

IX. Utilities Plan

Introduction

The Utilities Plan element analyzes the water supply, sewerage and waste treatment and solid waste disposal in Bloomfield Township. Future needs are analyzed based on anticipated population and land use demands.

Wastewater Treatment

The Township of Bloomfield owns and maintains its sanitary sewer collection system. The treatment process is conducted on a regional authority basis by the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission, which is located in Newark. The discharge is released to Newark Bay. The sewer collection system is separate from the storm sewer system and is controlled through a gravity/flow system.

Preventive maintenance is conducted annually to keep the system up-to-date. During 2000, the Township continued to reline its sanitary sewers and replaced its old clay pipe using the no dig method, sewer root control foaming agent was also applied in various sewer mains throughout the Township, and sanitary sewer cleaning and television inspection was conducted. The sanitary sewer relining will continue through 2001 and is proposed to be completed in 2005.

Storm sewers

The Township of Bloomfield also owns and operates its own storm sewer system, including inlets, catch basins and piping and is reported to be in satisfactory condition. The Township has been responsible for the rebuilding of catch basins within recent years.

Water Supply

The Township of Bloomfield owns and maintains its potable water distribution system. Water mains range in size from six inches in diameter to sixteen inches.

In general, the water system is in good condition as a result on-going rehabilitation and improvements to the infrastructure. Approximately 80 percent of the water mains have been cleaned and cement lined, with the majority of the hydrants replaced. The water main cleaning and lining will continue in various locations throughout 2001 and is proposed to be completed in 2005.

As part of the North Jersey District Water Supply Commission (NJDWSC), the Township is allotted 6.51 million gallons per day (m.g.d.) of potable water for its residents. This allotment is adequate to meet the current demand of the Township based upon population and economic growth levels. There is a need, however, to increase and enhance the water supply in order to support future growth. Price levels during peak demand periods are also a concern.

Solid Waste

Solid waste within the Township of Bloomfield is divided into two types, Type 10 General Trash and Type 13 Bulk and Furniture. The Type 10 trash is picked up and taken to the incinerator at the Essex County Resource Recovery Facility in Newark. Type 13 trash is taken to a transfer station located in Elizabeth. Both types of solid waste are picked up daily.

High Technology

The Township of Bloomfield benefits from fiber optic infrastructure installed along the Garden State Parkway. The Township is also bisected by rail lines which lend themselves to fiber optic infrastructure. Since such infrastructure is necessary for the high technology economy of the 21st century, continued installation is encouraged.

Recommendations

1. The relining of the sewer system should be continued in order to prevent root intrusion, infiltration and pipe ruptures.
2. The Township should continue and complete its potable water main cleaning and cement lining.
3. The Township should investigate the potential of increasing its water supply to match future needs and control price levels.
4. Consideration should be made to install fiber optics as part of major road improvements and reconstruction, specifically within Bloomfield Center, Broadacres office area and the Watsessing Industrial area.
5. Opportunities for the burial of overhead utility lines should be planned and implemented particularly in conjunction with road reconstruction and streetscape improvements.