

## DAF Monthly Message

### WATER TREATMENT PLANT, NEW PRE-TREATMENT SYSTEM

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#### ***What's happening at the site now?***

Work on the foundation of the hypochlorite building is well underway, with the footings on cement-like backfill material. The hypochlorite facility will house large tanks of brine and hypochlorite equipment to make the hypo solution and other tanks to store the solution.

Currently the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is using Sodium Hypochlorite as a disinfectant. The trial was successful, so chlorine gas is no longer on standby. The chlorine gas has been disconnected and those components have been completely removed.

#### ***And what else?***

We are placing pipes in the pipe and pump gallery of the new Water Pretreatment or "Dissolved Air Floatation" (DAF) building. We're getting ready to do leak-testing on the various basins in the DAF structure to ensure that the multiple phases of the DAF process react independently of one another.

Walls are being formed for the upper level on the DAF structure which support the roof. These walls have many windows and a brick-and-metal façade so that the new building will closely resemble the existing Water Treatment Plant.



Another milestone – tying in of the existing 48-inch industrial line (formerly used by the Georgia-Pacific tissue mill) for a backup to the existing 66-inch line to the Water Treatment Plant will happen at the end of this month or early in November.

#### ***As a reminder...***

We're switching from chlorine gas to hypochlorite created on-site. That's because the goal for

this new facility is ensure that it will *maximize the efficiency* of our current water treatment plant in the *safest way possible*. That's why we are eliminating the need to transport or store chlorine gas which we currently use to clean water, by switching to hypochlorite which is safer.

#### ***What comes next?***

Next month we'll be pouring the walls of the DAF building and the hypochlorite building. Work inside the existing Water Treatment Plant will begin with installation of new technical monitoring equipment (and removal of some old equipment.) And we'll tear down some walls to make room for an upgraded

Operator Control area. The 66-inch line supplying the WTP with water will be modified to allow water to be routed to the DAF. And, to ensure all work continues to go smoothly, our contractor is bringing on additional staff.

***Also good to know:***

As always, weather conditions could influence activity at the construction site. Flaggers are posted at the corner of Arbor Court and Silver Beach Road, and near the intersection of Silver Beach Road and Lakeway Drive, entering Whatcom Falls Park as needed. The crew is now working 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday work week. However, there could be occasional Friday work.

If you've missed any of these monthly updates, they're archived on the [City's website](#). From the home page, "search" Capital Projects, then DAF. You'll find the updates going back to November 2016.

***And we are we doing this - why?***

This is to make sure the City's drinking water - drawn from Lake Whatcom - is as clean and safe as it can be. We're building a Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) pre-treatment plant to remove as many as particulates as possible from the water, in order to maximize the City's Water Treatment Plant efficiency. For more project information, [click here](#).