Stearns siphon and the Burchard siphon contribute to the backpressure issues. As the

flow continues downstream, the LCIS shares headspace with the LCSFVRS at the Blackwelder Diversion Structure. This may allow air to migrate at this point. Pressure ranges from the upper to lower reach are 0.00 in. w.c. to 0.07 in w.c., respectively. The planned rehabilitation of the LCIS in FY 2016/17 through FY 2018/19 will improve the hydraulics in the system and therefore will improve air dynamics. In addition, 48 direct house connections to the LCIS will be isolated to minimize odor migration to properties connected directly to the LCIS.

The WHIS is influence by the junction to the LCSFVRS at Washington and Fairfax. The WHIS shares headspace with the LCSFVRS where air can migrate to the WHIS. The pressure on the WHIS is 0.09 in. w.c.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

The majority of odor complaints were clustered along the lower reaches of the LCSFVRS upstream of the siphon. The siphon back pressure effect, the aging and the decreased effectiveness of the Genesee scrubber contribute to the odor ventilation issues seen in this area. The planned replacement and upgrade of the Genesee scrubber in FY 2016/17 from 5000 cfm to 10,000 cfm will address the on-going ventilation issues in this area. In the interim, pressure levels will continue to be monitored. H<sub>2</sub>S levels have been relatively low and steady due to the on-going addition of magnesium hydroxide to the collection system. The odor complaints along the upper portions of the LCSFVRS, LCIS and WHIS were relatively light due to the on-going odor control measures implemented. The operation of the 10,000 cfm Sierra Bonita scrubber has significantly improved the air dynamics in the upper reaches.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue to monitor and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor the H<sub>2</sub>S levels to evaluate the effectiveness of magnesium hydroxide addition for the collection system odor control on an annual basis
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Reevaluate the system after the planned carbon scrubber upgrades
- Monitor the performance of the Genesee carbon scrubber after the new carbon design system is installed to confirm unit performance and estimated carbon life at 10,000 cfm
- Evaluate the flow dynamics of the LCIS after the rehabilitation is complete

## 4.3 AOC-3 – South Los Angeles Area - NOS/Maze-ECIS-SLAIS-2016

#### INTRODUCTION

This section provides a discussion and analysis of the sewer ventilation and hydrogen sulfide characteristics that may contribute to collection system odors on the major sewers in the South Los Angeles Area. This area involves a very complex system of large diameter sewers that are interconnected through junction and diversion structures. Sewers have relatively flat slopes and the highest cluster of trap maintenance holes is located in this area. The alignment of the NOS, known as the "Maze" has been historically an odor hot spot. The addition of the East Central Interceptor Sewer (ECIS) has relieved capacity on the NOS, improving the hydraulic conditions; hence improving ventilation. However, the drought conditions and the mandatory water use restrictions have created another challenge. Due to low water use, sewer flows have significantly decreased causing increased odor generation. The lower flow velocities caused by flat sewers and the gradual build-up of deposition in the pipe creates a higher potential for hydrogen sulfide generation. The H<sub>2</sub>S level in this area has increased and as a result it is an Area of Concern.

The South Branch of the Maze/NOS picks up flow from the South LA Interceptor Sewers (SLAIS), namely the Florence Avenue Sewer, 74<sup>th</sup> Street Sewer and Slauson Avenue Sewer. The South Branch runs along Martin Luther King (MLK) to Rodeo Road where it intersects the North Branch of the NOS. The North Branch receives flow mainly from the NOS along 41<sup>st</sup> Place which conveys the flows from the Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles Area at 41<sup>st</sup> Place and Trinity. Most of the sewers that feed into the Maze South Branch have very flat slopes and barely meet the minimum 3 ft/sec scouring velocity. In this condition, sewers build up with debris and the system becomes anaerobic, resulting in increased H<sub>2</sub>S production. The mandated water restrictions have exacerbated this process. To address ventilation occurring in the Maze area, a 5000 cfm carbon scrubber operates at the junction of the North and South Branch at the intersection of Rodeo Road and MLK. This scrubber has exceeded its operational life and is experiencing reduced performance. As a result, the carbon scrubber is in the process of being replaced and is scheduled to be completed by August 2017. To address the H<sub>2</sub>S generation occurring upstream in the South LA Interceptor Sewers, caustic shock dosing is conducted to control odors. In addition, a large diameter sewer cleaning pilot study was conducted on the 74<sup>th</sup> Street Sewer to evaluate the hydraulic cleaning process. The pilot project was successfully completed in June 2015. As a result a large diameter sewer cleaning program will soon be starting to address primary sewers with sedimentation issues.

## **MONITORING LOCATIONS**

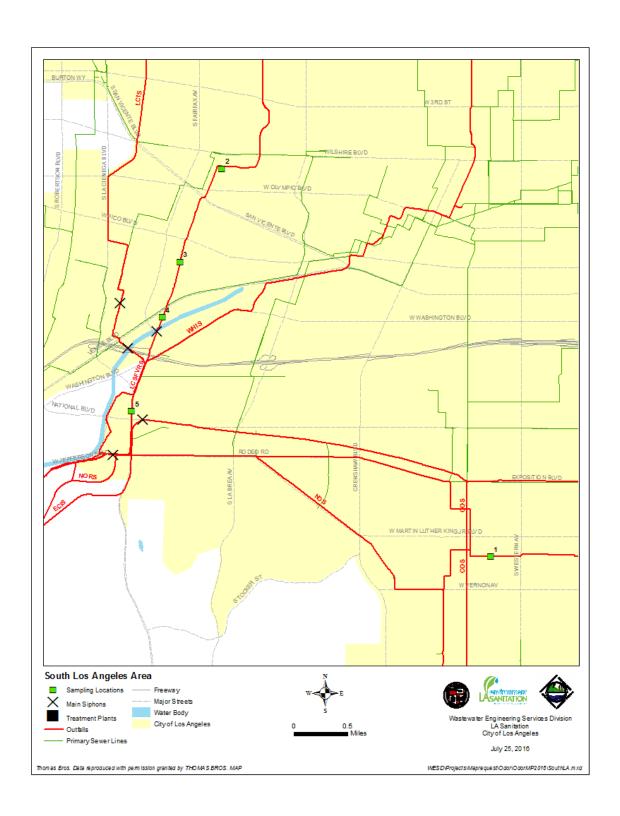
Table 4.3.1 shows the list of maintenance holes tested along South LA-NOS/Maze areas.

	Table 4.3.1 – South Los Angeles Monitoring Locations								
ID	LOCATION	MH NO.	SEWER	JUSTIFICATION					
1	41st Pl and Gramecy	536-10-118	NOS	Junction/Bend					
2	Rodeo and Grayburn	518-03-029	Maze No Branch	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
3	MLK and Somerset	518-07-165	Maze So Branch	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
4	Rodeo and MLK	518-10-137	Maze Junction	Junction					
5	Rodeo and Cochran	535-02-024	Maze/NCOS	Pipe Ventilation Drag					

#### **MONITORING RESULTS AND ANALYSIS**

Table 4.3.2 shows the sewer air pressure and/or the  $H_2S$  monitoring results at the designated maintenance holes in South Los Angeles area. Where available, a comparison of average air pressure results for the last two years against the current year, and the  $H_2S$  monitoring results for the current year are provided.

	Table 4.3.2 - South Los Angeles Monitoring Results								
ID	LOCATION	LOCATION MH NO.		LOCATION MH NO.	SEWER	Avg. S Pressur	ewer A e (in. w		Avg. Hydrogen Sulfide (ppm)
				2016	2015	2014	Ave./High		
1	41st Pl and Gramercy	536-10-118	NOS	-0.02	-	-	111/219		
2	Rodeo and Grayburn	518-03-029	Maze No Branch	0.07	0.03	0.10	110/317		
3	MLK and Somerset	518-07-165	Maze So Branch	0.06	0.02	0.08	63/184		
4	Rodeo and MLK	518-10-137	Maze Junction	0.07	0.05	-	86/239		
5	Rodeo and Cochran	535-02-024	Maze/NCOS	0.06	0.06	0.15	82/210		



#### DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The odor complaints in the South Los Angeles area have slightly increased this year compared to last year (2015). This slight increase is attributed to the higher levels of  $H_2S$  generation in the sewer system. The drought conditions and the mandatory water use restrictions have caused wastewater flows to decrease. A gradual build-up of sewer debris caused by flat sewers and lower flow velocities has created an ideal condition for the  $H_2S$  production in higher concentrations.

The  $H_2S$  levels in the approaching NOS and upstream of the Maze area jumped from 20 to 40 ppm in 2015 to 111 ppm average and 219 ppm high for 2016. Currently, rehabilitation projects for the NOS upstream of the Maze are in final stage of completion (units 2 and 5). The projects will result in reduced odor generation due to improved wastewater flows. The North Maze area sewers experienced H<sub>2</sub>S levels ranging from 110 ppm to 317 ppm compared to 82 ppm to 116 ppm in 2015. The South Branch of the Maze experienced high levels of H<sub>2</sub>S of 184 ppm compared to 116 ppm in 2015. Flows tributary to the South Branch are from the very flat sewers with a history of significant debris deposition issues. Odor control activities continue on tributary sewers. The tributary sewers to the South Branch are the 74<sup>th</sup> Street Sewer, Florence Ave Sewer and Slauson Avenue Sewer. Caustic shock dosing to control H<sub>2</sub>S generation is performed weekly to bi-weekly on the 74<sup>th</sup> Street Sewer and Florence Ave Sewer. The rehabilitation project for Slauson Ave Sewer is currently in progress. This project is scheduled to be completed by April 2019. Shock dosing was initiated on the Hollywood Main Sewer in October 2015. This sewer is tributary to the Maze North Branch and has developed septic conditions due to the flat pipe slope of the large diameter sewer. A pilot project was successfully completed in June 2015 to evaluate large diameter hydro jetting cleaning process. 3656 cubic yards of debris were removed from 12,550 feet of 54-inch sewers and as a result a large diameter sewer cleaning program will be implemented. The 5000 cfm MLK Carbon Scrubber at MLK and Rodeo will address the ventilation issues along the North and South Branch of the Maze.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

The majority of odor complaints was clustered along the North and South Branch of the Maze due to ventilation problems and increased hydrogen sulfide concentrations. The increased hydrogen sulfide concentrations are due to the water conservation efforts mandated by the drought conditions. The replacement and upgrade of the MLK scrubber in 2017 will address the on-going ventilation issues in this area. In the interim, pressure levels and H<sub>2</sub>S levels will continue to be monitored. Caustic Shock Dosing activities will be evaluated to determine if more frequent dosing is required. Trap maintenance holes will continue to be cleaned and inspected on a quarterly basis to prevent odor migration. The upcoming large diameter sewer cleaning program will also aid in addressing odor issue generating in the sewers.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue to monitor and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor H<sub>2</sub>S levels on an annual basis to evaluate the effectiveness of caustic shock dosing
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Reevaluate the system after the planned CIP improvements, including MLK carbon scrubber replacement, NOS and Slauson Sewer rehabilitation
- Implement a large diameter cleaning project for flat sloped sewers in the area
- Continue to partner with local agencies such as the Odor Advisory Board and others.

# 4.4 AOC-4 – Baldwin Hills/Culver City - NORS-ECIS-NOS-NCOS-WLAIS-WRS-2016

#### INTRODUCTION

This section provides a discussion and analysis of the sewer ventilation and hydrogen sulfide generation that may contribute to collection system odors on the major sewers in the Baldwin Hills/Culver City. This area involves a very complex system of large diameter sewers that are interconnected through junctions and diversion structures. The sewers include the North Outfall Replacement Sewer (NORS), East Central Interceptor Sewer (ECIS), North Outfall Sewer (NOS), North Central Outfall Sewer (NCOS), West Los Angeles Interceptor Sewer (WLAIS) and Westwood Relief Sewer (WRS). The NORS, NOS, and NCOS have siphons and air lines that contribute to the air dynamics that characterize this system. However, due to high volume of air moving into this system, the airlines are unable to adequately convey air downstream past the siphon causing back pressurization. The NORS siphon which is a mile long that extend underneath the 405 freeway is 150-inch with only four 18-inch inverted air lines along the crown/soffit of the pipe beginning at Green Valley Cir and Buckingham Pkwy. The NCOS has 2 siphons including a 90-inch with 36-inch inverted airline on the upstream at Jefferson and Lenawee and a 102-inch siphon with 48-inch inverted airline at Green Valley Cir and Bristol Pkwy on the downstream. The NOS has a 3-barrel, 78-inch siphon with a 42-inch airline at Fox Hills Drive and Green Valley Circle connecting to the NCOS Siphon Inlet at Green Valley Cir and Bristol Pkwy.

Historically, NORS has been the source of significant pressurization due to the undersized air lines at the NORS siphon. The interconnection of NORS with the major outfall sewers including the NOS, NCOS, WLAIS, WRS and ECIS have allowed air to migrate and travel to the upstream sewers. However, various odor control elements to control and manage the air migration have resulted in improved air dynamics in the Baldwin Hills/Culver City area. These elements include: wastewater flow management, balancing of flows between the NORS and the NOS, utilizing air curtains at the NORS diversion structures 1, 2 and 3 to control and isolate the NORS headspace from the other interconnecting sewers, operation of carbon scrubbers which include the 10,000 cfm NORS/ECIS and 10,000 cfm North Outfall Treatment Facility (NOTF) and the 12,000 cfs NCOS Air Treatment Facility (ATF). The NORS/ECIS carbon scrubber addresses the ventilation issues at the NORS/ECIS junction. However this scrubber has reached the end of its life cycle and is currently under construction and scheduled to be completed in May 2017. The 10,000 cfm NOTF scrubber treats the WLAIS/WRS/NOS junction. The 12,000 cfs NCOS ATF treats air from the South LA sewer systems and addresses the high pressure caused by the NCOS siphon at Jefferson and Lenawee. The rehabilitation project for WLAIS has been completed in February 2016.

## **MONITORING LOCATIONS**

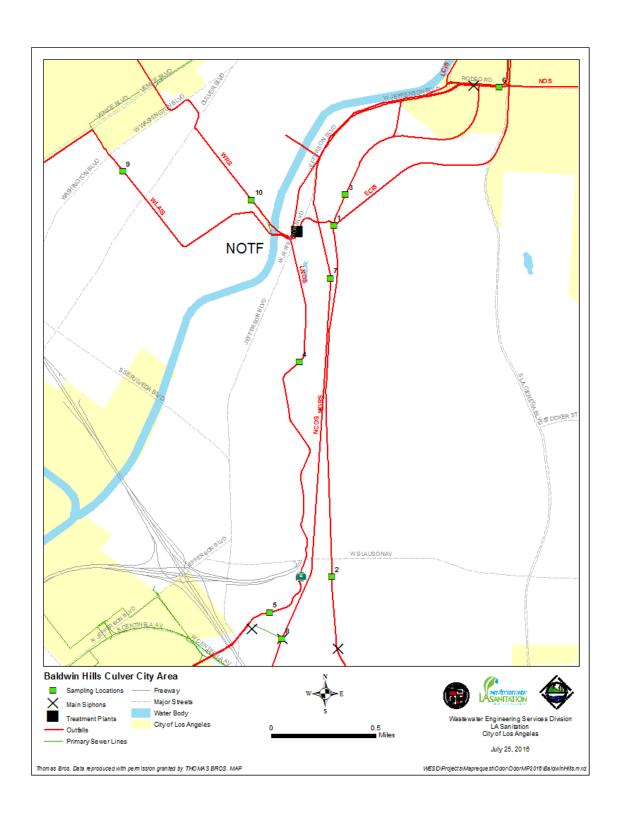
Table 4.4.1 shows the list of maintenance holes tested in the Baldwin Hills/Culver City area

	Table 4.4.1 - Baldwin Hills/Culver City Monitoring Locations								
ID	LOCATION	мн по.	SEWER	JUSTIFICATION					
1	NORS/ECIS Junction	535-09-022	NORS/ECIS	Junction					
2	Bristol Pkwy and Hannum	559-05-006	NORS	Siphon Pressure Effect					
3	Culver City park		NORS	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
4	West LA College	535-13-800	NOS	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
5	Fox Hills Mall u/s Siphon	559-05-800	NOS	Siphon Pressure Effect					
6	La Cienega and Rodeo	535-02-090	NCOS	Siphon Pressure Effect					
7	PXP Oil Field	535-09-008	NCOS	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
8	Green Valley Cir and Bristol Pkwy	559-05-005	NCOS	Siphon Pressure Effect					
9	Farragut and Le Bourget	534-08-044	WLAIS	Upstream of Diversion Structure					
10	4100 Jackson Ave	534-08-042	WRS	Upstream of Diversion Structure					

## **MONITORING RESULTS AND ANALYSIS**

Table 4.4.2 shows the sewer air pressure and/or H2S monitoring results at the designated maintenance holes in the Baldwin Hill/Culver City area.

	Table 4.4.2 - Baldwin Hill/Culver City Monitoring Results						
ID	LOCATION	мн по.	SEWER	_	Sewer A re (in. w		Avg. Hydrogen Sulfide (ppm)
				2016	2015	2014	Ave./High
1	NORS/ECIS Junction	535-09-022	NORS/ECIS	0.21	0.37	0.36	ı
2	Bristol Pkwy and Hannum	559-05-006	NORS	0.15	0.45	-	43/66
3	Culver City park	535-05-021	NORS	0.02	-	-	-
4	West LA College	535-13-800	NOS	0.05	0.25	0.17	21/43
5	Fox Hills Mall u/s Siphon	559-05-800	NOS	-0.05	0.22	0.21	-
6	La Cienega & Rodeo	535-02-090	NCOS	0.04	0.19	0.34	-
7	PXP Oil Field	535-09-008	NCOS	-0.42	-0.21	0.23	22/92
8	Green Valley Cir and Bristol Pkwy	559-05-005	NCOS	-0.23	-0.17	-	79/205
9	Farragut and Le Bourget	534-08-044	WLAIS	0.00	0.17	0.26	41/97
10	4100 Jackson Ave	534-08-042	WRS	0.04	0.20	0.24	16/39



#### **DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

The Baldwin Hills/Culver City area has experienced a decrease in the average pressures. The increase in the  $H_2S$  conditions have been generally attributed to the drought and the mandatory water use restrictions. Average  $H_2S$  concentrations range from 22 ppm to 205 ppm. The WLAIS and NCOS had the highest levels.

Air treatment is the primary odor control component for the Baldwin Hills/Culver City area. Air pressures are fluctuating due to the 10,000 cfm NORS/ECIS scrubber reaching its useful life cycle resulting in decreased performance. The NORS is the highest pressurized sewer with average pressures ranging from 0.21 to 0.15 in. w.c. The 10,000 North Outfall Treatment Facility carbon scrubber (NOTF) treats the WLAIS, WRS and NOS. This scrubber is performing well under its current condition. The NOS pressure is averaging between 0.00 to 0.04 in. w.c., but it can reach as high as 0.21 in w.c. The WLAIS and WRS that are tributary to the NOS had average pressures ranging from 0.02 to 0.05 in. w.c. under the influence of the NOTF scrubber, otherwise, pressure could jump up to as high as 0.30 in w.c. when the scrubber is being maintained. This scrubber is slated for upgrade and replacement after the new scrubber system is installed at Genesee and the performance of the scrubber is confirmed. Currently the NOTF carbon scrubber is scheduled to be replaced with the new carbon scrubber design system by Sep 2019. The 12,000 NCOS Air Treatment Facility treats the NCOS upstream of the siphon at Jefferson and Lenawee. The NCOS is significantly negative with pressures ranging -0.42 to -0.23 in. w.c. This is a result of reduced flows on the NCOS upon the activation of the East Central Interceptor Sewer and the operation of the 12,000 cfm NCOS ATF. The negative pressures in the NCOS may help to be a possible transfer point for air from the NOS to the NCOS.

Odor complaints are sporadic and minimal in this area due to the aggressive sealing of maintenance holes throughout the entire system. The air curtains installed on the NORS diversion structures have also been effective at controlling the NORS pressure migration. The majority of odor complaints were along the West LA Interceptor Sewer (WLAIS) due to rehabilitation project recently completed. However, the odor issues have been addressed when the sewer contractor increased the capacity of the construction carbon scrubber unit and optimized the hydrogen peroxide chemical addition. The odor complaints from the upper reaches of the WLAIS reduced significantly due to the construction of 48 house connection traps on properties directly tied to the large diameter sewer along Barry Ave and Kelton Ave in late 2014/early 2015. WLAIS rehabilitation was completed on February of 2016. Caustic shock dosing on the WLAIS was temporarily halted due to the sewer construction activities, but resumed when the rehab project was completed.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

 $H_2S$  concentrations are on the rise in this part of the collection system. The increased hydrogen sulfide concentrations are due to the water conservation efforts mandated by the drought. In addition, air pressures are considered moderate this year due to the 10,000 cfm temporary carbon scrubber at the site of NORS/ECIS junction. Odor complaints from this area have been controlled due to the effective odor control measures to isolate and control the migration and release of sewer gases, through the use of air curtains and maintenance hole sealing. The planned upgrade and replacement of the carbon scrubbers in the area will improve the increasing ventilation issues in the sewer. The evaluation of cost effective odor control chemicals will continue as well as the  $H_2S$  and air pressure monitoring.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor H₂S levels on an annual basis to evaluate the effectiveness of chemical addition
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Reevaluate the system after the planned CIP improvements, including NORS/ECIS carbon scrubber replacement and WLAIS rehabilitation
- Evaluate the possible transfer of air from the NOS to NCOS to take advantage of the negative (vacuum) air pressures in the NCOS.

## 4.5 AOC-5 - East Valley Area - AVORS-EVRS-VORS-NHIS-NOS-2016

#### INTRODUCTION

This section provides a discussion and analysis of the sewer ventilation and hydrogen sulfide generation that may contribute to collection system odors in the major sewers in the East Valley Area. The major sewers include the Additional Valley Outfall Relief Sewer (AVORS), East Valley Relief Sewer (EVRS), North Outfall Sewer (NOS), Valley Outfall Relief Sewer (VORS), and North Hollywood Interceptor Sewer (NHIS). The AVORS was installed to provide additional hydraulic relief to the NOS and the VOS pipelines in the east San Fernando Valley. The DC Tillman Water Reclamation Plant (DCTWRP) returns biosolids back to the collection system through the AVORS where it is conveyed to the various downstream systems including the EVRS, and the NOS at the Magnolia and Kester Ave Diversion Structure. EVRS was constructed to relieve flows from the AVORS and the NOS. Flows are routed to the Valley Spring and Foreman diversion structure where it can be routed to the NOS eastward towards the LAGWRP or south towards the LCSFVRS.

The VORS continues in an east to southeasterly direction across the San Fernando Valley and ends at Acama Street and Vineland diversion structure where it is diverted to the LCSFVRS. The NHIS is a 69 to 78 inch sewer that was built to provide relief to the Cahuenga sewer and to provide an outlet for future sewers in the North Hollywood, Sunland and Tujunga areas. The NHIS ties into the EVRS at Riverside and Cahuenga.

Collection system odor issues are the result of biosolids being returned from the DCTWRP to the collection system which increases the susceptibility for odor generation and potential odor complaints. To address the H<sub>2</sub>S concerns, a continuous dosing of magnesium hydroxide is added to the AVORS from the DCTWRP. In addition, the NOS at Radford and Woodbridge is susceptible to air pressurization due to the NOS Radford/Woodbridge siphon. The siphon has two 42-inch and one 18-inch pipes that convey flow under the Tujunga wash. It has no airline to transport sewer air across the siphon and consequently causes air to back up to the NOS. The 5000 cfm Radford scrubber was constructed to address the back pressurization along the NOS. The Radford scrubber has reached its useful life cycle and is scheduled for replacement in Sep 2019 after completion of Genesee carbon scrubber rehab project. Along the same NOS alignment, trap maintenance holes are placed on local sewers tied into the NOS to prevent air from migrating up the local sewers.

#### **MONITORING LOCATIONS**

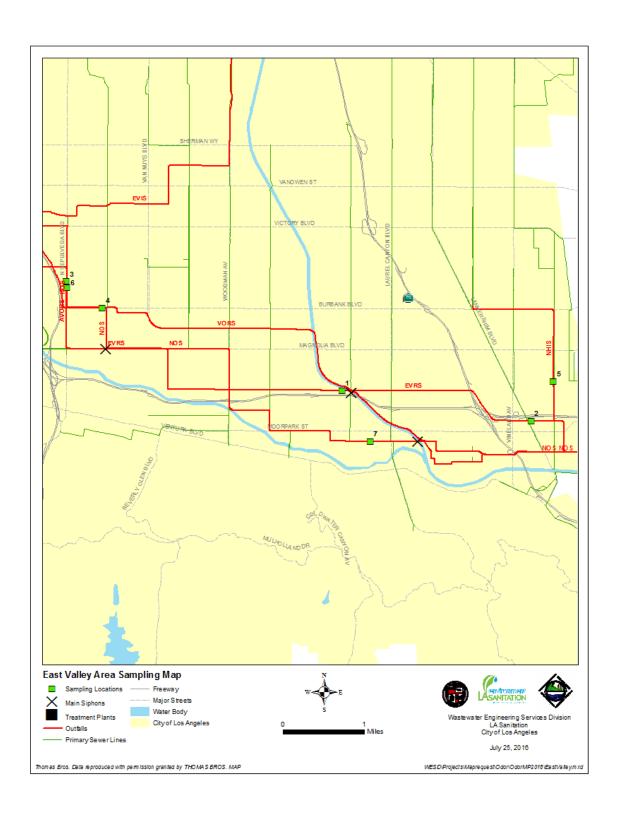
Table 4.5.1 shows the list of maintenance holes tested along the East Valley area.

	Table 4.5.1 - East Valley Monitoring Locations								
ID	LOCATION	мн по.	SEWER	JUSTIFICATION					
1	Riverside and Whitsett	442-03-172	EVRS	Siphon Pressure Effect					
2	Riverside and Lankershim	443-06-176	EVRS	Pipe Bends					
3	Sepulveda and Hatteras	429-11-156	AVORS	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
4	Burbank and Kester	429-11-088	VORS	Upstream of Diversion Structure					
5	Cahuenga and Huston	443-03-148	NHIS	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
6	Sepulveda and Hatteras	429-11-024	NOS	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
7	Woodbridge and Laurel Grove	442-08-090	NOS	Siphon Pressure Effect					

#### **MONITORING RESULTS AND ANALYSIS**

Table 4.5.2 shows the sewer air pressure and/or  $H_2S$  monitoring results at the designated maintenance holes in the East Valley area. Where available, a comparison of air pressure results for the last two years and the current year average  $H_2S$  monitoring is provided.

	Table 4.5.2 - East Valley Monitoring Results							
ID	LOCATION	мн по.	SEWER	Avg. S Pressur	Sewer Æ e (in. v		Avg. Hydrogen Sulfide (ppm)	
				2016	2015	2014	Ave./High	
1	Riverside and Whitsett	442-03-172	EVRS	0.07	0.12	0.10	13/81	
2	Riverside and Lankershim	443-06-176	EVRS	0.22	0.12	0.16	2/54	
3	Sepulveda and Hatteras	429-11-156	AVORS	0.05	0.25	0.17	-	
4	Burbank and Kester	429-11-088	VORS	-0.04	0.03	0.06	0/14	
5	Cahuenga and Huston	443-03-148	NHIS	0.15	0.17	0.17	0/3	
6	Sepulveda and Hatteras	429-11-024	NOS	0.09	-	-	1/4	
7	Woodbridge and Laurel Grove	442-08-090	NOS	0.04	0.02	0.05	5/18	



#### **DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

The odor complaints were mainly along the EVRS and the NOS. Most complaints were due to ventilation issues. The majority of the maintenance holes are sealed to minimize odor release; however, occasionally the seals break and odors are released.

The highest pressures were measured along the EVRS and the NHIS. EVRS pressures are caused by the siphon back pressure at the Whitsett siphon and the existing multiple 90 degree bends just downstream of Riverside and Lankershim. The bends cause air to slow down and consequently back-up and build pressure. The resulting pressure has migrated to the nearby interconnecting NHIS where the average pressure was 0.15 in. w.c. The air pressure upstream of the Radford siphon has been controlled by the 5000 cfm Radford carbon scrubber. The NOS air pressures were maintained at an average range of 0.04 in. w.c. The H<sub>2</sub>S levels measured were moderate.

The continuous addition of magnesium hydroxide has been beneficial at controlling the  $H_2S$  in the area. Further evaluation of the chemical addition program will be made to determine a cost effective method to address the  $H_2S$  in the collection system.

#### **CONCLUSIONS**

The continuous dosing of the collection system with magnesium hydroxide has controlled the levels of  $H_2S$  along EVRS. The NOS upstream of the Radford siphon is being controlled by the Radford scrubber. In addition, trap maintenance holes will continue to be cleaned and inspected on a quarterly basis to prevent odor migration.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor H<sub>2</sub>S levels on an annual basis to evaluate the effectiveness of chemical addition
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Reevaluate the system after the planned CIP improvements, including Radford carbon scrubber replacement

## 4.6 AOS-1 – Venice/Playa Del Rey Area @ CIS - LNOS-COS-NCOS-NORS

#### INTRODUCTION

The Coastal Interceptor Sewer (CIS) serves the coastal area of Santa Monica Bay north of the Hyperion Treatment Plant in the Venice/Playa Del Rey Area. The CIS conveys wastewater collected from the areas north of the Marina Del Rey harbor to the Venice Pumping Plant, the largest pumping plant in the wastewater collection system. It is then pumped south across the Marina harbor entrance channel through the 48-inch Venice force main and discharges approximately 9057 feet downstream in the Play Vista area to the 72-inch CIS. A diversion structure exists at the force main outlet to allow flow to be conveyed to the Lower North Outfall Sewer (LNOS). The LNOS is a 126-inch semi-elliptical pipe that flows to the Hyperion Treatment Plant (HTP) headworks.

The HTP operates an 18,000 cfm influent scrubber to address odors at the headworks. The scrubber has an added benefit to the CIS, LNOS, COS, NCOS, and NORS.

#### MONITORING LOCATIONS

Table 4.6.1 shows the list of maintenance holes tested along the Playa Vista area.

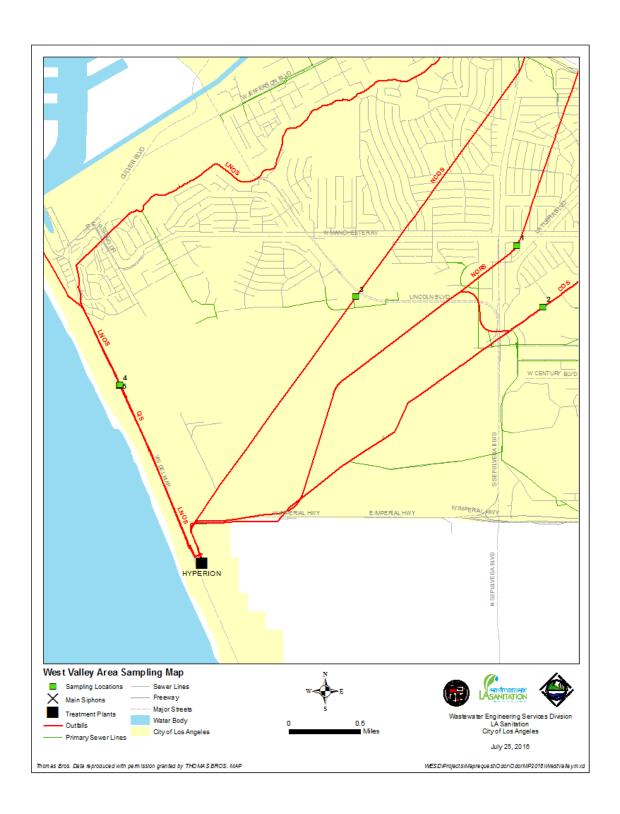
	Table 4.6.1 – Venice/Playa del Rey - CIS/LNOS/COS/NCOS/NORS								
ID	LOCATION	мн NO.	SEWER	JUSTIFICATION					
1	Alley w/o 8669 Truxton Avenue	563-04-169	NORS	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
2	Westchester PKWY and Jenny Ave	564-05-023	cos	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
3	Westchester PKWY e/o Georgetown	563-07-001	NCOS	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
4	8366 Vista Del Mar	563-09-303	NOS	Pipe Ventilation Drag					
5	8366 Vista Del Mar	563-09-017	CIS	Pipe Ventilation Drag					

## **MONITORING RESULTS AND ANALYSIS**

Table 4.6.2 shows the sewer air pressure and/or H2S monitoring results at the designated maintenance holes in the Venice/Playa Del Rey area.

Table 4.6.2 – Venice/Playa del Rey - CIS - LNOS-COS-NCOS-NORS										
ID	LOCATION	мн по.	SEWER	Avg. Sewer Air Pressure (in. w.c.)			Avg. Hydrogen Sulfide (ppm)			
				2016	2015	2014	Ave./High			
1	Alley w/o 8669 Truxton Avenue	563-04-169	NORS	-0.38	-	-	13/146			
2	Westchester PKWY and Jenny Ave	564-05-023	cos	-0.35	-	-	13/97			
3	Westchester PKWY e/o Georgetown	563-07-001	NCOS	-0.34	-	-	72/206			
4	8366 Vista Del Mar	563-09-303	NOS	-1.50	-	-	37/84			
5	8366 Vista Del Mar	563-09-017	CIS	-0.94	-	-	6/12			

Table 4.6.3 Comparison of pressure readings with HTP Scrubber ON and OFF										
				Max. Sewer Air Pressure (in. w.c.)						
ID	Location	MH NO.	Sewer	OFF	ON					
1	Alley w/o 8669 Truxton Ave.	563-04-169	NORS	0.33	-0.04					
2	Westchester PKWY and Jenny Ave	564-05-023	COS	0.34	-0.01					
3	Westchester PKWY e/o Georgetown	536-07-001	NCOS	0.39	0					
4	8366 Vista Del Mar	536-09-303	NOS	0.49	-0.47					
5	8366 Vista Del Mar	536-09-017	CIS	0.80	-0.25					



#### DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Hyperion operates an 18,000 cfm odor scrubber at the influent of the plant which treats the odors of the incoming gas from all the sewer outfalls and interceptor systems discharging to the Hyperion treatment plant. With the units in operation, negative pressures or suction is observed on the entire sewer system. However, HTP has been shutting down their odor control scrubber for maintenance activities. The chemical wet scrubbers are now being acid washed every 2 months. As a result, when the scrubbers are off, ventilation in the collection system forces air out (See Table 4.6.3 Comparison of pressure readings with HTP Scrubber ON and OFF) causing odor complaints. This system has high concentration of H<sub>2</sub>S that once it reaches the atmosphere, it generates a significant number of odor complaints; however, once the HTP scrubber is back on line, the system tends to go negative (suction) and odor complaints ceases. To prevent odors releasing from the maintenance holes during shut down periods, the maintenance holes are sealed. Pressure studies will continue to be conducted to determine the extent of the ventilation (influence zone) when HTP scrubbers are shut down. The CIS upstream of the Venice Pump Plant had H<sub>2</sub>S levels on the average of 1 ppm and no ventilation issues.

The chemical wet scrubber treating foul air at Hyperion Treatment Plant Headwork is scheduled to be replaced with Biotrickling Filters (BTFs) as primary treatment, follow by carbon as polishing stage. This project was in Bid and Award and construction will start in next few months.

#### CONCLUSION

The Venice/Playa Del Rey system; CIS - LNOS-COS-NCOS-NORS will continue to be an area of study. The increased shut down of the HTP influent scrubbers have triggered interest to closely monitor the situation. Pressure measurements will be conducted during HTP influent scrubber shut down periods. In the meantime, maintenance holes on the system will be sealed as needed to minimize odor release.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Further study the impact of air pressurization of the system during HTP scrubber shut down periods
- Continue to monitor the H<sub>2</sub>S levels on an annual basis, and during construction phase of HTP Headwork odor control project
- Determine studies to address the H₂S generation from within the Venice Pump Plant force main and the LNOS
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Monitor H<sub>2</sub>S level in the outfall sewers entering the HTP

#### 5.0 SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

## 5.1 AOC-1 East NOS and NEIS/ECIS Corridor

- Continue to closely monitor pressure and hydrogen sulfide levels on a regular basis
- Continue to implement current odor control measures. Determine the need for additional odor control measures including chemical addition and/or additional air treatment
- Evaluate the sewer system condition after flows have been restored back to original flow configuration prior to the NOS Rehabilitation Units 2 and 5
- Evaluate air flow dynamics after the emergency repair work at NOS collapse sites are completed
- Evaluate air flow dynamics by manipulating sewage flow throughout the various diversion structures
- Evaluate long term solution for the Enterprise Siphon by diverting the flow to ECIS

## 5.2 AOC-2 La Cienega San Fernando Corridor – LCSFVRS-WHIS

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor H<sub>2</sub>S levels to evaluate the effectiveness of magnesium hydroxide addition for collection system odor control on an annual basis
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Re-evaluate the system after the planned carbon scrubber upgrades

## 5.3 AOC-3 South Los Angeles Area – NOS/Maze-ECIS-SCAIS

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor H<sub>2</sub>S levels on an annual basis to evaluate the effectiveness of caustic shock dosing
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Reevaluate the system after the planned CIP improvements, including MLK carbon scrubber replacement, NOS and Slauson Sewer rehabilitation
- Implement a large diameter cleaning project for flat sloped sewers in the area

## 5.4 AOC-4 Baldwin Hills/Culver City - NORS-ECIS-NOS-NCOS-WLAIS-WRS

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor H₂S levels on an annual basis to evaluate the effectiveness of chemical addition
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Reevaluate the system after the planned CIP improvements, including NORS/ECIS carbon scrubber replacement and WLAIS rehabilitation
- Evaluate the possible transfer of air from the NOS to NCOS to take advantage of the negative (vacuum) air pressure on the NCOS.

## 5.5 AOC-5 East Valley Area – AVORS-EVRS-VORS-NHIS-NOS

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Continue to monitor H<sub>2</sub>S levels on an annual basis to evaluate the effectiveness of chemical addition
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed in the area to minimize odor release
- Continue to implement on-going odor control measures
- Reevaluate the system after the planned CIP improvements, including Radford carbon scrubber replacement

# 5.6 AOS-1 Venice/Playa Del Rey Area - CIS/LNOS/COS/NCOS/NORS

- Continue to monitor pressure and evaluate the air flow dynamics of the system on an annual basis
- Further study the impact of the air pressurization of the system during HTP scrubber shut down periods
- Continue to monitor H<sub>2</sub>S levels on an annual basis
- Determine possible chemical addition points and/or optimization studies to address H<sub>2</sub>S generation from within the Venice Pump Plant force main and the LNOS
- Continue to seal all maintenance holes where needed to minimize odor release
- Conduct H<sub>2</sub>S characterization of the outfall sewers entering the HTP

# 6.0 ODOR RELATED STUDIES/ACTIVITIES/PROJECTS

The odor control program continues to proactively study, investigate and perform various activities to address on-going odor issues in the collection system. The following studies, activities and projects were performed in 2016:

## 6.1 74<sup>th</sup> St Sewer – Large Diameter Sewer Cleaning Project



A large diameter sewer cleaning project utilizing a unique high pressure hydraulic cleaning and solids decanting method was pilot tested on the 74th Street Sewer in South Los Angeles. 12,500 feet of 54-inch sewers with a history of significant deposition were cleaned. Pre/Post Sonar and Pre/Post CCTV were performed to document the cleaning progress. 3656 cubic yards of debris were removed. The project

showed that this process can be beneficial. The removal of debris will alleviate odor production in the area.

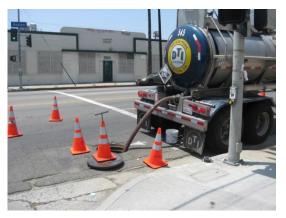
## 6.2 ATF Optimization Study - Water Reduction 2016



In an effort to address mandated water use restriction due to the California drought conditions, LA Sanitation initiated water reduction efforts at each of the air treatment facilities (ATF). Water reduction changes were gradually made and process performance was monitored. By changing make-up water cycle time and duration time of the BTF, City's 3 ATFs are using 40% less water. The ATF performance was not affected by the water reduction.

Further study will be conducted to evaluate a cost effective alternative water source to replace the BTF's make-up water consumption. Based on previous study the water quality must meet a BOD and TSS concentrations of approximately 350 ppm and 300 ppm, respectively. There are currently many treatment processes that can be used as an alternative solution. Membrane Bioreactors (MBR) are currently used in other municipalities for pre-treatment. However to assure that treated water will not harm the life of bacteria in the BTFs, a bench scale pilot test unit is recommended to test the system.

## 6.3 Caustic Shock Dosing – NOS (East LA) and HMS – On going



To address on-going H2S generation in the collection system, tests would determine if shock dosing can be expanded to other areas of the collection system. A test was done on the NOS in the East LA corridor and on the Hollywood Main Sewer (HMS) in the South Los Angeles Area. The NOS caustic addition was conducted to determine if this application in reducing the high  $H_2S$  levels in the area of Mission and Jesse can be a cost benefit. Testing revealed that reductions were achieved, but only lasted for 2-days and is not considered economically feasible. On the

other hand, the caustic application on the HMS was determine to be feasible due to the flat slope and longer retention time in the sewer. Subsequently, the application of caustic on the HMS was implemented. This addition will improve  $H_2S$  levels on the Maze North Branch.

## 6.4 Mission and Jesse Air Treatment Facility - Foul Air Balance - On going



The Mission and Jesse ATF was commissioned in June 2015. At the time of activation, 12,000 cfm was pulling air 100% open from the ECIS drop structure. The Mission and Jesse ATF foul air ventilation pipe is also connected to the NOS. The NOS was experiencing high pressures. To address the pressure, adjustments were made on the air dampers to pull more air from the NOS. These adjustments were gradually changed based on upstream and downstream pressure monitoring results. The final adjustments were obtained at 25% open on ECIS and 100% open on the NOS.

# 6. 5 MLK/Rodeo and NORS/ECIS Carbon Scrubber Replacement Project — To be Completed in 2016-2017



The capital improvement project will replace and upgrade the 5000 cfm and 10,000 cfm MLK/Rodeo and NORS/ECIS scrubbers, respectively. The scrubbers have reached their useful operational life and have since decreased performance. Replacement of these units will improve the air pressure in the Baldwin Hills/Culver City and South Los Angeles areas.

## 6.6 ATF Optimization Study – BTF Testing 2016



To optimize the performance of the Biotrickling Filters (BTFs) at ATF sites, a biological pilot test was conducted to evaluate the performance of BTFs with different irrigational methods of the media. The BTFs in the City's ATFs utilize 2 media levels. Both media level irrigate using the water from the sump of each BTF which contain low pH (1.5 to 2). The test's objective was to irrigate the media of the BTFs with different pH levels to improve the VOC removal efficiency at the ATF primary stage. This will increases the life of the polishing carbon at these facilities. For this test 2 bench-scale, single bed BTFs were used and installed in series to simulate the BTFs with 2 media level. The 1<sup>st</sup> BTF operated with low pH (1.5 to 2) while the 2<sup>nd</sup> BTF was

operating with higher pH (4 to 6). The test result indicated that the 2<sup>nd</sup> BTF operating with higher pH further reduce the odorous compounds to a very low level. The odor tests conducted during the pilot tests also indicated that odor level was reduced to lower level compared with odor reduction when the BTFs operate with low pH (1.5 to 2).

Based on the result of this test, modification to the irrigation of existing BTFs will be recommended to optimize the BTF performance.

## 6.7 AFRASAIR Carbon Scrubber Study 2016



A new carbon vessel design and configuration was identified. This vessel is a radial configuration designed to separate water from the inlet air stream and provide a larger carbon surface area compared with the traditional vertical flow carbon vessel. A side by side test comparing this radial unit with the traditional vertical flow unit was installed at Hyperion Treatment plant on October of 2015 to study the performance of the new system designed and manufactured by Afras Industries with a traditional

carbon scrubber configuration. Test results showed that AFRAS system performed better than the traditional system by removing condensation prior to reaching the carbon vessel thus extending the life of the carbon and resulting in lower operational cost of the system. To verify the full scale performance of this system, a 10,000 cfm scrubber unit will be installed at Genesee carbon scrubber site. The installation is scheduled to be completed by early 2017.

Upon the performance verification of the full-scale unit, 7 other carbon scrubber locations, currently due for rehabilitation will be replaced with AfrasAir carbon scrubber system.

Additionally the Dacotah carbon scrubber, where currently is sized to treat 3,000 cfm will be recommended to be replaced with 5,000 cfm.