

Land Use and Infrastructure

Water Treatment Plant (WTP) funding

The Oak Ridge Water Treatment Plant (WTP) was originally constructed in 1943 to provide potable and process water to the Manhattan Project's Clinton Engineer Works.

A study in 2016 concluded that, although parts of the existing WTP were in good condition, the high cost of updating the aging facility and stabilizing the site's geotechnical issues made new construction of a water treatment plant the most economical alternative. The project will exceed \$40M and completion is estimated to be in 2023. A big hurdle was cleared in 2019, when funding was secured under two low-interest loan programs, including one made possible by the federal Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA). This project was ranked the highest priority in the CIP FY2020-2025.



Core Objective

Promote development patterns that encourage a mix of land uses, efficient infrastructure, and preservation of open space in order to support a range of housing, employment, and transportation options.

A key fact is that the water and sewer system was built at one time to serve as much as 75,000 people, and currently serves 30,000. It is in need of major replacements and upgrades.

The Blueprint Plan states that, rather than growing in a sprawling pattern, new housing, services, and work places should be located within already urbanized areas that can be redeveloped to use services more efficiently, share proximity to other uses, and generally increase property values.

Fire Station #4

Fire Station #4 at Heritage Center was completed in 2019. It includes an Oak Ridge Fire History Center and is adjacent to the upcoming Department of Energy History Center for K-25.



Tennessee Avenue Reconstruction

The Public Works Department managed a major infrastructure project in 2018 to reconstruct a portion of Tennessee Avenue, between New York and Michigan Avenues. The road required reconstruction due to large portions of substandard subgrade. The project included curb, gutter, and sidewalk repairs, and was coordinated with replacement of the 1940s-era water main along the road. However, the completion of the project was delayed until early 2019 due to weather and the unexpected discovery of a partially collapsed drainage culvert under Michigan Avenue.

