

2020 SOUTHEAST METRO STORMWATER AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



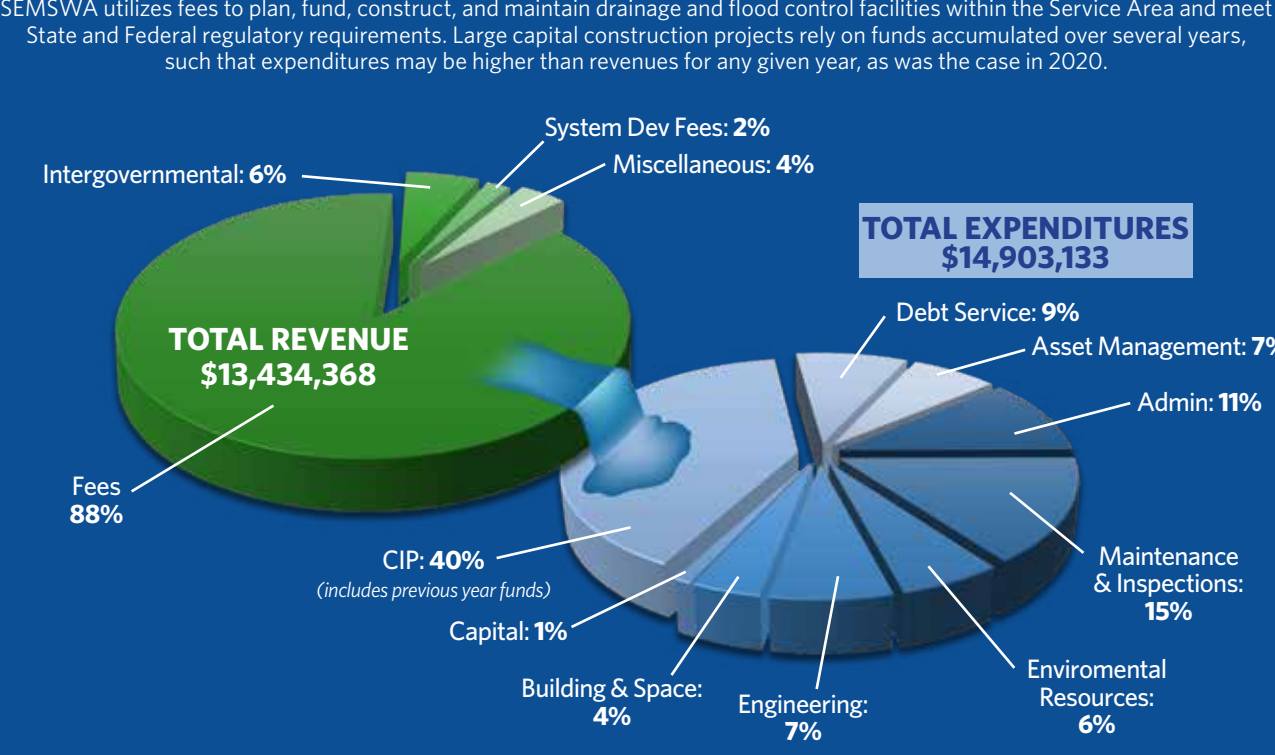
To say that 2020 and the ongoing pandemic has been difficult is an understatement. To so many it was a year of loss and heartache. During this historic time, SEMSWA adapted and changed procedures to deliver our essential stormwater management and flood prevention services to the community.

I am extremely proud of our staff who performed the engineering, permitting, and administrative work remotely, and who carried out maintenance and inspections operations in the field following all safety precautions.

This Annual Report highlights our 2020 accomplishments in our various program areas. As we look to the future, we are excited about returning to more normal operations with many new projects and initiatives under way. I wish you the very best in the weeks and months ahead.

Paul Danley, PE, PWLF

2020 REVENUE & EXPENDITURES



SEMSWA BY THE NUMBERS



More than 90 square miles of Service Area, including the City of Centennial and unincorporated Arapahoe County



86 miles of streams and 80 miles of tributaries, with 26 completed master plans that mapped updated floodplain for 20 of our 40 drainage basins



107 ponds maintained, with 60 ponds functioning as combined flood control and stormwater quality ponds



183 miles of storm pipe, including 6 miles of aging Corrugated Metal Pipe, of which 2.5 miles has been rehabbed through our pipe lining projects



1,078 outfalls, 50 of them buried for over 20 years under several feet of sediment and debris, have been fully restored



\$63 million invested in capital construction projects to improve the stormwater system

WHO IS SEMSWA?

The Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority (SEMSWA) is a public agency formed in 2006 to provide stormwater management and flood protection services. SEMSWA was formed under State statute through an Intergovernmental Agreement between Arapahoe County, the City of Centennial, Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority, East Cherry Creek Valley Water and Sanitation District, and Inverness Water and Sanitation District.

Since 2007, SEMSWA has provided stormwater and flood protection services within its Service Area in the City of Centennial and unincorporated Arapahoe County.

These services include maintenance of stormwater facilities, new project review, permitting and inspection, construction of regional storm infrastructure, floodplain administration, and compliance with stormwater quality regulations. We also provide public education about stormwater quality.

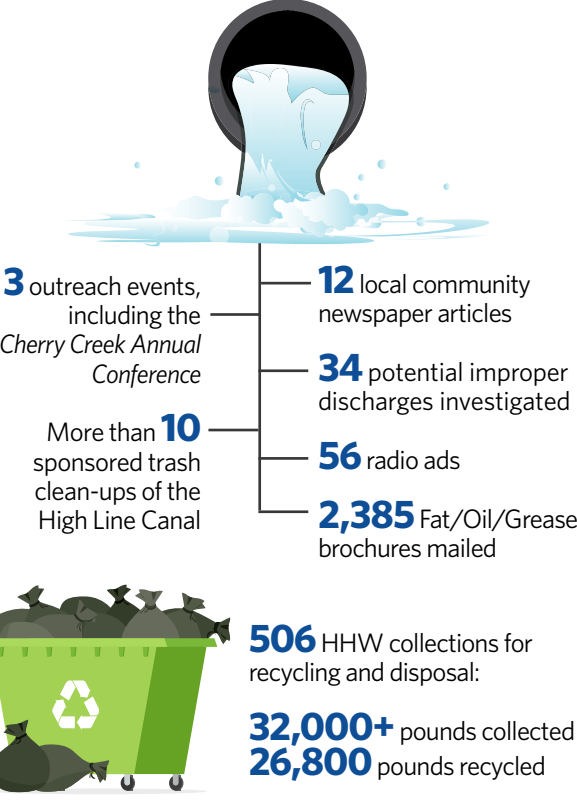
SEMSWA charges an impact fee from residential and commercial properties based on the amount of impervious surface (rooftops, driveways, and parking lots) on each parcel that contributes to stormwater runoff.

These fees provide the funds that help protect people and property from flooding while maintaining vital stormwater infrastructure. This in turn protects the quality of our creeks and riparian areas in Centennial and beyond.

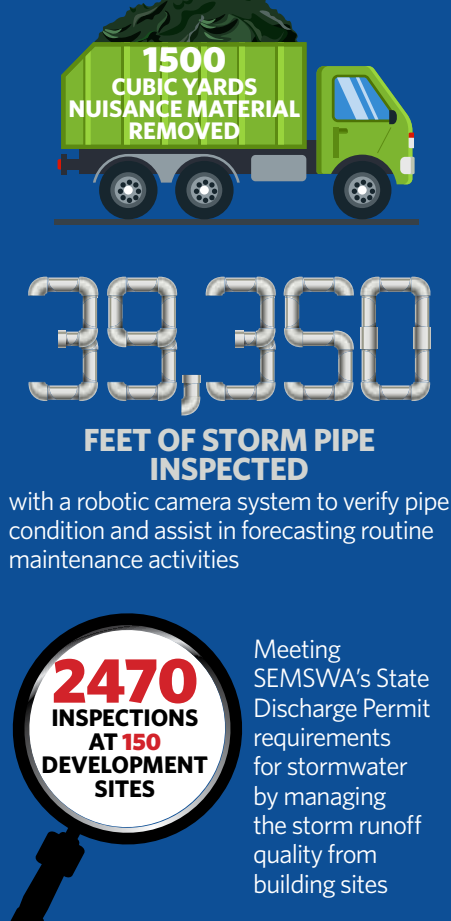
Visit semswa.org for more information.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

The Water Quality program goal is to reduce stormwater pollution entering waterways through educating the public, permitting and inspecting construction sites, maintaining our infrastructure, investigating illicit discharges, and providing residential household hazardous waste (HHW) collection.



FIELD SERVICES SNAPSHOT



LAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

35 Arapahoe County referrals; 82 City of Centennial referrals
8 Aurora and Douglas County referrals to ensure project compliance with stormwater regulations and to evaluate impacts to the adjoining stormwater infrastructure.

SEMSWA conducted 137 pre-submittal meetings in 2020 during the pandemic, showing continued favorable south metro development interest.

FLOODPLAIN PROGRAM

SEMSWA provided map information for 36 inquiries requesting assistance in defining floodplain limits on a parcel and what that means to property owners.

Flood risk information reached more than 60,000 residents and businesses through direct mail and newsletters.

39 floodplain permits were issued, 19 requests were assessed for floodplain impacts, and 10 requests for modification of a floodplain were reviewed.

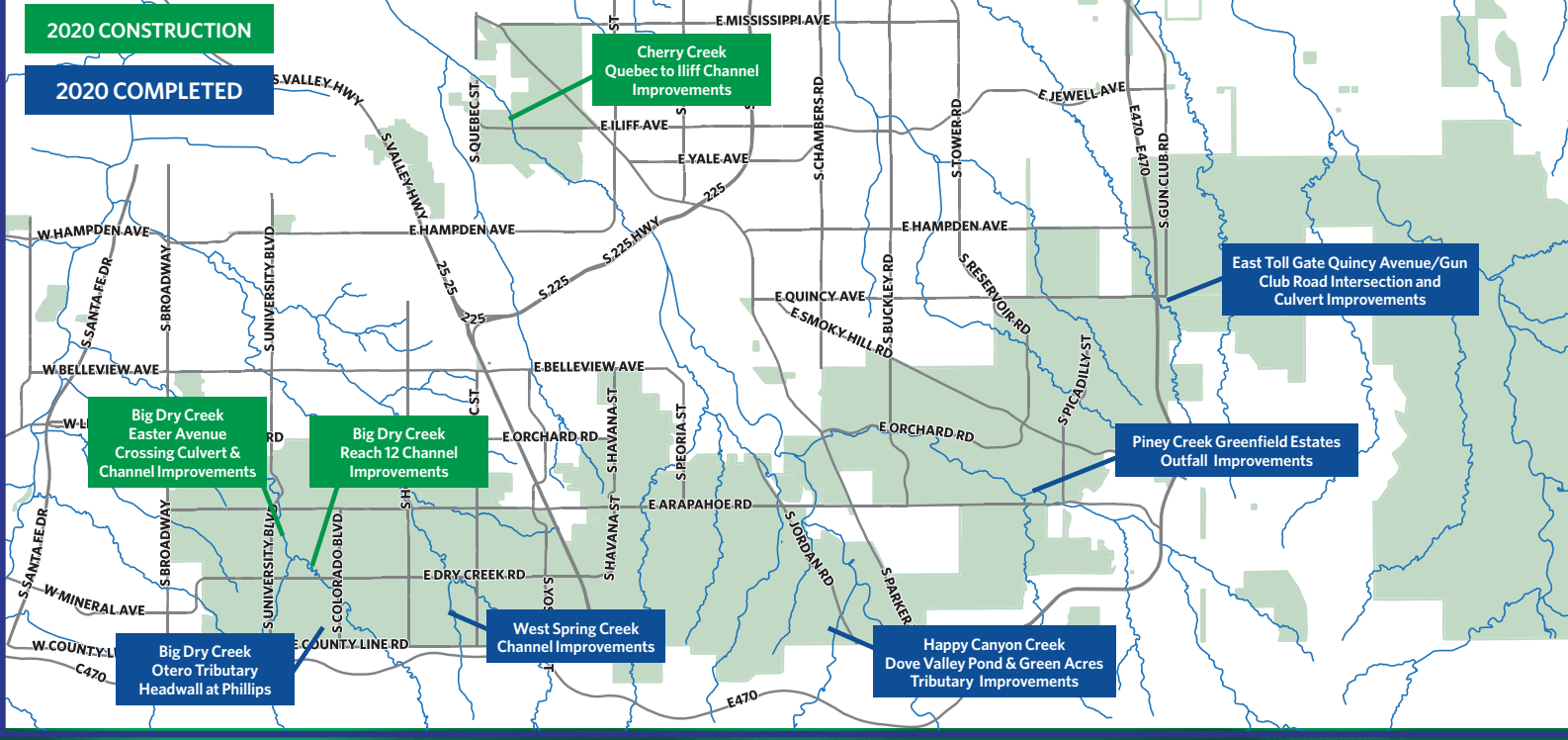
New FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) went into effect for the 8-Floodplain Physical Map Revision (PMR) on September 4, 2020, and FEMA issued preliminary FIRMs for the Arapahoe County PMR for Big Dry Creek and Tributaries.

MASTER PLANNING PROGRAM

Master planning is an important tool to plan for regional flood control and adequate storm infrastructure and to guide responsible development. In 2020, the Sand Creek Flood Hazard Zone Pilot Study was completed. Eleven master plan documents are still in process during 2020.

For more information, visit semswa.org.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP)



SEMSWA AT WORK



2020 SEMSWA BOARD

Jeff Baker, Arapahoe County
Nancy Sharpe, Arapahoe County
Ron Lambert, Special Districts
Bart Miller, Chair, City of Centennial

Don Sheehan, City of Centennial
Ron Weidmann, City of Centennial
Kathleen Conti, Arapahoe County Alternate
Kathy Turley, City of Centennial Alternate

