

Wastewater treatment center overhaul on track

BY VAN MITCHELL
Contributing Writer

Work is progressing on an almost \$18 million upgrade project at the City of Del City's wastewater treatment facility, located at 4500 NE 4th Street.

The project began in April 2017 and is scheduled to be completed in early 2019, said Mike Davis, wastewater plant supervisor.

The project's general contractor is Walters-Morgan Construction, Inc. of Manhattan, Kan. The project is being funded through a sales tax previously approved by Del City voters.

"It is a \$21 million overhaul," Davis said. "That's engineering fees and everything else completed. This plant should bring the plant up to the 21st century."

The city's wastewater plant came online in 1986 and in 2004 due to a variety of issues became out of compliance with the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality or DEQ.



Del City is undergoing a \$21 million overhaul of its wastewater plant. The project will bring the facility into compliance with Oklahoma DEQ standards -Provided Photo

The Wastewater Treatment Plant treats domestic and industrial wastewater. The primary goals and objectives of the Wastewater Division is to contain, treat, and release back into the environment wastewater that does not harm the aquatic life downstream from the facility.

Walters-Morgan is working on the project which includes many improvements to the wastewater treatment. Included in the project are improvements to the headworks area (including new grit removal facilities and

screenings facilities), influent flow control metering facilities as integrated into the grit removal structure, hydraulic structure improvements, and tertiary filtration facilities.

Also included are rehabilitation and structural repairs to the sequencing batch reactor process tanks, ultraviolet disinfection facilities, upgrades and rehabilitation to the disinfection building and aerobic digester.

Walters-Morgan will also clean the existing wet wells for the influent pump

station and peak flow pumping station. Other tasks include instrumentation, control and SCADA improvements throughout the entire plant as well as coordination of electrical and instrumentation upgrades for the influent pump station, peak flow pump station and the equalization pump station.

The city in-house replaced 11 pumps at the wastewater treatment plant which helped save the city money on the project, he said.

Davis said the project is utilizing a new ultraviolet disinfection system that only a few cities in the Midwest have. He said the closest city utilizing the system is San Antonio, Texas.

"Some of the equipment going in here will be the first equipment in Oklahoma," he said. "That is the UV system. It is supposed to be low maintenance."

Davis said it has taken a team effort to keep the wastewater plant operating in conjunction with the ongoing upgrades.

"We have a lot of meetings, but it keeps everybody on the same page," he said.

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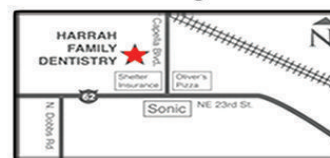


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