

Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District/ ACEC/MO Liaison Committee



**Tuesday, May 6, 2025
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**



**Location: Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District
2350 Market Street, St. Louis, MO 63103**

ATTENDEES

MSD Liaison Members

Jay Hoskins
Brad Nevois
Shonnah Paredes
Rich Unverferth
Larry Woods

ACEC/MO Liaison Members

Mike Busch, Co-Chair (Absent)	Curt Kimmel
Bob Gilbert, Board Chair (Absent)	Maria King
Rebecca Howley	Dave Maxwell, Co-Chair
Eric Karch	Clint Woods (<i>for Howard Gotschall</i>)
Nicole Adewale	Dave Yates

AGENDA / *Minutes in Italics*

1. Introductions

Announced that this is the last meeting for Mike Busch, David Maxwell, and Howard Gotschall. ACEC have three-year terms and these three will be replaced on the committee on July 1st.

2. MSD Key Staffing Changes / Operational Updates

A current list on Trustees and an Engineering Department organizational chart was provided. Noted changes include:

- Jay Hoskins in the Planning Assistant Director of Engineering*
- Jeff Shiner retired and Andrew Kaufman was promoted to Program Planning Program Manager.*

3. Diversity / Disparity Study Update

- New Diversity Compliance Software – May Board Meeting for Approval*
- Workforce Development Apprentice Program for Professional Services – June Board Meeting for Approval*
- Issues / needs?*

Amitech Solutions is the provider recommended to provide the new diversity compliance software. Recommended for approval at the May 8th board meeting. Specific timeline to go live with the new software need to be determined and estimated to start during FY 2027.

The Workforce Development Apprentice Program is planned for approval at the June board meeting and start during FY 2026. On April 7th a Department of Labor Approved a pilot program started for a training program for certified survey technicians. <https://www.constructforstl.org/certified-survey-technician-apprenticeship/> Future programs are planned for environmental technicians, CAD/material technicians, engineering technicians, and construction technicians. Firms agree to hire apprentices to work during the two-year program. The first five people in the pilot program are all hired by MSD prequalified firms.

Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District/ ACEC/MO Liaison Committee

4. Prop S Funding Usage Update – How's it going?

Refresher - Proposition S was approved in April 2024. Residential rates are based on property assessment. (Residential rates do not start until property tax bill is due at end of year.) Non-residential (includes non-profits) is billed on impervious area based on 2022 aerials. (Billing started in January 2025.)

Project designs have started with two consultants selected under 2-year General Service Agreements (GSA). Two more design GSAs will be selected this year.

The Municipal League recommended the 10% of the funding to be set aside for regional priorities to be used for other MSD priorities to help get the program started. This will be assessed annually.

An Infrastructure repair fund was created for projects less than \$50k per project so they can develop quick turnaround projects.

Right-of-Way (ROW) fund created to advance flood purchase / buyout needs. Framework for fund use needs to be developed.

Most Prop S projects identified are in the \$100k to \$500k construction value. Projects will get larger as they move through the program.

MSD has an open position for a Grant Administrator to manage approximately \$2.0 million in local municipal grants per year. Grant Applications expected to go live in early 2026 and can be used for capital projects, stormwater master plans, maintenance, and operations.

Municipalities can pool funds and combine years of funding, if they choose to do so.

OMCIs are no longer used except for: Deer Creek, Sugar Creek, and University City. Others were replaced with Prop S Stormwater Grants.

MSD Construction will have a contract for inspectors this year. They have a need for about 10 field inspectors. Consultants can only do design or construction. Can't do both.

5. Significant Project Update

Bissell & Lemay WWTF Fluidized Bed Incinerators (Design-Build.) One year into a four-year project. It is on schedule and the design is complete.

Lower Meramec WWTP – Tunnel is complete and plant expansion underway. Fenton Plant will close when expansion is complete.

6. FY 26 – Upcoming Challenges or Plans?

On target to meet the consent decree by 2033 deadline. Originally has 230 SSO that are currently down to 19.

Lower / middle River Des Peres tunnel under River Des Peres to Lemay Plant. Plans to be finalized in FY 27 and Bids in FY 28. Construction anticipated to be complete by 2035. Estimated construction value is approximately \$1.0 billion.

Tribs Tunnel is in the Deer Creek and Upper River Des Peres watersheds throughout Maplewood and University City. Consolidated sewers to be programed. Right-of-way, and subterranean easements to be acquired. Bidding planned for FY 29 and Construction complete by 2037. Estimated construction value is over \$1.0 billion.

Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District/ ACEC/MO Liaison Committee

7. MSD Surveying Requirements – IT is broadly believed that MSD does not allow the use of drones to survey a project. If this is true, we want to understand why. If you do allow drone surveys, we should like to understand when they are allowed.

If the MSD project survey needs can be met with a drone survey, MSD will allow it. One caveat is that some ground survey may be needed to supplement drone survey. MSD allowed drones to survey (with supplemental ground survey) one of the current tunnel design projects.

8. Other topics?

There have been a couple submittals requested through the purchasing department. Does purchasing have a presentation similar to Engineering for capital improvements?

No – Purchasing requests are responding to operational needs. A suggestion is to allow for some extended lead times or advanced notice to allow service providers better respond to MSD's needs.

9. Next Meeting Date: November 18th, 2025; Time: 10:00am-12:00pm; In-Person at Lochmueller's Office. More information will be available closer to meeting