

# Investing in Northeast Ohio . . . the benefits are clear



CONTRIBUTING TO THE  
ECONOMIC VITALITY OF THE REGION



PROTECTING  
YOUR HEALTH



PROTECTING YOUR  
ENVIRONMENT





## Investing in Northeast Ohio . . . the benefits are clear



Mayor Thomas J. Longo  
*President*



Erwin J. Odeal  
*Executive Director*

One point eight billion dollars. That's how much money we have invested over the last 30 years to upgrade our wastewater treatment plants and build and rehabilitate area interceptors.

What makes this accomplishment so unique is that we have made the bulk of these improvements without the assistance of federal funding, which ended in 1990. Unfortunately, we've had to turn to our customers, who constitute our only source of revenue, to fill in the gaps.

And yet there is more work to do. We must invest an additional \$495 million in construction projects over the next five years to comply with increasingly stringent federal regulations and to fulfill the requirements of our court order.

To do this work, we had to increase rates in 2002 for the first time in three years. Ultimately, the work will address water quality problems resulting from combined sewer overflows. But as prices go up, we know you can't help but wonder exactly how this work benefits you.

Thus, this annual report is designed to plainly illustrate the environmental, health and economic benefits of the projects in which we are investing our resources - particularly those projects we tackled in 2002.





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## New interceptor clears the way for safer water recreation

## P R O J E C T

## Mill Creek Tunnel Contract 3

**What is it?**

The Mill Creek Tunnel Contract 3 is the final leg of a three-phase project involving the construction of 15,600 feet of 20-foot diameter interceptor sewer. Once complete, this tunnel will be able to store more than 70 million gallons of combined sewer overflow (CSO).

**What are the benefits?**

The Mill Creek Tunnel Contract 3 will reduce CSO discharges to the environment by storing and then conveying wet-weather flow for treatment. We anticipate that the project will result in reduced pollutant loads and decreased bacterial contamination, further protecting southeastern Greater Cleveland's health and environment. Additionally, the tunnel will provide communities with the outlet capacity for community relief sewers. If built, these relief sewers would help alleviate system backups and basement flooding.

**What happened in 2002 and what's next?**

Contractors received a notice to proceed in September 2002. The project should continue through Fall 2006.

**How much does this all cost?**

The total cost for this project is \$58.3 million.



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## Larger outfall will help protect the inner harbor from further pollution

### P R O J E C T

### Westerly Plant Outfall Improvement

#### What is it?

The Westerly Plant Outfall Improvement project will route the effluent discharge point one mile out from the Lake Erie shore. The new outfall will replace the existing pipe with one that has a 108-inch inside diameter. The larger piping will allow Westerly to discharge its full capacity of 100 million gallons of treated wastewater per day into the lake. This contract also involved replacing existing non-potable water pumps with new pumps.

#### What are the benefits?

The outfall project will help improve water quality by dispersing a larger quantity of treated wastewater away from the inner harbor out further into the lake.

The new non-potable water pumps enable us to use treated effluent in plant processes to reduce costs.

#### What happened in 2002 and what's next?

The District confirmed design plans in 2002 and established a notice to proceed date on December 1, 2002. The anticipated completion date is December 31, 2004.

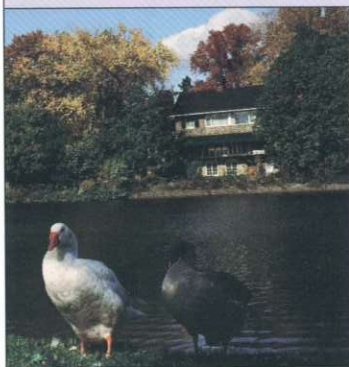
#### How much does this all cost?

The Westerly Plant Outfall Improvement Project is estimated to cost \$20.7 million.





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## New tunnel will help alleviate local flooding

## P R O J E C T

## Tuxedo Road Improvement Project 230

**What is it?**

The Tuxedo Road Improvement Project involves the construction of a new 11,000 feet long, five foot in diameter intercommunity relief sewer that will route wastewater away from existing overloaded County-owned sewers.

**What are the benefits?**

By providing additional capacity to convey excessive infiltration and inflow, the Tuxedo Road Improvement Project will help alleviate flow backup and flooding problems in Cleveland's southwest suburbs.

**What happened in 2002 and what's next?**

After completing the design in 2001, we bid the project in early 2002. Construction was scheduled to begin in spring of 2003 and should be completed by November, 2005.

**How much does this all cost?**

Total cost for the Tuxedo Road Improvement Project is approximately \$13 million. Fortunately, the District was able to secure a low interest loan through the Ohio EPA Water Pollution Control Loan Fund to cover the costs.





## Fiber optic communication increases wastewater treatment efficiency

### P R O J E C T

### Plant Automation Project

#### What is it?

The Plant Automation Project involves making operation and maintenance data in our three plants accessible through a fiberoptic network. As a result, operators linked to the network can monitor any unit throughout the plant, and designated users can operate and adjust processes as necessary.

#### What are the benefits?

The plant automation system enables operators to more accurately monitor the plants' processes. Accurate monitoring ensures proper treatment before the treated water reaches the river or lake, thereby improving overall water quality.

#### What happened in 2002 and what's next?

In 2002, we installed and programmed additional logic controllers and integrated them into the computer network. In 2003, we will enhance the automated controls at our Environmental Maintenance and Service Center and link more than 130 remote sites (rain gauges, flow monitors, automated regulators, etc.) to the automation network. The project is scheduled for completion in 2005.

#### How much does this all cost?

We have invested \$1.6 million in the Plant Automation Project in 2002. However, the total cost for the project is estimated at \$30 million.





## Several small projects will help improve water quality in Lake Erie

## P R O J E C T

## Easterly Early Action Project

**What is it?**

The Easterly Early Action Projects consist of work at nine locations to meet the regulatory requirements of the Ohio EPA Combined Sewer Overflow strategy. The first five projects include the construction of higher capacity regulators on existing combined sewers in downtown Cleveland. Remaining projects consist of modifying existing regulators and installing backflow prevention valves on existing combined sewers. The final project involves removing sediment from the Easterly Interceptor tunnel. Together, these nine projects will reduce the number of combined sewer overflows.

**What are the benefits?**

By reducing the number of combined sewer overflows, the Easterly Early Action Projects will improve water quality in Lake Erie.

**What happened in 2002 and what's next?**

In 2002, we completed the majority of the regulator installations and upgrades. We also began cleaning out a portion of the Easterly Interceptor. This project should be complete by March, 2004.

**How much does this all cost?**

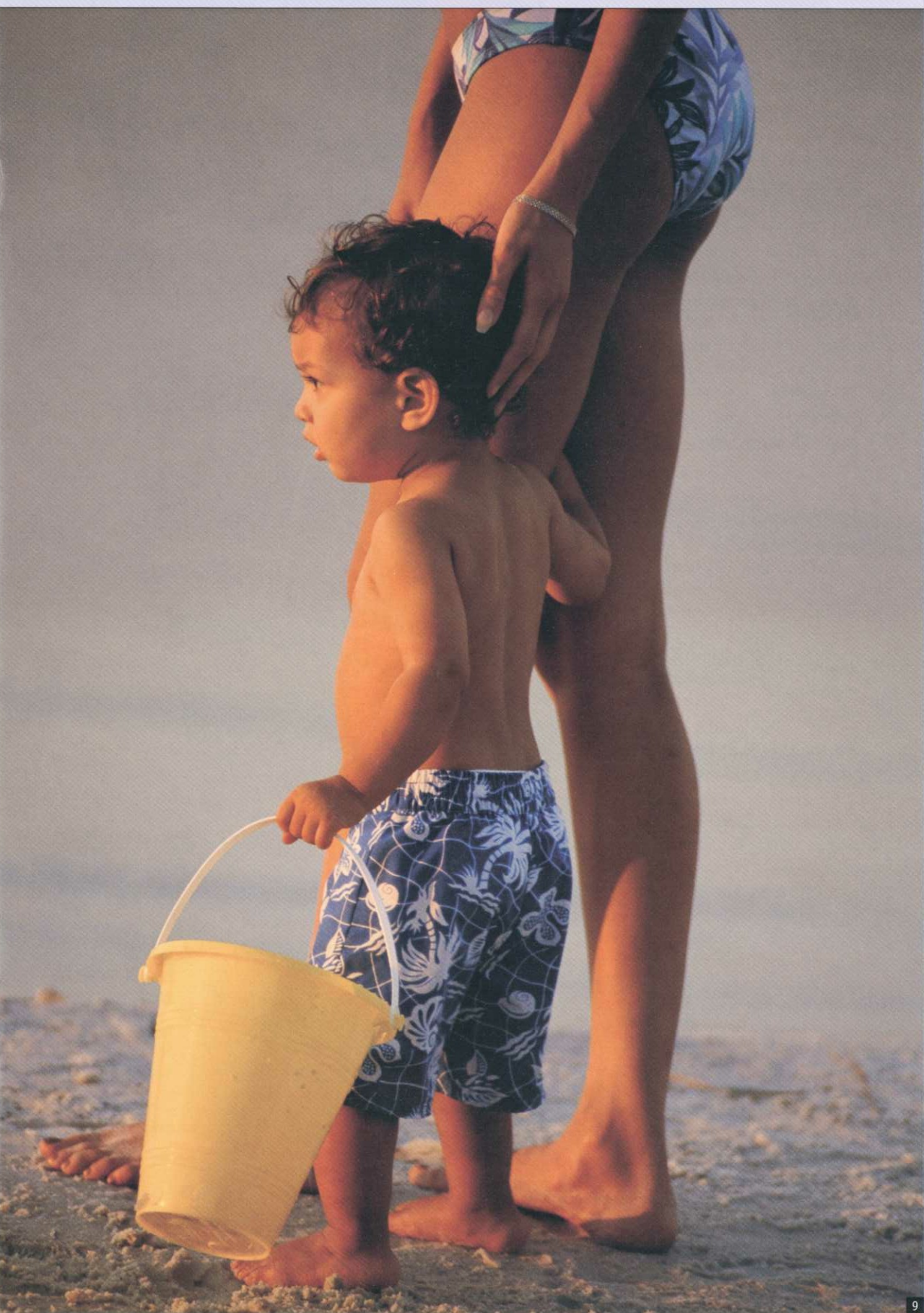
We invested \$4.5 million in this project in 2002. However, the total price tag is just over \$14 million.



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Contribu







Mayor Thomas J. Longo



Michael L. Nelson, Sr.



Mayor Gary W. Starr



Darnell Brown

## board of trustees

(pictured above)

(LEFT TO RIGHT):

Mayor Thomas J. Longo  
*President*

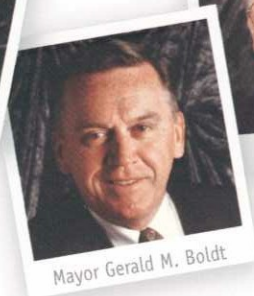
Michael L. Nelson, Sr.  
*Vice President*

Mayor Gary W. Starr  
*Secretary*

Darnell Brown



Sheila J. Kelly



Mayor Gerald M. Boldt



Ron D. Sulik

(pictured at right)

(LEFT TO RIGHT):

Sheila J. Kelly

Mayor Gerald M. Boldt

Ron D. Sulik

## senior staff

(pictured at left & right)

(LEFT TO RIGHT):

F. Michael Bucci  
*Director of Finance*

Ana I. Maldonado  
*Director of Information Technology*

Charles J. Vasulka  
*Director of Engineering & Construction*

Timothy M. Tighe  
*Director of Operation & Maintenance*

Kenneth A. Pew  
*Deputy Executive Director*

William B. Schatz  
*General Counsel*

Thomas E. Lenhart  
*Director of Employee Resources*

Erwin J. Odeal  
*Executive Director*



F. Michael Bucci



Ana I. Maldonado

### Water Quality and Industrial Surveillance and Easterly WWTP earn Safety Awards

Our Water Quality and Industrial Surveillance Department earned the Ohio Wastewater Environment Association's (OWEA) Collection Systems Safety Award for 2002. This award recognizes the safest collection system in the State of Ohio based in part on the lowest accident rate among collection systems and an established safety program.

OWEA also awarded Easterly Wastewater Treatment Plant a Safety Award for an over-20-person treatment facility.

### Financial Report Earns Top Honors Again

After meeting a strict set of reporting criteria, the District's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) received its seventh award of recognition for governmental accounting and financial reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association. The report received the highest possible ranking in each category.

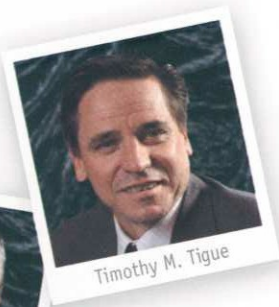
### District Plants earn AMSA Peak Performance Awards

The Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA) recognized our Easterly and Westerly Wastewater Treatment Plants with the Silver and Gold Awards, respectively. The Silver Award recognizes facilities that have had no more than five NPDES permit violations over the past year. The Gold award honors facilities that have achieved 100 percent compliance for an entire calendar year.

Our Southerly Wastewater Treatment Plant earned AMSA's prestigious Platinum Award for earning Gold Awards from 1998 through 2002. In short, it achieved 100 percent compliance for five consecutive years.



Charles J. Vasulka



Timothy M. Tighe



Kenneth A. Pew



William B. Schatz

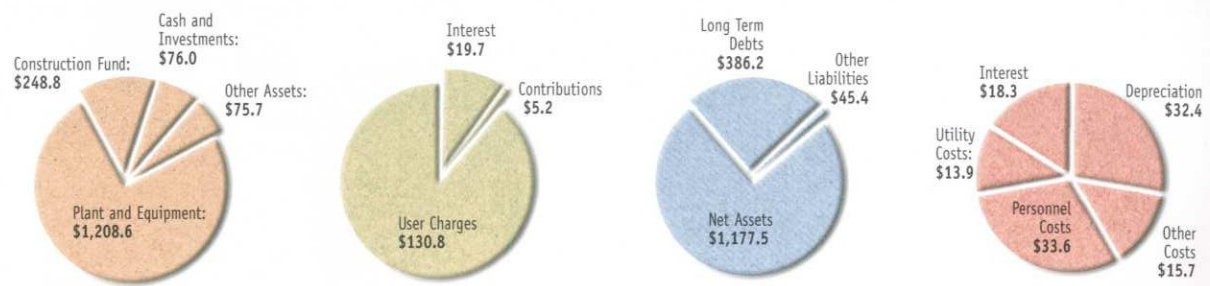


Thomas E. Lenhart



Erwin J. Odeal





Assets	Revenues	Liabilities and Net Assets	Expenses
as of December 31, 2002 (in millions)	for the year ended December 31, 2002 (in millions)	as of December 31, 2002 (in millions)	for the year ended December 31, 2002 (in millions)
Total Assets: \$1,609.1	Total Assets: \$155.7	Total Liabilities and Net Assets: \$1,609.1	Total Expenses: \$113.9

2002 PLANT PERFORMANCE

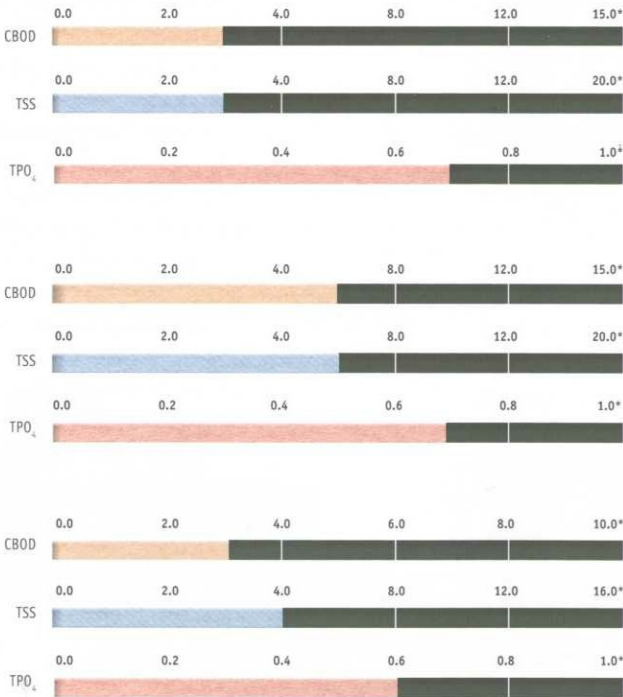
Key For Plant  
Performance Graphs:

**CBOD**  
Carbonaceous  
Biochemical  
Oxygen Demand

**TSS**  
Total Suspended Solids

**TPO<sub>4</sub>**  
Total Phosphorus

**NPDES**  
National Pollutant  
Discharge Elimination  
System



Average annual effluent concentration in milligrams per liter.

\* Number represents NPDES permit limit 30 day average

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\* Number represents NPDES permit limit 30 day average

