What's the latest?
Well, I’ve said it before and will probably say it again: work on the new Dissolved Air Floatation (DAF) water pretreatment building is nearing completion. (Really, it is!)

For instance, inside the facility we now have power, so we can turn on and test everything to make sure it all works. We are working to finish installing the heating-ventilation-air conditioning (HVAC) and electrical items to wrap up the facility. We are focused on getting everything ready to test the pretreatment equipment; that will start shortly. **Once we know everything is working and functional, operators will be able to settle in to their new work space.**

On the outside, we’ve been digging two big stormwater basins which will become bioretention ponds in the near future. We are also nearly finished with the siding, roofing and grading work.

So, what’s left to do?
As I indicated last month, our primary focus is to check out all the DAF equipment to make sure it’s working properly. We also need to wrap up installation of the hypochlorite generation (pictured) so we can get that equipment ready to test. In addition to the testing, we are working hard to prepare the site for installation of new fencing, plants and trees, and asphalt.

**We should be close on the on the cameras, intrusion alarms and the fire alarm installation.**

Also good to know: Work hours are 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and until 3:30 p.m. on Fridays, with occasional Saturday work. Flaggers may still be on-site at Whatcom Falls Park.
If you’ve missed any of these monthly updates, they are archived on the City’s website, along with more project information. From the home page, “search” Capital Projects, then DAF. You’ll find the updates going all the way back to 2016 when construction first began.

**Why we’re doing this:** To make sure the City’s drinking water, which is drawn from Lake Whatcom, is as clean and safe as it can be. We’re building the Dissolved Air Flotation pre-treatment plant to remove as many particulates as possible from the water, to maximize the City’s Water Treatment Plant efficiency. And because the goal for this new facility is to ensure that it will maximize the efficiency of our current water treatment plant in the safest way possible, we are leaving behind chlorine gas and moving to hypochlorite which we create on-site because it is safer.