

THOMAS TUCCI, JR.
Chairman

LUIS A. QUINTANA
Vice Chairman

ELIZABETH CALABRESE
JOHN J. COSGROVE
MILDRED C. CRUMP
JAMES P. DORAN
JOSEPH F. ISOLA
HECTOR C. LORA
BRENDAN MURPHY
Commissioners



GREGORY A. TRAMONTOZZI
Executive Director

Albert Lukin
Clerk

“Protecting Public Health and the Environment”

600 Wilson Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07105
(973) 817-5700
(973) 817-5738- fax
www.pvsc.nj.gov

For Immediate Release:
October 11, 2022

Contact Information: Doug Scancarella
dscancarella@pvsc.com, 973-817-5735

Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission Recognized As A Utility Of The Future Today

Newark, NJ – The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (“PVSC”) was recently recognized by the Water Environment Federation (“WEF”) as a 2022 *“Utility of the Future Today”* for its exemplary wastewater treatment operations. Along with 34 other utilities worldwide, PVSC was acknowledged for its forward-thinking initiatives, watershed stewardship, and its transformation from a traditional wastewater treatment system to a resource recovery center and leader in sustainability and resilience.

Utility of the Future Today is a partnership program comprised of the WEF, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (“NACWA”), the Water Research Foundation, the WateReuse Association, and the United States Water Alliance, with input from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The 34 honorees were chosen by a selection committee consisting of peer utility general managers and executives. Since its inception, the program has honored 228 utilities around the world.

The “Utility of the Future Today” concept is more important now than ever before as water systems face challenges such as aging infrastructure, water pollution, workforce shortages and weather events such as floods, storms, sea level rise and droughts. The goal of the program is to guide utilities of all sizes toward smarter, more efficient operations and resource recovery.

PVSC was specifically recognized for its ongoing implementation of its sophisticated Geographic Information System (“GIS”) Mapping Platform. A major obstacle PVSC faces every day is maintaining its extensive wastewater system, much of which is located underground, out of view and sometimes in difficult to access spaces. The GIS map offers PVSC’s line operators access to an aerial, digital representation of PVSC’s robust framework of assets, so that maintenance needs and unexpected repairs can be identified and then addressed with speed, agility and precision. These assets consist of PVSC’s linear assets (including its main interceptor, branch lines, local sewer connections, manholes, chambers, river crossings, and underground infrastructure), vertical assets (including buildings, pipes, valves, pumps, and meters), and terminal assets (including PVSC’s outfall tunnel and peripherally related assets). The maps give the user a perspective on how pipes, equipment and processes in various, seemingly unrelated areas are linked to each other.

“The GIS Mapping Platform is essential to assisting PVSC in continuing to provide critical wastewater treatment to the communities we serve,” said PVSC Chairman Thomas Tucci, Jr. “It enables our line operators to visualize our difficult to access assets. That makes it possible for them to pinpoint when, where and how they will perform any connection repair, demolition, or reactivation, as well as any new construction that needs to be performed. I’m very pleased that our efforts on these two projects are being recognized by prestigious organizations such as the WEF and NACWA.”

All 34 utilities will be honored during a ceremony on October 11 during the 95th annual Water Environment Federation Technical Exhibition and Conference in New Orleans.