
Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility

Anchorage: Performance. Value. Results.

Mission

Supporting the public health, safety, and economic interests of the community by providing quality water and wastewater services in a responsible, efficient, and sustainable manner.

Core Services

- Reliably treat and distribute potable water for domestic, commercial, and firefighting uses throughout the certificated service area.
- Reliably collect, treat, and dispose of wastewater in accordance with laws and regulations that protect public health and the environment.

Accomplishment Goals

- Provide reliable service.
- Provide safe drinking water that meets or exceeds all standards.
- Protect the environment through appropriate wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal.
- Fiscal responsibility and transparency with utility finances.
- Timely, professional, and courteous interactions with customers.
- Rates that fairly reflect the cost of providing service and maintaining infrastructure
- Continuous improvement in the efficiency of our operations
- Anticipate change and be prepared for the future.

Performance Measures

Progress in achieving goals shall be measured by:

1. Compliance with all state and federal drinking water standards.
 - Wastewater standards
 - Clean Air Act standards
2. Number of planned and unplanned water outages
3. Sanitary sewer overflows
4. Recordable incident rate (as compared to the standard incident rate for water and wastewater utilities)
5. Execution of Capital Improvement Budget
6. Debt to equity ratio

Measure #1: Compliance with all State and Federal drinking water, wastewater, and clean air standards
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Type

Effectiveness

Accomplishment Goals Supported

- Provide reliable service.
- Provide safe drinking water that meets or exceeds all standards.
- Protect the environment through appropriate wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal.

Definition

The number of regulatory requirements meeting compliance standards divided by the total number of regulatory requirements for the time period. The total number of regulatory requirements is the sum of daily, weekly, and monthly compliance standards.

Data Collection Method

All samples collected are compared with the state or federal regulatory standards and any violations are noted and reported in accordance with permit stipulations.

Frequency

The percent compliance measurement will be calculated quarterly, using running totals for the calendar year.

Measured By

The Treatment Division will prepare a report from the water quality and laboratory databases that identifies any samples or reportable incidents that do not meet regulatory standards.

Reporting

The Treatment Division Director will update the report quarterly from the water quality and laboratory databases. The information will be displayed in tabular form.

Used By

The Treatment Division Director and General Manager will use the information to gain a clearer understanding of the performance of Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility's (AWWU's) treatment facilities and determine if changes in system operation or maintenance are required.

Results

Measure 1: Compliance with all State and Federal drinking water, wastewater, and clean air standards	Goal	2024				Past Years					
		Q4	Q3	Q2	Q1	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Safe Drinking Water Act Compliance (%)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	99.8
Clean Water Act (NPDES permit) Compliance (%)	100	100	99.77	100	99.59	99.96	99.81	100	100	100	100
-Asplund		100	100	100	100	99.93	99.94	99.95	99.6	97.8	99.7
-Eagle River		100	100	100	100	100	99.88	99.93	98.95	99.7	99.3
-Girdwood		100	99.3	100	99.76	99.94	99.63	99.48	99.43	99.4	100
Clean Air Act Compliance (%) (Asplund Incinerator)	100	99.99	100	99.99	99.99	99.98	100	100	99.99	100	100

Measure #2: Number of planned and unplanned water outages

Type

Effectiveness

Accomplishment Goal Supported

- Provide reliable service.
- Provide safe drinking water that meets or exceeds all standards.
- Protect the environment through appropriate wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal.
- Timely, professional, and courteous interactions with customers.
- Continuous improvement in the efficiency of our operations
- Anticipate change and be prepared for the future.

Definition

A water outage is defined as a disruption in service to a service connection. A service connection serves one customer, although multiple people may be affected by the disruption in service to a residence or a business.

Data Collection Method

A tally is kept through each calendar month of the number of customers who experience planned and unplanned water service disruptions for a range of durations listed below. The outage is as reported to AWWU and confirmed by observation or analysis in the field.

Frequency

The measurement will be recorded at the beginning of each month for the preceding month.

Measured By

Number of customers who do not have water service for the following durations:

- Less than 4 hours
- Between 4 hours and 12 hours
- Greater than 12 hours

Disruptions are counted for planned activities (customers are given advance notice in writing) and unplanned (emergency) activities.

Reporting

The Strategic Asset Services Section will create a monthly report that will show water outages numerically and graphically.

Used By

The Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Division, Customer Service Division, Strategic Asset Services Section, and General Manager will review these data monthly to evaluate adequacy of operation and maintenance approaches, customer service response, and pipe condition.

Results

Measure 2: Number of planned and unplanned water outages (customers per month)	Goal (Affected customers per month)	2024 (monthly average)	4 th Q 2024 (monthly average)	3 rd Q 2024 (monthly average)	2 nd Q 2024 (monthly average)	1 st Q 2024 (monthly average)	Historical monthly average				
							2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Planned Outages											
<4 hours	<20	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	1	30	11
4-12 hours	<20	13	1	16	33	1	2	6	10	23	37
>12 hours	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0
Unplanned Outages											
<4 hours	<20	14	8	33	4	11	26	23	34	63	17
4-12 hours	<50	17	10	8	34	15	28	15	28	32	36
>12 hours	0	1	0	3	0	0	4	1	3	3	3

Measure #3: Sanitary Sewer Overflows

Type

Effectiveness

Accomplishment Goals Supported

- Provide reliable service.
- Timely, professional, and courteous interactions with customers.
- Protect the environment through appropriate wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal.
- Continuous improvement in the efficiency of our operations
- Anticipate change and be prepared for the future.

Definition

Total number of wastewater overflows onto the ground or wastewater back-ups into customer residences if caused by an obstruction in an AWWU sewer main, manhole, or cleanout. Overflows or backups that occur due to on-property blockages do not count.

Data Collection Method

The reportable number of sanitary sewer overflows is what is reported in writing to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region X office within a week of each occurrence.

Frequency

The measurement will be recorded each month for the previous month.

Measured By

Data collection is by direct observation by AWWU staff.

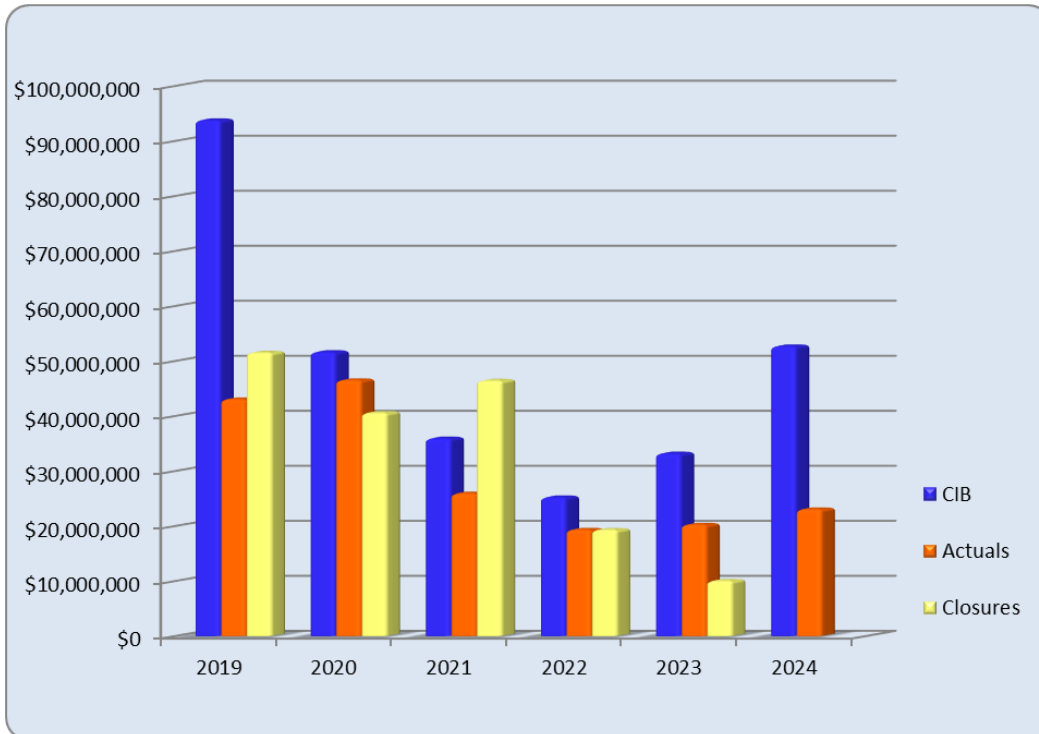
Reporting

The O&M Division will create a monthly report displaying overflow data numerically and graphically.

Used By

The O&M Division, Customer Service Division, Strategic Asset Services Section, and General Manager will review these data monthly to evaluate adequacy of operation and maintenance approaches, customer service response, and pipe condition.

Measure 5: Execution of Capital Improvement Budget (annual)	75%	44%	61%	77%	72%	90%	46%
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Budget, Expenditures, and Closures through December 2024

Measure #6: Debt to Equity Ratio

Type
Effectiveness

Accomplishment Goal Supported

- Fiscal responsibility and transparency with utility finances.
- Anticipate change and be prepared for the future.

Definition

The relative percentages of assets that are funded by debt and equity, respectively. The total of debt funding and equity funding equals 100%.

Data Collection Method

The calculation is performed by comparing debt and equity to assets annually.

Frequency

The measurement will be calculated annually upon completion of the Utility's audited financial statement.

Measured By

The Finance Division will calculate this ratio from financial statement data.

Reporting

The Finance Division manager will create and maintain an annual report. Trend information will be displayed in a table.

Used By

The information will be used by the Finance Division Director, General Manager, Board, and Administration to help evaluate debt financing levels.

Results

Measure 6: Debt to Equity Ratio (annual)	Goal	*2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Water Utility	67/33		51/49	54/46	56/44	58/42	60/40	61/39
Wastewater Utility	67/33		56/44	60/40	63/37	64/36	65/35	64/36

* Fiscal year 2023 draft ratios will be available after period 14 is closed.

Measure WC: Managing Workers' Compensation Claims

Reducing job-related injuries is a priority for the Administration by ensuring safe work conditions and safe practices. By instilling safe work practices, we ensure not only the safety of our employees but reduce the potential for injuries and property damage to the public. The Municipality is self-insured and every injury poses a financial burden on the public and the injured worker's family. It just makes good sense to WORK SAFE.

Results are tracked by monitoring monthly reports issued by the Risk Management Division.

