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Century-Old PVSC Wallington Pump Station Rehabilitation Project Completed

Newark, NJ – One of the oldest Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission ("PVSC") buildings has been restored to like-new condition. The extensive rehabilitation of the Wallington Pump Station, constructed between 1918 and 1924, is now complete. Located on the west bank of the Passaic River just north of the Gregory Avenue Bridge and east of Route 21, the station has reliably served the region for more than a century and will now continue that mission with modernized equipment and renewed infrastructure. The facility had experienced deterioration caused by age, weather exposure, and continuous operation.

The rehabilitation project was designed to preserve the station's historic character while ensuring reliable operation for decades to come. Major improvements included repointing and waterproofing the exterior brickwork, installation of a new steel roof, replacement of exterior windows and doors, reconstruction of entrance stairs, and the addition of an ADA-compliant access ramp. Interior improvements included repainting, reconfiguration of unused spaces, and construction of new employee amenities, including a break room, restrooms, and locker room. The project also included substantial mechanical and electrical upgrades. Aging pumps were replaced with new suction lift pumps, the wet well was rehabilitated, and new pump discharge piping, valves, and a flow meter were installed. New electrical equipment, control panels, instrumentation, and SCADA controls were added to enhance reliability and operational efficiency. A new vacuum priming system was installed, and the facility's generator and electrical systems were upgraded.



Images: The Wallington Pump Station in 1921 (top left) and today (top right); the new vacuum priming system (bottom left); and the new internal piping (bottom right).

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“The Wallington Pump Station has served the communities along the Passaic River for more than 100 years,” said PVSC Chairman Brendan Murphy. “The completed rehabilitation project blends historic preservation with modern engineering, ensuring that this landmark facility remains a vital component of our wastewater collection and conveyance system. With construction complete, an important piece of PVSC history stands ready to continue its critical role in transporting wastewater from service area communities to our treatment facilities, ensuring reliable service for decades ahead.”

The station serves a 2,510-acre tributary area with an approximate population of 53,000. That includes Wallington, Garfield, and portions of Passaic, Rutherford, East Rutherford, Saddle Brook, and Elmwood Park. Wastewater enters the facility through a 54-inch influent gravity sewer line. More flow is received from the Lodi Force Main, which serves Lodi, portions of South Hackensack, and most of Saddle Brook. The wastewater is then discharged through a force main and conveyed to PVSC’s Main Interceptor Sewer for treatment at the Newark plant.

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Images: The new vertical dry centrifugal pumps (left); and the new grinders/comminutors (right).