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December 10, 2020

Wendy Montalbano, MBA
City of Walker, La
P.O. Box 217
Walker, La 70785

Re: Sewer Collection System Improvements
LGAP Grant Award

Dear Sir,

The City of Walker was awarded a LGAP grant in the amount of \$26,060 to improve infiltration and inflow issues into the wastewater collection system. The goal of our project was to use the grant money to make the biggest improvement possible in a small, targeted area with limited funds. If the projected showed success then we would look to budget additional money in future to continue making improvements in other areas of the city. Walker has experienced increased lift stations and manhole overflows for several years and have made numerous attempts to address the issue, however, all have been unsuccessful.

The Water Services Department began working with JABAR Corporation to target the area in most need to begin installing the Sewer Sentry Manhole covers. 15 manhole covers were installed, this included site investigation, manhole inspections and repairs before the installation of the covers. JABAR group was very professional, organized and quick to complete the project in a timely manner keeping us informed throughout the project. We were unsure if the project could show success due to the limited scope of work. Projected was completed in mid-August and we received the first large rainfall in September as part of Hurricane Delta. It has been estimated that Walker received approximately 4.5 inches of rain in less than 3-4 hours. In the past the 2 main lift stations in the area where the Sentry Sewer manhole covers were install would have reach high level and overflowed after as little as 2 inches of rain.

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We were very happy to report that the City had no overflows or high-level alarms during the September event. It is estimated that we reduced our run time from 7hrs to 2hrs. Although it is difficult at this time to quantify the amount of saving in specific dollar amounts, it was clear to see the improvements in time and energy. The lift stations pumps ran much less , no man hours were needed for afterhours clean up and no time spent writing additional reporting to DEQ.

The Sewer Sentry Covers is one of the most cost effective, simple solutions I have seen to address the issue of infiltration and inflow, that in the past has cost millions of dollars. We look forward to installing more Sentry Sewer Covers in the near future and have already planned to apply for additional funding for upcoming year to accommodate.

If you should have further questions or would like to discuss please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,



Wendy Montalbano, MBA
City of Walker
Water Services and Environmental Compliance Supervisor

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