



Town Manager's Office

Municipal Office Building
66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324
508-697-0919

August 21, 2026

To: Town Council

From: Justin Casanova-Davis, Town Manager

RE: Plymouth Street Treatment Facility/Water Update

I am providing this memo to keep the Council informed about the status of the Plymouth Street Treatment Facility project and to provide a general update on other water-related actions we are taking. As you can tell from our weekly water updates, over the past few weeks we have made significant progress in preparing for the startup commissioning of the Plymouth Street Treatment Facility. We are excited about the work accomplished and very close to having the facility operational.

Recent Progress

- **Electrical & Automation:** The team has completed the electrical work and automation sequencing for the chemical feed systems.
- **Testing Phase:** On Wednesday 8/19, water was run through the Greensand filters to establish water quality parameters.
- Town staff was able to collaborate with MassDEP to secure an additional grant in the amount of \$50,000 to offset costs related to cybersecurity upgrades at the facility.

Iron/Manganese System

- **Target Timeline:** We are looking for the Iron and Manganese system to be approved for operations by MassDEP and able to be introduced to the Bridgewater water distribution system by **August 27, 2026**, barring any unforeseen events or issues.

PFAS System

- **Commissioning Schedule:** Commissioning the PFAS system requires a substantial volume of water from the distribution system. In light of those water demands and to ensure that we maintain reliable water supply and fire suppression for the Town, as students from BSU return and weather continues to be warm, we will likely prioritize ensuring that water is introduced into our distribution system to increase water storage tank levels and then proceed with the commissioning of the PFAS system. Thereby ensuring that we do not impact the town's general water supply.

Updated Two-Week Operational Plan

1. **August 27, 2026:** Bring the Iron and Manganese filters fully online and introduce this water to the distribution system.

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2. **August 31, 2026:** (tentative as we are awaiting final confirmation from the manufacturer) Commission the PFAS system, moving into full operations, with distribution system integration targeted for the end of the week.

Additional Updates

1. The Town received emergency waiver approval from the state to proceed with the emergency procurement of interim winterization enclosures for the Plymouth Street Treatment facility this month. This approval will ensure the facility can operate during the cold season, and the Town will then have to proceed with the normal procurement process for the long-term construction of the treatment facility buildings.
2. My office has had communication with the City of Brockton as well as the Town of Middleborough regarding additional water supply agreements. My expectation is that I will be able to present potential agreements at a September Council meeting for the Council's consideration.
3. As part of my operational update for this month, I outlined the work that has occurred so far regarding the Vernon Street wells.
4. The Town is currently working on two reports that will highlight (a) overall water operations for the Town, and (b) Carvers Pond infrastructure improvements. Once those reports are completed, they will be shared with the Council and the community, as they will help guide future infrastructure improvements the Town undertakes.
5. In addition to that work, we will continue to meet with MassDEP to see what other opportunities there are to expedite or move forward with water infrastructure improvements. I am happy to report that the team in the Southeast Regional Office has been very helpful and collaborative, and we are collectively strategizing on advancing projects.
6. Finally, in collaboration with the Council Clerk, we are working to schedule tours for the Council to view the treatment facility once again upon its completion.

Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions. To continue to be transparent with the public about where we are with this project, we will include this memo in our forthcoming water update next week (Monday).

CC: Azu Etoniru, Bridgewater DPW Director
Bill Young, Bridgewater Water Superintendent