

City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works

# Wastewater Collection System

City of Los Angeles' Settlement with EPA, RWQCB and Santa Monica BayKeeper

January 2005



# Lawsuit Background

- As a result of 1998 El Nino Storms and sewer overflows
- Filed in 1998 by Santa Monica Baykeepers.
- Joined in 2001 by US EPA, RWQCB and Citizen groups from South LA



- \$550
  Million
  demanded.
- Trial was set for April 2004



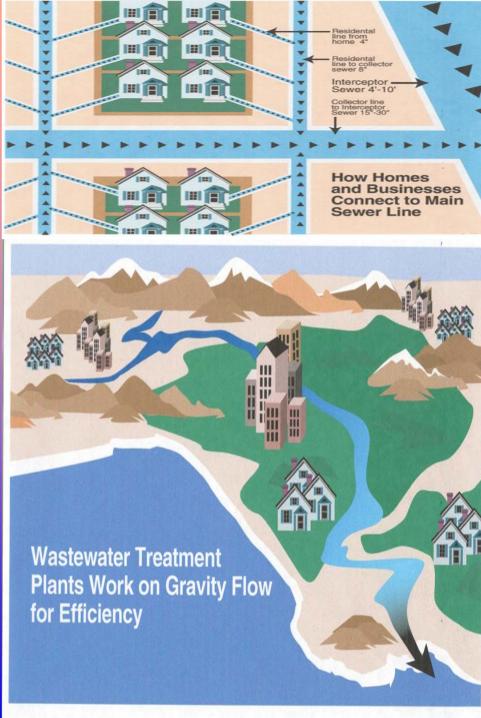
### Issues

Wet weather
 flow overflows

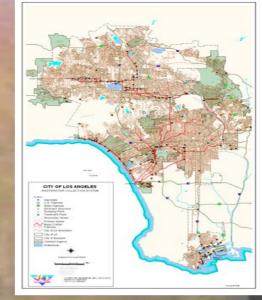
 Dry weather flow overflows

Sewer odors

 Aging Infrastructure

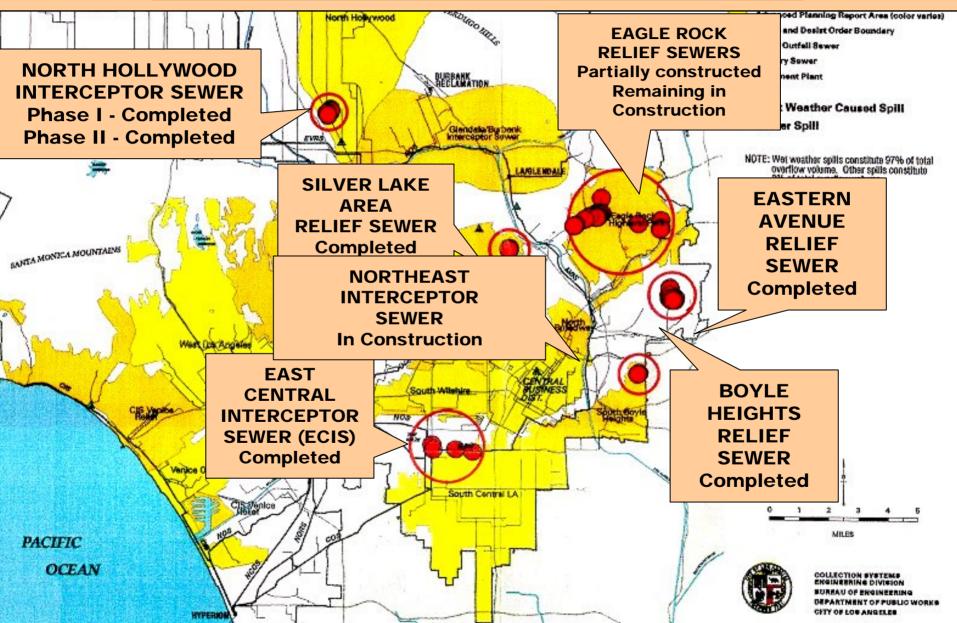


# *Wet Weather Overflows*



# With the construction of new relief sewers, overflows caused by rain will be addressed.

#### ALL WET WEATHER SPILLS HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED BY THE NEW SEWERS



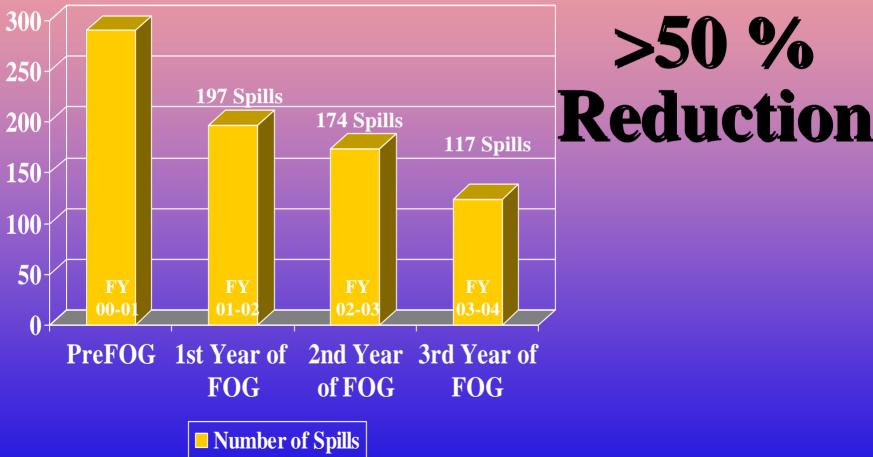
# **Dry Weather Flow Overflows**

With the aggressive sewers maintenance, cleaning, source control & outreach, overflows caused by blockages have consistently declined.



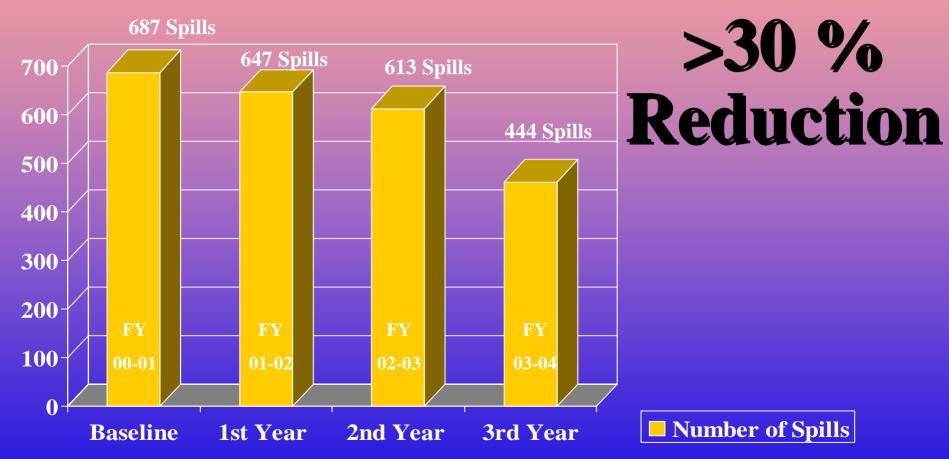


**290 Spills** 





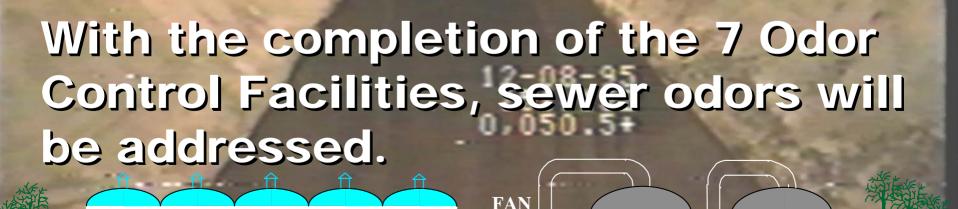






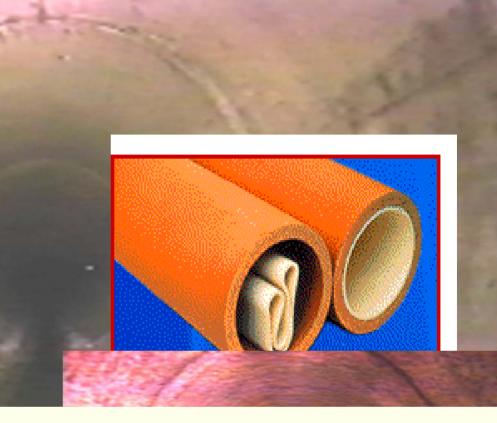
Toll-free 24-hour hotline: **1-866-44SEWER** 1-866-447-3937 or go to www.lasewers.org

# Sewer Odors









# *Aging Infrastructure*

Invest over \$2 Billion in system upgrades.



# Settlement Agreement Terms

- Built on City's planned program.
- Eliminated open-ended commitments that would saddle the City with potentially ballooning costs.
- Eliminated any reference to a spill-reduction standard or an automatic penalty-per-spill provision with automatic program adjustments.
- Prevented additional trial & litigation costs.



#### Sewer Maintenance

- Clean 60,000 pipes annually (~2,600 miles).
- Clean a three year average of 65,000 pipes per year (~2,800 miles).
- Minimum cleaning of 52,000 pipes per year.
- Allow for banking & credit for extra cleaning as long as you don't go below minimum.
- Focus on hotspots and adjust frequency of cleaning.
- Apply chemicals for roots control to a minimum of 150 miles per year.
- Evaluation of effectiveness of chemical application, cost effectiveness and impact to water quality.



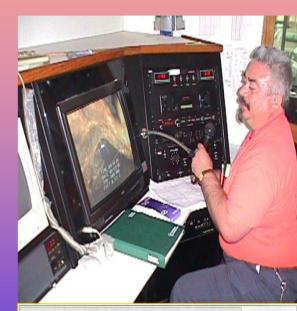


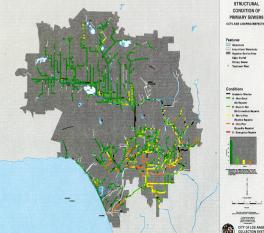




#### **Sewer Condition Assessment**

- CCTV and assess 600 miles annually.
- Focus on sewers not previously inspected or were inspected 5 years before entry (First-time assessment).
- Allow for banking & credit for extra CCTV work. Banking will be for first time assessment only.







#### **Sewer Rehabilitation & Replacement**

- Complete list of projects for 1<sup>st</sup> three years.
- Prepare a Rehabilitation Plan that sets the needed rehabilitation per year.
- From year 4-10, rehabilitate 50 miles per year and a three year average of 60 miles per year or as recommended in Rehabilitation Plan.
- Rehabilitation should focus on "Targeted Sewers" with high risk of SSOs.
- Allow for banking & credit for extra rehabilitation.





#### **Capacity Assurance**

- Modify design standard to account for high I/I areas.
- Complete list of relief projects for 1<sup>st</sup> three years.
- Prepare a Capacity Report & Plan including:
  - Additional sewers needed
  - Review of trigger flow level
  - Flow monitoring program assessment
- Complete master planning for all 25 Master planning areas (primary sewers).
- Complete master planning for 100 high priority basins (secondary sewers).
- Complete wet weather calibration of MOUSE model and expand model to include all primary sewers.
- Submit City Integrated Resource Plan (Citywide facilities plan)





#### FOG Control

- Inspect all permitted FSE (minimum is 95%)
- Conduct review of FOG Control program with focus on
  - Waiver
  - Follow-up referrals for FOG SSOs
  - Enforcement response to FOG caused SSO
  - Inspection & maintenance procedure and design standards for Grease Removal Devices
  - Sampling & analysis of O&G at FSF
  - Targeted residential outreach
  - Inspection forms





#### Sewer Odor Control

- Continue to operate hotline and work with Odor Advisory Board.
- Develop outreach plan to advertise hotline Citywide. Include community feedback system.
- Revise odor complaint response form to include information about weather condition.
- Commit to quick response to complaints (initial call after 1 week and follow-up call after 30 days).
- Commit to schedule of constructing the 7 odor control facilities.
- Complete Odor Control Master Plan
- Provide reports on performance and complaints.

# odor reporting HOTLINE

#### To report sewer odors call

Toll-free 24-hour hotline:

or go to www.lasewers.org



# Settlement Agreement Terms

# \$8.5 Million in Supplemental Environmental Projects



#### **Reporting**

- Quarterly report for SSOs.
- Quarterly Report for Odor.
- Annual Compliance Report.

#### **Stipulated Penalties**

- No automatic stipulated penalties for spills
- Stipulated penalties apply when failure to meet requirement.







# Wastewater Collection System Settlement Agreement

**Questions?** 

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