

# **South Platte Water Renewal Partners**



**SOUTH PLATTE  
WATER RENEWAL  
PARTNERS**  
OWNED BY LITTLETON/ENGLEWOOD

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**Year Ended December 31, 2019**

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# **ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

## **South Platte Water Renewal Partners Joint Venture**

**Year Ended December 31, 2019**

### **Supervisory Committee**

#### **City of Littleton**

Mark Relph, City Manager  
Keith Reester, Public Works Director

#### **City of Englewood**

Shawn Lewis, City Manager  
Maria D'Andrea, Public Works Director

# Annual Financial Report

Year Ended December 31, 2019

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## Independent Auditors' Report

To the Members  
South Platte Water Renewal Partners  
Englewood, Colorado

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the South Platte Water Renewal Partners as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the South Platte Water Renewal Partners, as listed in the table of contents.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the South Platte Water Renewal Partners as of December 31, 2019, and the changes in financial position and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Other Matters**

#### *Required Supplementary Information*

The South Platte Water Renewal Partners has omitted the managements discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

### **Other Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the South Platte Water Renewal Partners' basic financial statements. The other supplementary information listed in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling the information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the other supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

*Hick & Company, PC*

Greenwood Village, Colorado  
June 30, 2020



**South Platte Water Renewal Partners Joint Venture**

**Statement of Net Position  
As of December 31, 2019**

	<b>2019</b>
<b>Assets</b>	
Current assets	
Cash and investments	\$ 1,996,826
Receivable from City of Littleton	275,037
Receivable from City of Englewood	240,392
Interest receivable	8,475
Other receivables	38,634
Total current assets	2,559,364
Noncurrent assets	
Capital assets not being depreciated	15,060,947
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	78,091,125
Total noncurrent assets	93,152,072
Total assets	95,711,436
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Current liabilities	
Accounts payable	1,316,007
Retainage payable	321,266
Accrued liabilities	392,935
Total current liabilities	2,030,208
Noncurrent liabilities	
Accrued liabilities	206,826
Total noncurrent liabilities	206,826
Total liabilities	2,237,034
<b>Net position</b>	
Invested in capital assets	93,152,072
Unrestricted	322,330
Total net position	\$ 93,474,402

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**South Platte Water Renewal Partners Joint Venture**

**Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019**

	<b>2019</b>
<b>Operating revenues</b>	
Reimbursement of operating expenses	
City of Littleton	\$ 6,951,117
City of Englewood	8,166,598
Total operating revenues	15,117,715
<b>Operating expenses</b>	
Sewage treatment	
Pretreatment	521,094
Engineering	1,099,548
Environmental programs	2,065,195
Operations and maintenance	9,384,889
Total sewage treatment	13,070,726
Administration	
Business solutions	2,693,465
Total administration	2,693,465
Depreciation	6,652,695
Total operating expenses	22,416,886
<b>Operating loss</b>	(7,299,171)
<b>Nonoperating revenues</b>	
Septic hauling	357,572
Farm income from crop sales	88,455
Net investment income	65,320
Other	135,128
Total nonoperating revenues	646,475
<b>Loss before contributions</b>	(6,652,696)
Capital contributions	
City of Littleton	3,146,683
City of Englewood	3,146,683
Total capital contributions	6,293,366
<b>Change in net position</b>	(359,330)
<b>Total net position - beginning</b>	93,833,732
<b>Total net position - ending</b>	\$ 93,474,402

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**South Platte Water Renewal Partners Joint Venture**

**Statement of Cash Flows  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2019**

	<b>2019</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>	
Cash received from joint venturers	\$ 15,928,463
Cash payments to suppliers for goods and services	(15,935,223)
Other revenue	664,560
Net cash provided (required) by operating activities	657,800
<b>Cash flows from capital and related financing activities</b>	
Acquisition and construction of capital assets	(6,293,366)
Capital contributions from joint venturers	6,293,366
Net cash provided by capital and related financing activities	-
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>	
Net investment income	59,377
Net cash provided by investing activities	59,377
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	717,177
<b>Cash and cash equivalents - January 1,</b>	1,279,649
<b>Cash and cash equivalents - December 31,</b>	\$ 1,996,826
<b>Reconciliation of operating loss to net cash provided (required) by operating activities</b>	
Loss from operations	\$ (7,299,171)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash provided (required) by operating activities:	
Depreciation	6,652,695
Other nonoperating revenue	664,560
Effect of changes in operating assets and liabilities	
Receivable from joint venturers	810,748
Accounts payable	(257,946)
Accrued liabilities	86,914
Total adjustments	7,956,971
Net cash provided (required) by operating activities	\$ 657,800

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**South Platte Water Renewal Partners Joint Venture**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**December 31, 2019**

The financial statements of the South Platte Water Renewal Partners Joint Venture have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles as applied to governments. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and reporting principles. The following notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this report.

**Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Definition of Reporting Entity**

The Cities of Littleton, Colorado (Littleton) and Englewood, Colorado (Englewood), participate in the South Platte Water Renewal Partners Joint Venture (the Joint Venture) for the operation of a wastewater treatment facility. Control of the Joint Venture rests in a four-member committee, with two members appointed by each city. Littleton and Englewood each own a 50 percent interest in the Joint Venture. The Joint Venture has its own workforce for operating purposes. For payroll and pension participation, the joint venture's workforce is considered to be City of Englewood employees. Englewood provides the Joint Venture with administrative services on a cost reimbursement basis. In March of 2018, the name of the joint venture was changed from Littleton, Englewood Waste Water Treatment Plant to South Platte Water Renewal Partners.

The accounting policies of the Joint Venture conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applicable to governmental units accounted for as a proprietary enterprise fund. The enterprise fund is used since the Joint Venture's powers are related to those operated in a manner similar to a private utility system where net income and capital maintenance are appropriate determinations of accountability.

**Basis of Accounting**

The Joint Venture uses the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when the liability is incurred. Depreciation is computed and recorded as an operating expense. Expenditures for capital assets are shown as increases in assets and redemption of bonds and notes, if any, would be recorded as a reduction in liabilities.

**Operating Revenues and Expenses**

The Joint Venture distinguishes between operating revenues and expenses and non-operating items in the Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with the Joint Venture's purpose of providing services to the joint venturers. Operating revenues consist of charges to venturers for service provided. Operating expenses include the cost of service, administrative expenses, and depreciation of assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses or capital contributions.

**Budgets**

The Joint Venture does not have nor is it anticipated to ever have the power to assess an ad valorem tax on the property of the participating cities. Accordingly, it is management's contention that this would remove it from the scope of the State of Colorado Budget Law. However, budgets are prepared as a management control device, and budget and actual comparisons are presented as supplementary information in the financial statements.

**Cash Equivalents**

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Joint Venture considers cash deposits and highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less when purchased, to be cash equivalents. Cash and investments held as part of the City of Englewood's pooled cash and investments are considered cash equivalents.

**Accounts Receivable**

Accounts receivable includes amounts due from the Joint Venturers related to ongoing operating costs as well as other related ancillary charges. Based on a review of outstanding receivables at year end no allowance was deemed necessary.

### **Capital Assets**

Capital assets are stated at cost. Maintenance and repairs are charged to current period operating expenses and improvements are capitalized. The Joint Venture currently capitalizes infrastructure projects that cost more than \$25,000 and have a life of one year or more and equipment that costs \$5,000 or more and has a life of more than one year. Upon retirement or other disposition of property, plant and equipment, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the respective accounts and any gains or losses are included in non-operating income (expenses).

Depreciation of property, plant and equipment is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

<u>Asset Type</u>	<u>Years</u>
Buildings	25-50
Infrastructure	20-50
Other Improvements	2-20
Machinery and Equipment	2-15

### **Reimbursement of Operating Expenses**

Variable operating expenses are shared by the venturers based on actual usage of the facility and fixed operating expenses, excluding depreciation, are shared equally. Additionally, in accordance with the Joint Venture Agreement, Littleton pays an administration fee to Englewood equal to 3% of operating expenses. Littleton paid \$472,926 during the year ended December 31, 2019.

### **Capital Contributions**

The joint venturers share capital expenditures equally. The amount reported as capital contributions on the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Position represents the amount paid by the joint venturers for capital improvements.

### **Compensated Absences, Pension and Other Post-Employment Benefits**

The Joint Venture is charged for Compensated Absences, Pension and Other Post-Employment benefit costs related to the workforce. Please refer to the City of Englewood's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for complete descriptions of the City's benefits. This report may be obtained by calling the City of Englewood's Department of Finance and Administrative Services at 303-762-2300 or by visiting Englewood's website at [www.engagewoodco.gov](http://www.engagewoodco.gov).

### **Net Position**

The Joint Venture utilizes a net position presentation. Net Position is categorized as investments in capital assets (net of related debt) and is either restricted or unrestricted. Net position is restricted when constraints placed on the use of resources are externally imposed. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted-net position or unrestricted-net position, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are to be applied. It is this Joint Venture's policy to consider restricted-net position to have been depleted before unrestricted-net position is applied.

### **Use of estimates**

The preparation of financial statements, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### **Note 2 – Cash and Investments**

The Joint Venture's cash and investments are combined with Englewood's pooled cash and investment funds. Englewood allocates interest earnings from the combined investments on a pro-rata basis. See the City of Englewood's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report at [www.engagewoodco.gov](http://www.engagewoodco.gov) for additional details.

At December 31, 2019, the Joint Venture had cash and investments as follows:

**Unrestricted**

Deposits and investments with the City of Englewood internal investment pool	<u>\$1,996,826</u>
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Under the terms of the joint venture agreement, the venturers agreed to restrict \$1,000,000 of their individual City's sewer fund cash to finance major capital repairs and replacements of the joint venture. Each City is also required to deposit an amount equal to two months of budgeted operating expenditures. For the year ended December 31, 2019 the deposit balances were \$1,430,000 and \$1,670,000 for the Cities of Littleton and Englewood respectively.

**Note 3 – Capital Assets**

Certain beginning balances have been reclassified to conform to the current year presentation. Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2019 was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Capital assets not being depreciated				
Land	\$ 5,422,996	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,422,996
Construction in process	4,482,043	5,326,908	(171,000)	9,637,951
Total capital assets not being depreciated	<u>9,905,039</u>	<u>5,326,908</u>	<u>(171,000)</u>	<u>15,060,947</u>
Capital assets being depreciated				
Buildings	124,469,854	-	-	124,469,854
Infrastructure	6,889,328	-	-	6,889,328
Other improvements	3,365,101	-	-	3,365,101
Machinery and Equipment	71,578,897	1,137,458	-	72,716,355
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>206,303,180</u>	<u>1,137,458</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>207,440,638</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings	71,665,404	2,898,656	-	74,564,060
Infrastructure	1,356,602	144,241	-	1,500,843
Other improvements	1,724,292	80,047	-	1,804,339
Machinery and Equipment	47,950,520	3,529,751	-	51,480,271
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>122,696,818</u>	<u>6,652,695</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>129,349,513</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	<u>83,606,362</u>	<u>(5,515,237)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,091,125</u>
Total capital assets, net	<u>\$ 93,511,401</u>	<u>\$ (188,329)</u>	<u>\$ (171,000)</u>	<u>\$ 93,152,072</u>

**Note 4 – Risk Management**

The Joint Venture is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; thefts of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors or omissions and natural disasters.

In order to reduce insurance costs, the Joint Venture participates in the City of Englewood's Risk Management and Health Insurance Programs. Amounts payable to the City are based on historical claims experience. Please refer to the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for complete descriptions of the City's risk management activities. Settled claims have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

**Note 5 – Tax, Spending and Debt Limitations**

Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution, commonly known as the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) contains tax, spending, revenue and debt limitations which apply to the State of Colorado and all local governments.

The cities of Englewood and Littleton account for the operations of the Joint Venture within their respective sewer utility funds. Any TABOR implications or considerations related to the Joint Venture have been considered individually by each of the cities as part of their annual financial reporting process.

**Note 6 – Other Contingencies**

The City of Englewood was identified as a responsible party at the Superfund site known as the Lowry Landfill by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The City has entered into an agreement with the primary party responsible for the Lowry Landfill. The primary party will be responsible for the actual cleanup of the site and will respond, on the City's behalf, to all inquiries or notifications received by the EPA. Based on estimates provided during the settlement process, City management does not believe additional cleanup costs will be necessary.

**South Platte Water Renewal Partners  
Schedule of Changes in Joint Venturers' Equity  
For The Year Ended December 31, 2019**

	<u>City of Littleton</u>	<u>City of Englewood</u>	<u>Total</u>
Balance at December 31, 2017	\$ 47,509,579	\$ 47,509,579	\$ 95,019,158
Change in net position	<u>(592,713)</u>	<u>(592,713)</u>	<u>(1,185,426)</u>
Balance at December 31, 2018	46,916,866	46,916,866	\$ 93,833,732
Change in net position	<u>(179,665)</u>	<u>(179,665)</u>	<u>(359,330)</u>
Balance at December 31, 2019	<u>\$ 46,737,201</u>	<u>\$ 46,737,201</u>	<u>\$ 93,474,402</u>

See Independent Auditors' Report

**South Platte Water Renewal Partners Joint Venture**

**Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Funds Available -  
Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis)**

**For the Year Ended December 31, 2019**

**With Comparative Totals for the Year Ended December 31, 2018**

	<b>Budgeted Amount</b>	<b>Actual Amounts</b>	<b>Variance with Final Budget - Positive (Negative)</b>	<b>2018 Actual</b>
<b>Revenues</b>				
Reimbursement of operating expenses				
City of Littleton	\$ 4,346,113	\$ 6,951,117	\$ 2,605,004	\$ 8,698,985
City of Englewood	5,761,125	8,166,598	2,405,473	7,533,205
Capital contributions				
City of Littleton	8,329,732	3,146,683	(5,183,049)	2,835,040
City of Englewood	8,329,732	3,146,683	(5,183,049)	2,835,040
Septic hauling	270,000	357,572	87,572	292,689
Farm income from crop sales	176,899	88,455	(88,444)	82,803
Net investment income	23,447	65,320	41,873	15,635
Other	122,511	135,128	12,617	61,179
Total revenues	<u>27,359,559</u>	<u>22,057,556</u>	<u>(5,302,003)</u>	<u>22,354,576</u>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Environmental Programs	2,133,533	2,065,195	68,338	4,701,020
Pretreatment/Engineering/Maintenance	12,732,299	11,319,771	1,412,528	8,983,170
Business Solutions	3,193,727	2,379,224	814,503	3,000,305
Capital outlay	9,300,000	6,293,366	3,006,634	5,670,081
Total expenditures	<u>27,359,559</u>	<u>22,057,556</u>	<u>5,302,003</u>	<u>22,354,576</u>
<b>Change in Net Position, Budgetary Basis</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Adjustments to GAAP Basis				
Depreciation		(6,652,696)		
Capital Outlay		6,293,366		
<b>Change in Net Position, GAAP Basis</b>		<u>\$ (359,330)</u>		

See Independent Auditors' Report