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### LDEQ Assists Lake Charles Wastewater Infrastructure Project

**BATON ROUGE** – The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) has awarded \$20 million to the City of Lake Charles to help fund the Lake Charles Sewer Loop Project.

Lake Charles aims to rehabilitate and improve their Sunset Lift Station through the Sewer Loop Project. The project will ensure the city's pump station is capable of diverting wastewater flows into the proposed Southern Sewer Loop. This will eliminate wet weather overflow and capacity issues while also transferring wastewater flows to the current discharge point leading to the Sarver Lift Station.

"This grant from the Louisiana Clean Water State Revolving Fund will play a significant role in upgrading the city of Lake Charles' water treatment system," **Governor Jeff Landry said.** "I appreciate Secretary Giacometto and all of DEQ's hard work to ensure the people of Lake Charles have access to a clean and modern water system."

"The goals of the Sewer Loop Project to rehabilitate operational issues for the City of Lake Charles system is the type of undertaking that the Clean Water State Revolving Fund program was created to help LDEQ is happy to support the City of Lake Charles with funding for their Sewer Loop Project," **Secretary Aurelia S. Giacometto said.** "An improved wastewater facility will provide Lake Charles with better capability to target overflow and discharge issues for the city."

The Sewer Loop Project will include the consolidation of incoming gravity sewerage lines, upgrades and replacements of electrical facilities, installation of stand-by equipment for emergency preparedness and the construction of an onsite control building.

The project will be partially funded through a loan from the Louisiana Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program. The first payment of \$99,214.50 has been finalized, and the remainder of the \$20 million will be issued in installments. The CWSRF loan to the City of Lake Charles will be financed for 20 years.



*Mayor Nic Hunter of Lake Charles receives a check worth \$20 million from LDEQ Deputy Secretary Jordan DesHotels to fund the Sewer Loop Project*



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“We are thankful for the opportunity to work with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality in this program,” **Lake Charles Mayor Nic Hunter said.** “The Clean Water State Revolving Fund is allowing us the opportunity to fast track a major infrastructure project, which will enhance the wastewater services we provide to our City of Lake Charles residents.”

The CWSRF program was created in 1987 through Title VI of the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1972 and serves as a low-interest loan program that provides financing for wastewater system projects at an interest rate below the market rates.

“The project is intended to alleviate constraints put on the Lake Charles sewer system during times of peak capacity.” **LDEQ Engineer William Barlett said.** “LDEQ is happy to support the City of Lake Charles with funding for their Sewer Loop Project.”

The Sewer Loop Project would not be possible without the help and collaboration of the City of Lake Charles, LDEQ and EPA.

For more information on LDEQ’s CWSRF program, visit <https://deq.louisiana.gov/page/clean-water-state-revolving-fund>.

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