



**WASTEWATER SUBCOMMITTEE (WWSC)
MEETING AGENDA
February 19, 2026
7:00 P.M.**



Attend in Person: PINOLE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 2131 PEAR STREET

Attend VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE – Details provided below.

How to Submit Public Comments:

In Person:

Attend the meeting at the Pinole City Council Chambers, fill out a yellow public comment card and submit it to the City Staff.

Via Zoom:

Members of the public may submit a live remote public comment via Zoom video conferencing. Download the Zoom mobile app from the Apple Appstore or Google Play. If you are using a desktop computer, you can test your connection to Zoom by clicking [here](#). Zoom also allows you to join the meeting by phone.

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85670839226>

One tap mobile:

+1 (669) 900-6833,,85670839226# US (San Jose)

+1 (253) 215-8782,,85670839226# US (Tacoma)

Webinar ID: 817 5448 9022

By phone: US: +1 (669) 900-6833 or +1 (253) 215-8782 or +1 (346) 248-7799

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85670839226>

Written Comments:

All comments received before 3:00 pm on the day of the meeting will be posted on the City's website on the agenda page and provided to the Committee prior to the meeting. Written comments will not be read aloud during the meeting. Email comments to Public Works at PublicWorks@pinole.gov. Please indicate which item on the agenda you are commenting on in the subject line of your email.

OTHER WAYS TO WATCH THE MEETING

LIVE ON CHANNEL 26. The Community TV Channel 26 schedule is published on the city's website at www.pinole.gov.

VIDEO-STREAMED LIVE ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE at www.pinole.gov. Will remain archived on the site for five (5) years.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 18, 2025 MEETING**
- 4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD - FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**
- 5. WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT (WPCP) OPERATIONS REPORT**
- 6. NEW SEWER CONNECTIONS**
 - i. PINOLE (VERBAL)**
 - ii. HERCULES (VERBAL)**
- 7. ADJOURN TO THE REGULAR SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING ON MAY 21, 2026 AT 7:00 PM.**

WASTEWATER SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 18, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Subcommittee Meeting was held via a Zoom videoconference and broadcast from the Pinole Council Chambers, 2131 Pear Street, Pinole, California. Pinole Mayor Pro Tempore Anthony Tave called the meeting to order at 7:01pm, as well as chaired the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL & STATEMENT OF CONFLICT

An official who has a conflict must, prior to consideration of the decision; (1) publicly identify in detail the financial interest that causes the conflict; (2) recuse himself/herself from discussing and voting on the matter; and (3) leave the room until after the decision has been made, Cal. Gov. Code § 87105.

A. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Tave, Mayor Pro Tempore – City of Pinole
Devin Murphy, Council Member – City of Pinole
Tiffany Grimsley, Council Member - City of Hercules

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Dilli Bhattarai, Council Member - City of Hercules

B. STAFF PRESENT

City of Pinole

Heba El-Guindy, Public Works Director
Josh Binder, Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager

City of Hercules

Glenn Dombeck, Public Works Director

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE JULY 10, 2025, MEETING

Council Member Murphy made a motion to approve the minutes; Council Member Grimsley seconded; all in favor; motion passed.

4. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD (Public Comments) - None.

5. WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT (WPCP) OPERATIONS REPORT

WWTP Manager Josh Binder presented the Operations Report for the months of July, August, and September 2025 via PowerPoint presentation, which covered monthly flow data, monthly performance indicators, project updates, and operations and maintenance updates.

(Please consult the presentation for the data.)

Plant Manager Binder explained that the flow meters are calibrated every time there is an upgrade or maintenance.

The first blower has been completely installed by staff for a cost savings of \$35,000. The manufacturer of the blower is APG-Neuros. Director El-Guindy shared that the other two blowers will also be replaced during this budget cycle.

Due to increased regulations from the water board, YSI nutrient probes were installed to track the nutrients and ability to remove them as water travels through the iteration basin. The nutrient probes cost about \$45,000 and were mostly installed by city staff.

The effluent outfall project went out to bid in summer of 2004 but did not attract any bidders. The design budget and scope of work were increased to post for bid again. The increased scope of work will include analysis of potential upgrades to prepare for biological nutrient removal.

The goal of the effluent outfall project is to see the benefit of the previous plan upgrade where the effluent pump station was increased to have the pumping capacity to get more water to the outfall. However, there is a restriction at the outfall where the pipe size is smaller by 6 inches which hinders keeping the amount of effluent pumping capacity that should be able to be pumped to the outfall.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tave posted the question whether there has been any progress on the proposed added engineering position. Director El-Guindy responded that the position was posted on July 1st, 2025, but no satisfactory applications were received. It will be reposted at the beginning of January 2026. In the meantime, existing consulting firm agreements have been renewed or extended to retain assistance with projects.

Plant Manager Binder informed next that:

- The Wastewater Treatment Plant Operations and Maintenance Manual is still in progress with the aim of finalizing it by the end of the first 2026 quarter.
- The plant has two centrifuges at the plant that are used to dewater solids before they are disposed of at the landfill. One of the centrifuges experienced a motor failure which was replaced by city staff and is fully operational.
- Both influent flow meter for Hercules and Pinole were experiencing problems. One was replaced and the other repaired. They are back in service.

6. NEW SEWER CONNECTIONS

No new connections for Pinole; one new connection for Hercules.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tave posed the question how much wastewater capacity the plant can handle, given properties in Pinole and Hercules which could be developed over the next ten years.

Plant Manager Binder answered that the plant is permitted for 4.06 million gallons dry weather flow per day. The current average dry weather flow is around 2.5 million gallons. This leaves capacity for growth within the two cities.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tave further inquired about infiltration connections, the rack system, and establishing a JPA with agencies in the region. Connections from stormwater are within the sewer system. Would those credits equate in a JPA? And secondly, how would the city approach and correct the reduction of flows that should not be in the system?

Director El-Guindy responded that the credits are intended for meeting the requirements set by the water board for storm water. They would not necessarily reflect in credits with the plant.

Plant Manager Binder stated that wet weather capacity is 20 million gallons.

Director El-Guindy answered that as the JPA agreement is established, having beneficial credits for the different agencies would have to be discussed. One of the examples used was investing in a large trash capture device at a downflow location near the bay.

The stormwater master plan covers the entire city including 80 additional locations as approved by city council. The plan is expected to be completed by the end of September of 2026.

Director Dombeck added that infiltration inflow is a challenging problem. Hercules has 62 miles of collection system not including private sewer laterals. Part of what should take place within the collection system should be addressed in the sanitary sewer management plan that each city prepares and submits to the board.

Council Member Grimsley asked if the occurring and anticipated growth in each city has been prepared for within the current infrastructure.

Director Dombeck replied that there is capacity remaining and available within the treatment facility to accommodate additional dry weather inflow. Within Hercules, some of the older segments of sewer require upgrades which need to be evaluated when a development gets added.

Director El-Guindy added that the guidelines for replacements and repairs of sewer laterals were recently updated and approved by city council. Pinole now supports property owners on a scale system with a maximum amount allowed for either repair or replacement to encourage replacements of sewer laterals.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tave questioned what is next for the plant after the \$44 million upgrade. What would the plant need from the elected committee? Should anything be elevated to city council?

Plant Manager Binder replied that the five-year capital improvement plan includes all projects, equipment, and forecasted financial figures to try and estimate how much is needed. The affluent outfall is the largest project which will cover the outfall and potentially any upgrades to achieve biological nutrient removal. Other projects are solar; replacing the aging co-gen system which uses the digester gas to produce energy; a boiler replacement; and a centrifuge replacement for FY2027-28.

Director El-Guindy added that the capital improvement plan will be considered by the finance subcommittee and city council. A draft work plan for 2026 was circulated covering updates on operations and capital projects, with feedback requested.

Director El-Guindy asked the committee if there was still interest in a field visit to the plant. The work plan will be circulated again to seek feedback. There was also interest in looking at the agreement.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tave suggested bringing these items back to the agenda for discussion between the two cities. A plant visit is very welcome and should ideally be scheduled for a Saturday.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tempore Tave adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm to the next Wastewater Subcommittee Meeting on February 19, 2026.

AI generated and submitted by:

Heba El-Guindy
Public Works Director
City of Pinole

Approved by Wastewater Subcommittee Meeting:

PINOLE-HERCULES WASTEWATER SUBCOMMITTEE

OPERATIONS REPORT

February 19, 2026

Josh Binder, Plant Manager



Topics Will Include:

1. Monthly Flow Data
2. Monthly Performance Indicators
3. Project Updates
4. Operations and Maintenance Updates

Monthly Flow Data

Hercules right to use: 2.27 MGD*

Pinole right to use: 1.79 MGD*

* Average Dry Weather Flow

HERCULES Flow - October 2025			HERCULES Flow - Nov. 2025			HERCULES Flow - Dec. 2025		
		Gallons			Gallons			Gallons
Minimum	1.12	1,120,000	Minimum	1.09	1,090,000	Minimum	1.13	1,130,000
Average (MGD)	1.22	1,223,000	Average (MGD)	1.27	1,269,000	Average (MGD)	1.38	1,378,000
Maximum	1.29	1,290,000	Maximum	1.54	1,540,000	Maximum	2.25	2,250,000
Total	37.90 [49%]	37,900,000	Total	38.08 [47%]	38,080,000	Total	42.72 [46%]	42,720,000

PINOLE Flow - October 2025			PINOLE Flow - Nov. 2025			PINOLE Flow - Dec. 2025		
		Gallons			Gallons			Gallons
Minimum	1.22	1,220,000	Minimum	1.25	1,250,000	Minimum	1.26	1,260,000
Average (MGD)	1.27	1,270,000	Average (MGD)	1.43	1,434,000	Average (MGD)	1.62	1,620,000
Maximum	1.47	1,470,000	Maximum	2.42	2,420,000	Maximum	3.82	3,820,000
Total	39.38 [51%]	39,380,000	Total	43.01 [53%]	43,010,000	Total	50.23 [54%]	50,230,000

Monthly Performance Indicator Definitions

- Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (cBOD) – Measures dissolved oxygen depletion from organic carbon-containing compounds.
- Total Suspended Solids (TSS) – The dry weight of suspended particles that can be trapped by a filter.
- Enterococcus – An indicator organism used to measure the presence of fecal matter in water.
- Ammonia – A key nutrient in the wastewater nitrification process but is toxic to fish and other aquatic life at higher concentrations.

Monthly Performance Indicators

October 2025 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

PARAMETER	UNIT	MONTHLY EFF LIMIT	INFLUENT AVERAGE	EFFLUENT AVERAGE	% REMOVAL
cBOD	mg/L	25	208	7.8	96
TSS	mg/L	30	349	10.9	97
Enterococcus	MPN	260		1.1	
Ammonia	mg/L	110		38	

December 2025 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

PARAMETER	UNIT	MONTHLY EFF LIMIT	INFLUENT AVERAGE	EFFLUENT AVERAGE	% REMOVAL
cBOD	mg/L	25	189	12.3	93
TSS	mg/L	30	359	20.7	94
Enterococcus	MPN	260		5.5	
Ammonia	mg/L	110		50	

November 2025 PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

PARAMETER	UNIT	MONTHLY EFF LIMIT	INFLUENT AVERAGE	EFFLUENT AVERAGE	% REMOVAL
cBOD	mg/L	25	176	12	93
TSS	mg/L	30	397	18.6	95
Enterococcus	MPN	260		4.2	
Ammonia	mg/L	110		36	

- ❖ Enterococcus is calculated as a 6-week Rolling Geometric Mean.
- ❖ Influent Ammonia sampling is performed in June and November.

Project Updates

- Blower Replacement
- Effluent Outfall Project
- WWTP Operations & Maintenance Manual

Project Updates

- Blower Replacement - Contract executed for (2) remaining blowers



Project Updates

- Effluent Outfall Project - Out to bid summer of 2024 - No bidders
Update May 2025 - Increased design budget amount and scope of work.
Update February 2026 - Discussed project RFP with on-call engineering firm.
- WWTP Operations & Maintenance Manual - In Progress - Target completion date 12/31/26.

Operations and Maintenance Updates

- Laboratory Audit - Completed January 29th 2026
- WAS Pump – Rebuilt
- Grit System Cleaning

WAS Pump - Rebuilt



Grit System Cleaning



Grit System Cleaning

