

Southeast Treatment Plant CONSTRUCTION NEWSLETTER



Services of the San Francisco
Public Utilities Commission

**SEWER
SYSTEM**
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM
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Updates on Activities Happening at the Southeast Treatment Plant • Fall 2023

New Plant Begins to Take Shape

Construction progresses at the Southeast Treatment Plant, and major components are beginning to take shape at the New Headworks Facility and Biosolids Digester Facilities Projects.

One key component, the Biogas Utilization Project, will help the City meet its renewable energy and sustainability goals. This part of the upgrade is a Public Private Partnership and will provide 100% beneficial use of the biogas generated by the new digesters. Digesters are where solids in the wastewater are treated and converted into nutrient-rich biosolids, which also have beneficial uses.

When our construction is complete, the Southeast Treatment Plant will look better, work better, and smell better for the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood, our staff, and the entire City.

Pictured here: Installation of the New Headworks Facility Project odor control duct header fiberglass. [See right >>](#)



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Si necesita asistencia en español llame al (415) 554-3289 o escribanos a ssip@sfwater.org.
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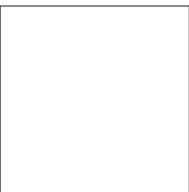
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Biogas Project Will Convert Biogas into Renewable Natural Gas

The Biogas Utilization Project is part of the larger Biosolids Digesters Facilities Project. This upgrade will convert the biogas from the treatment process to pipeline-quality renewable natural gas. This provides us with the highest economic and environmental value for the biogas, and will actually be a source of revenue for the SFPUC.

This is another example of how we are transforming our largest treatment plant into a sustainable, resilient, and modern resource recovery center. Reducing odors, creating critical redundancies, and modernizing our equipment will ensure the new facilities are cleaner, greener, and better for the community. This work is all part of how the SFPUC is maintaining quality of life, strengthening our communities, and our economy.

Construction Updates

Believe it or not, we are approaching the last year of construction for the New Headworks Facility! In the coming months, we will begin preparing for the final streetscape improvements along Evans Avenue. This includes installation of the public art wall, which will serve as a gateway to the Bayview neighborhood. While there are still several more years of work to complete the Biosolids Digester Facilities Project, we're excited to share updates and important milestones like the ones noted below.

NEW HEADWORKS FACILITY: The first step in our wastewater treatment process occurs at the Headworks Facility where debris (such as baby wipes) and grit (like sand) are removed from the wastewater that enters the plant. Workers have now completed placement of a fine screen and grit tank to reduce grit as it enters the plant. It also minimizes grit impacts to the following process, which is biosolids.



BIOSOLIDS DIGESTER FACILITIES: Our largest project, the Biosolids Digester Facilities Project will replace the existing outdated solids treatment facilities with modern sustainable technologies. Construction of the five silo-shaped digesters continues as they take shape against the sky. Construction crews are completing the erection of the digesters skirt walls and are proceeding with the formwork for the hoppers for each digester tank, which will be approximately seven stories high and about two stories below ground when completed.



The Faces of Southeast Treatment Plant Construction



Algy Collymore oversees SFPUC's water, wastewater, and power construction projects. "I see my role as ensuring the next generation of construction management professionals will successfully execute the SFPUC's Capital Improvement Programs" including the construction projects at the plant.



Grace Samish is working on one of the project closeouts for the New Headworks Facility Project to ensure all construction work is completed according to contractual obligations, and confirms that the quality matches the requirements. "I know the importance of engaging with women on my team and not being afraid to ask questions."



Jorge Torres is a Health and Safety Manager and the Site Safety Representative on the Biosolids Digester Facilities Project. "An important part of my work is providing free Occupational Safety and Health Administration training for the Bayview community and back-to-school drives."



Local Hire and Local Contracting

Here at our construction site, we are intentional in our efforts to identify local qualified workers and small businesses to assist contractors in their efforts to meet their mandatory local worker and local, small business participation requirements.

Through partnerships with the San Francisco Office of Economic and Workforce Development, the Building and Construction Trades unions, and local community service providers, workers who are interested in the construction industry, either working the field or in technical administrative positions, can access various job training and referral opportunities by calling the San Francisco Workforce Hotline at (415) 701-4848 for more information.

Similarly, we continue to assist small businesses with networking opportunities, one-on-one mentoring, contractor trainings, and additional referral resources. We encourage people from the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood and the broader Bay Area community who want to build a better San Francisco to reach out to us for more information. Get started today by calling the SFPUC's Job Information Hotline (415) 934-5777 and the Contractors Assistance Center at (415) 467-1040, or visit us online at [sfpuc.org/contractorcenter](https://www.sfpuc.org/contractorcenter).



We are taking shape and building up!

The plant's Biosolids Digester Facilities Project is being built along the CalTrain tracks near Jerrold Avenue. Pictured above is installation of rebar reinforcement as workers build one of the five digesters. Once complete, these digesters will be better able to withstand a 7.8 earthquake along the San Andreas fault and a 7.1 earthquake on the Hayward fault. Additionally, they will be further away from residents and will produce a higher quality biosolids.

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