



A background image featuring a blue sky with scattered white clouds. On the left side, a portion of a white water tower with a yellow band and the word 'ENGINE' is visible. The chapter title is overlaid on the right side of the image.

CHAPTER 4

INFRASTRUCTURE & PUBLIC SERVICES

Introduction

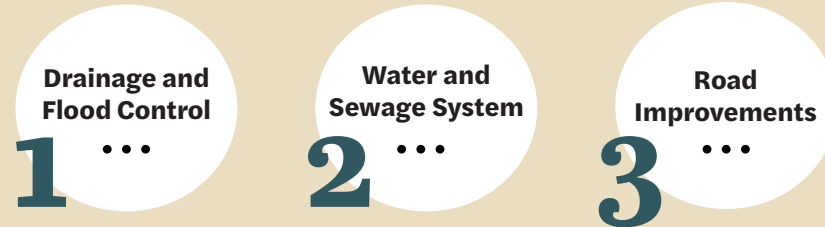
Infrastructure planning is an important component of comprehensive planning, guiding long-term sustainability and effectiveness. This chapter provides a broad analysis of the current state of essential public infrastructure, such as water and wastewater systems and utilities, highlighting challenges and opportunities for improvement. Rather than an exhaustive technical assessment, this chapter offers strategic insights based on future growth patterns, population projections and anticipated demand, ensuring that infrastructure investments align with evolving community needs.

Functional and resilient infrastructure is important for supporting the current and future needs of the community. Beyond meeting everyday demands, infrastructure must also be designed to withstand the impacts of natural hazards and unexpected disruptions. As outlined in Chapter 1, La Grange is most prone to flooding and extreme heat. These threats underscore the necessity of integrating hazard mitigation and resiliency into infrastructure planning.

This chapter takes a broad look at infrastructure planning with a focus on hazard mitigation and resiliency, providing a high-level guide for developing and maintaining essential systems within the community. By emphasizing adaptability and resilience, the Plan supports a forward-thinking approach to development, helping to enhance efficiency and quality of life.

What We've Heard

Top Three Priorities for Infrastructure, Public Facilities and Services:



Comments:



"Awesome Utility dept: trash and recycling, big item and limb pickups, extra if needed. Person actually answering late night outage calls. Street cleaning. No litter. Helpful people!!"

"Water drainage on the streets needs improvement in multiple locations when we have heavy rains."

"The City is clean, street sweeper frequently picks up branches and large items multiple times a year so there is no litter."

"Need bike-path and walking lanes marked on roads such as Horton st."



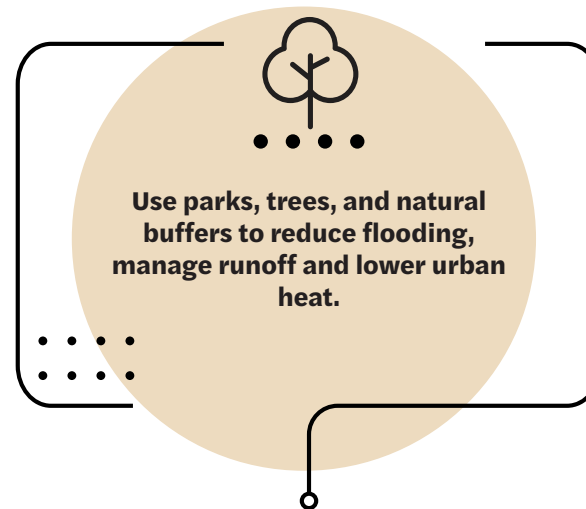
Infrastructure, Public Services & Resilience Policies

Enhancing resilience involves aligning development to strengthen the resilience of essential services and infrastructure. This leads to public facilities and infrastructure that are capable of meeting the community's evolving needs effectively.

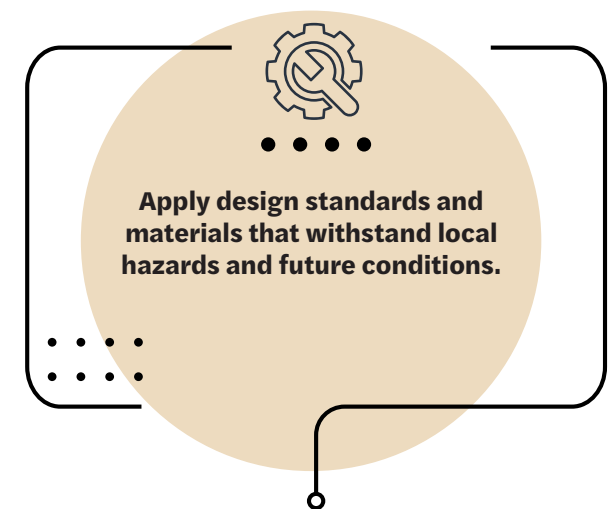
Protect Critical Facilities



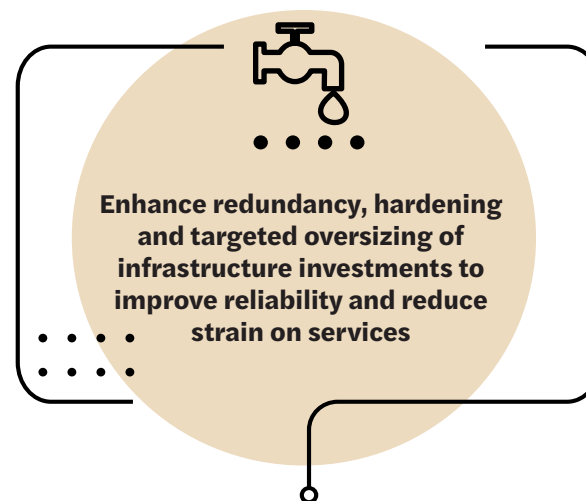
Strengthen Green Infrastructure



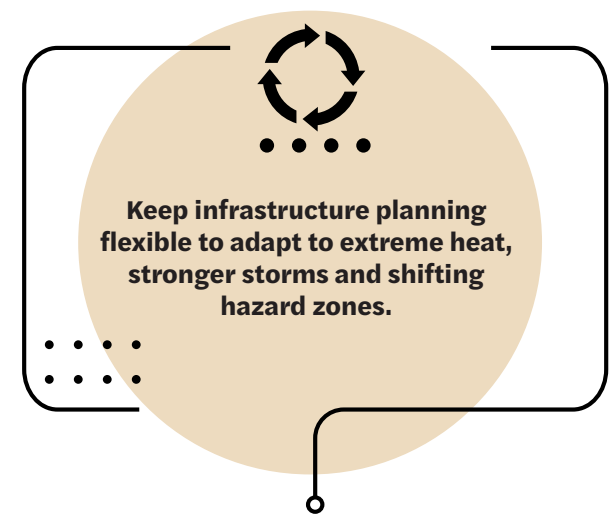
Build Resilience into Standards



Promote Reliable, Efficient Services



Plan for Future Risks



Public Facilities & Services

Public and community facilities form the backbone of daily life in La Grange, supporting both the safety and quality of life of residents. These facilities include essential public safety services such as police, fire protection and emergency medical response, as well as civic and community amenities such as the public library, City Hall, the historic Casino Hall, schools, parks and recreation facilities.

As La Grange looks to the future, it is important to regularly assess how well these facilities are meeting current needs and to identify opportunities for improvement or reinvestment. Ensuring services are well maintained and updated help provide a high standard of living and support long term community resilience. Strong coordination with partners such as the La Grange Independent School District, Fayette County and local organizations will be essential to address shared challenges and make the most of available resources. For example, fire protection is provided by the La Grange Volunteer Fire Department, while emergency medical response is mainly managed by Fayette County Emergency Management Services (EMS). These partnerships, along with continued investment in City infrastructure and community amenities, allow the City to provide accessible, reliable and inclusive facilities.

La Grange City Hall

La Grange City Hall, located at 155 E. Colorado Street, serves as the central administrative hub for the City. The facility oversees local governance, public records, permitting and community planning. City Hall provides space for public meetings and serves as the center for civic engagement and coordination of municipal services.

Schools

The La Grange Independent School District (LGISD) serves the community through a network of three campuses that provide education for more than 2,000 enrolled students from early education through high school.

In addition to the public school system, Sacred Heart Catholic School offers private, faith-based education serving pre-kindergarten through eighth-grade students.

Public Safety

The La Grange Volunteer Fire Department, located at 244 N Franklin Street, provide fire protection and emergency response services throughout the City and surrounding area. The department coordinates closely with county and regional emergency agencies.

The Police Department, located at 243 S College, provides proactive and responsive service while coordinating with the Fayette County Sheriff's Office (1646 N. Jefferson Street) to provide comprehensive coverage within the City and ETJ.

Fayette County Emergency Medical Services, based at N Von Minden Rd, provides 24-hour emergency medical response and patient transport.

Utilities

Utility services such as water, stormwater, and wastewater management, electric services, along with sanitation and recycling are all important components of keeping a City running efficiently. Across all of the utilities services, the City owns and operates more than 20 facilities.



La Grange Fire Department

Water & Wastewater Systems

Water and wastewater planning in La Grange is closely tied to land use and growth management. Ensuring that reliable water service and effective wastewater treatment are available is critical for protecting public health, supporting development and maintaining a high quality of life. As the City considers how and where it grows, careful attention to these systems will help manage resources responsibly and reduce long-term costs.

La Grange can strengthen this connection by encouraging practices that use water more efficiently, modernizing infrastructure as it ages and working with developers and residents to raise awareness about the importance of conservation. By aligning infrastructure decisions with community growth, the City can build systems that are resilient, sustainable and able to adapt to future challenges.

Some approaches that can help connect water and wastewater planning with land use decisions include:

- Providing incentives to developers who include water-saving technology and monitoring systems in their projects.
- Updating system development fees so they reflect the true cost of maintaining and expanding service as new growth occurs.
- Offering density bonuses or other tools to encourage environmentally responsible development that reduces water demand.

Ongoing investment in water and wastewater facilities is essential for La Grange to ensure that service remains dependable and efficient. Proactive maintenance and improvements help reduce the risk of service interruptions, manage long-term costs and ensure that residents have access to safe drinking water and effective wastewater treatment. Additionally, consideration should be given to areas that are not currently connected to City utilities, as the extension of services may be needed to accommodate future growth, support public health or address environmental concerns.

Population Growth and Future Land Use

Historical growth rates for the City of La Grange have remained relatively flat, with little to no growth over the last decade. However, as discussed in Chapter 1, broader development patterns in Central Texas could drive an increase in growth rates for La Grange. Even modest growth rates of 1.5% to 2.5% could see the water and wastewater customer base near double or triple by 2060.

As the water demands and wastewater flows for a system continue to increase with the service population, the City's utilities and infrastructure should be capable of accommodating such growth. Evaluating the City's future land use is a crucial step to get a better understanding of how the growth of La Grange will impact its water and wastewater services. Different land use types will incur different levels of water usage per connection.

Primary growth areas have been identified as new residential development around the hospital to the north and mixed-use development along US 71 to the west. These development areas could have a significant impact on local utility capacity and infrastructure improvements are likely necessary to enhance service for future development. Additionally, system wide improvements, such as additional water supply, are also likely to be needed as the City's customer base continues to grow.



Existing Systems

Water System

The City of La Grange obtains its water supply from a series of groundwater wells that draw from local aquifers within the Colorado River basin area. These wells provide the community with treated potable water that meet state and federal standards.

The City of La Grange owns and operates a water distribution system providing treated water to approximately 2,500 customers within the city limits and water Certificate of Convenience and Necessity (CCN). The City's existing water system consists of a network of pipelines approximately 53 miles long, ranging from 3/4 to 14-inches in diameter. The City supplies up to 3.0 million gallons of water per day via six ground water wells and six booster pump stations to three pressure planes. A total storage capacity of 1.8 million gallons is provided via four ground storage tanks, two elevated storage tanks, and one standpipe to serve the system with a total production capacity of 3.04 million gallons per day (MGD). A map of the City's water distribution system is shown on Map 9.

Existing Wastewater and Disposal System

The City of La Grange operates a municipal wastewater collection and treatment system that serves approximately 2,500 customers within the city limits and wastewater CCN. Wastewater is conveyed through gravity sewer lines and lift stations to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).

The wastewater collection system consists of pipelines, manholes, and lift stations that convey flows to the WWTP. The City's existing wastewater system consists of 44 miles of pipeline ranging from 4 to 18-inches in diameter and 12 lift stations. A map of the City's wastewater collection system is shown on Map 10.

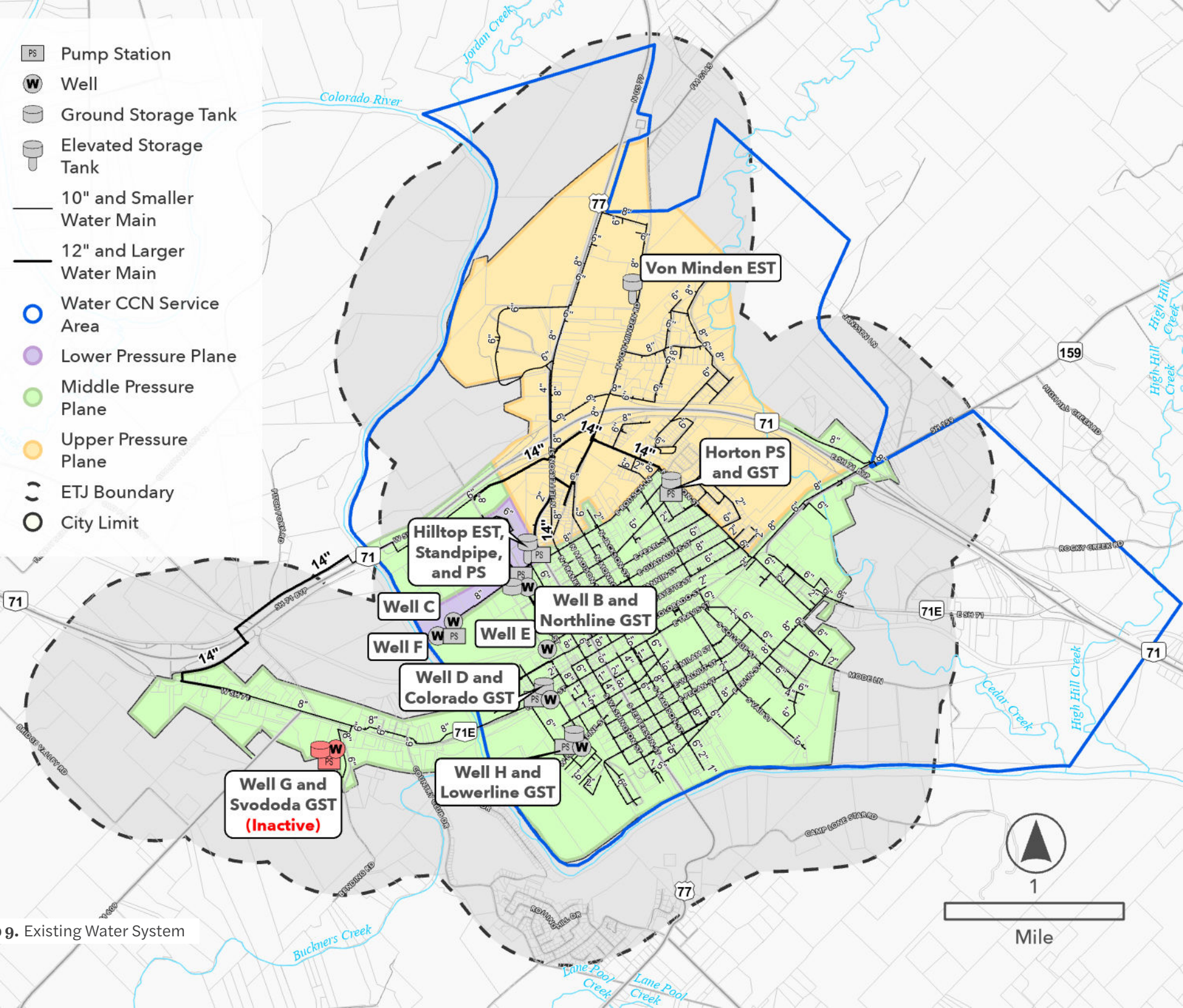
The City's WWTP is permitted through the Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) under Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) authority with a rated capacity of 900,000 gallons per day. The permit authorizes the City to treat and discharge final effluent to the designated receiving stream in accordance with state water quality standards. The treatment plant includes headworks, primary and secondary treatment processes and effluent disinfection facilities before discharge. Sludge generated through the process is managed in compliance with TCEQ requirements.

Water and Wastewater System Improvements

The major improvements in the distribution system consist of increased water supply, new water lines, and replacing aging infrastructure. A water supply study is recommended to identify how to expand the City's water supply to meet projected growth. New and upsized water lines are needed to extend service to new customers and support additional growth within the City. System looping and closing dead-end mains can provide both enhanced capacity and improved water quality for a limited investment. A rehabilitation and replacement program is recommended to identify and replace aging pipelines throughout the distribution system with a focus on cast-iron pipes.

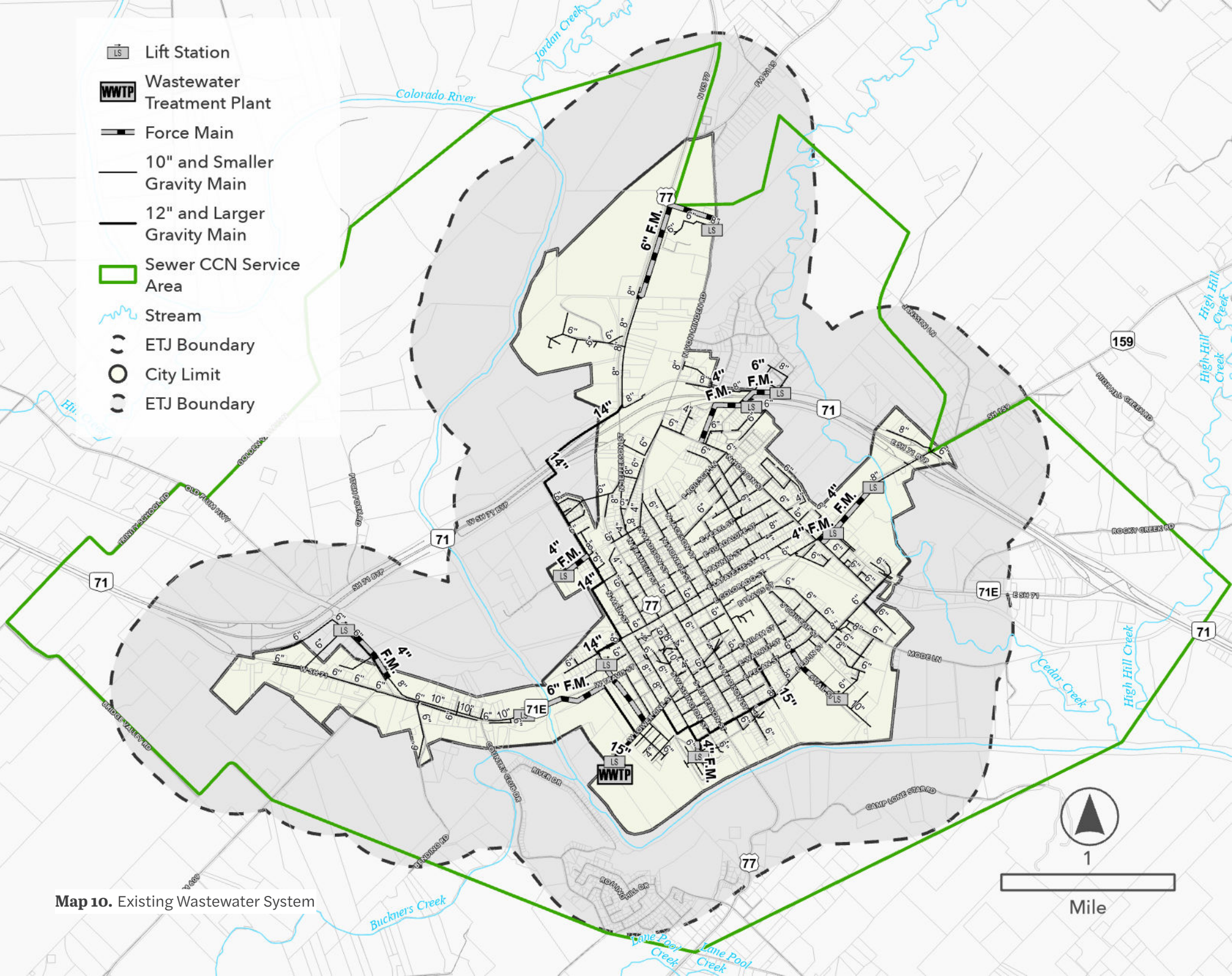
The wastewater collection system is also anticipated to need increased capacity to meet future demands in the City. Development of an inspection and maintenance program is recommended to prioritize areas for rehabilitation and replacement. It is recommended to focus on the downtown area as a priority for the inspection, rehabilitation, and expansion of collection lines, with a focus on vitrified clay pipes. Replacement of aging and "leaky" pipelines can also lead to a reduction in inflow and infiltration, lowering peak flows and In doing so, they should explore approaches to line replacement that could support lift station consolidation, freeing up system capacity for new development.

-  Pump Station
-  Well
-  Ground Storage Tank
-  Elevated Storage Tank
-  10" and Smaller Water Main
-  12" and Larger Water Main
-  Water CCN Service Area
-  Lower Pressure Plane
-  Middle Pressure Plane
-  Upper Pressure Plane
-  ETJ Boundary
-  City Limit

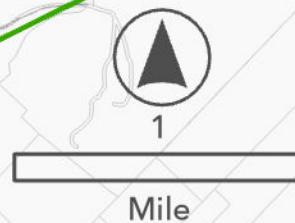


Map 9. Existing Water System

-  Lift Station
-  Wastewater Treatment Plant
-  Force Main
-  10" and Smaller Gravity Main
-  12" and Larger Gravity Main
-  Sewer CCN Service Area
-  Stream
-  ETJ Boundary
-  City Limit
-  ETJ Boundary



Map 10. Existing Wastewater System



Water Utility Challenges

Providing all La Grange residents reliable and equitable water, drainage, and sewer systems is the primary goal for the City of La Grange Utility Department. The City of La Grange does not currently have a water shortage issue. However, as hazard areas and natural disasters become more common, communities surrounding Fayette County are increasingly facing water stress, which raises sustainability concerns for the City. The expanded customer base La Grange is projected to reach by 2060 brings challenges in maintaining equitable and reliable utility service. System capacity will need to be increased to meet increase demands while also combating system age and maintaining reliability. The implementation of programs such as low-flow fixtures and rainwater harvesting systems could help the city overcome these challenges while maintaining quality service.



Hazard Areas

La Grange has historically faced impacts related to natural disasters like floods and wildfires. The Colorado River contributes to the community as a water and recreational resource but also brings hazards and risk. Given the proximity of the Colorado River to the City, a significant number of homes and businesses are located within the 100-year and 500-year floodplains. This proximity creates community vulnerability, which was evident in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, a category four hurricane that made landfall along Texas's Gulf Coast in late August and early September 2017. This resulted in approximately 300 homes and businesses being inundated by floodwater. The hazard of wildfires was also evident during the Bastrop County Complex Fire in 2011, the costliest wildfire event in Texas history. This wildfire brought severe damage to Bastrop County, directly adjacent to Fayette County. As natural hazards are increasingly becoming a regular phenomenon, the need arises to strategically develop ways to mitigate this risk. Establishing appropriate system redundancy and looping can help mitigate the loss of any one facility and maximize system operations during emergency conditions. Additionally, monitoring and hardening facilities located in the floodplain by raising the electrical and control components above the flood level can help to minimize flood risk and strengthen system reliability. Utilities located within the City's floodplain include:

- Lower Line GST
- Well C
- Well D
- Well E
- Well F
- Well H
- Colorado GST
- D1 Lift Station
- B32 Lift Station
- G13 Lift Station
- I2 Lift Station

Utility Service Best Practices

The City of La Grange has demonstrated a history of providing long-term reliable water supply and high-quality wastewater conveyance by proactive system management and operation. The implementation of best practices for the continuation of this long-range planning effort will provide peace of mind for the residents of La Grange for years to come. The following recommendations illustrate that commitment.



Continue to invest in system maintenance and renewal.

The existing water distribution and wastewater collection systems have been well maintained, but portions of the systems are nearly 100-years old and at the end of their initial design life. As the system continues to age, emphasis will shift from system expansion and capacity to condition and rehabilitation.

- Implement an asset management program to incorporate reoccurring maintenance and capital projects into a comprehensive plan. Renewal projects should be prioritized and phased into the annual utility budget to maintain infrastructure conditions and distribute capital costs.
- Establish and build an on-going pipeline repair and replacement plan as part of operation and maintenance of the water and wastewater systems. Pipeline repairs should be timed alongside the street pavement repair program, for time and budget efficiency.
- Establish and build an on-going facility repair and replacement plan as part of operation and maintenance of the water and wastewater system.

Develop and maintain a comprehensive water plan that prioritizes infrastructure needs and identifies potential funding sources.

A simple list of infrastructure needs is not a plan. Once the needs have been identified, they must also be prioritized so that appropriate funding and construction strategies can be developed.

- Develop a Comprehensive Water Master Plan to identify areas in La Grange with aging facilities. The Water Master Plan should be updated every 5 to 10 years, to ensure that the recommendations are up to date and relevant as the City continues to grow and infrastructure continues to age.
- Perform detailed water system capacity reviews for proposed developments. Development reviews should be carried out to determine the existing system's ability to serve large development areas and identify any additional improvements that may be required. Funding for further development-driven improvements should be shared with the developer.
- Emphasis should be placed on risk reduction through redundancy for critical facilities so that the system can continue to operate at a high level of service during emergency conditions. This includes additional water supply, excess system capacity, backup power for critical facilities, and potentially emergency interconnects with neighboring utility providers.

Develop a long-range water supply plan.

Water is one of the most precious resources in Texas particularly in light of growing demands from high water use industries. To make the best use of this limited resource in the years ahead, careful and comprehensive planning must occur today, including planning for increases in population and water consumption and for natural occurrences that can create unexpected demands on normal water supplies.

- Investigate potential new sources of water supply and incorporate into the annual capital plan. The best time to acquire additional water supply is before the supply is needed. Additional and/or deeper ground water wells can provide increased capacity and critical redundancy as well as potential water quality improvements.
- Include guidance from TWDB and TCEQ in the development of water source options. These agencies are available to partner with Texas municipalities regarding options for long-term supply. These options not only include how municipalities might develop water sources, but also how they might fund them.
- Develop and maintain a Long-Range Water Supply Plan. The Water Supply Plan should be updated at least every 10 years, to ensure that the recommendations are up to date and relevant as the City continues to grow and environmental conditions continue to change.

Develop and maintain a comprehensive wastewater management plan that prioritizes infrastructure needs and identifies potential funding sources.

A complete plan for wastewater management must address not only system needs, but also priorities so that funding can be sought and secured in a strategic and timely manner.

- Develop a Comprehensive Wastewater Master Plan to identify areas in La Grange with aging facilities. The Wastewater Master Plan should be updated every 5 to 10 years, to ensure that the recommendations are up to date and relevant as the City grows and infrastructure continues to age.
- Perform wastewater system capacity reviews for proposed developments. Development reviews should be carried out to determine the existing system's ability to serve large development areas and identify any additional improvements that may be required. Funding for further development-driven improvement should be shared with the developer.
- Emphasis should be placed on redundancy for critical facilities so that the system can continue to operate at a high level of service during emergency conditions.

Explore funding options to grow and improve the water distribution and wastewater collection systems.

Reliable water and wastewater infrastructure are important factors for growth. The City should evaluate system improvement costs and explore funding options such as utility rates, grants, impact fees and development agreements to support necessary upgrades.

- Conduct a utility rate study to project revenues under existing rates, develop revenue requirements, perform cash flow analyses, and determine cost of service allocations for the water and wastewater systems. A comprehensive utility rate study can determine how much it costs for the City to operate, maintain and expand the water and wastewater systems and adjust the City's current rate structure as needed to best meet system needs.
- Explore improvement project funding options, including grants, impact fees, or development agreements. The City has recently applied for grants through the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) and should continue to pursue grant options with TWDB where applicable. An impact fee study could be performed to estimate the funding generated by establishing the fees. The City can also utilize development reviews and development agreements to assist in funding projects as appropriate.

Encourage water conservation and enhance education efforts regarding water issues.

An overall program aimed at reducing water usage should include a variety of measures that could be applied appropriately in different situations. The public can be an important ally in the City's efforts to change water and sewer usage patterns. Nurturing citizen participation in conservation efforts can yield positive results, both in the short-term and over time. Landscape irrigation accounts for a large volume of water usage in most communities, particularly during the hottest months of the year when demand is already high. Encouraging and rewarding water-saving techniques will result in less demand on the water system and lower costs to consumers. Attractive demonstration projects, installed and publicized by the City, could increase awareness of the options available to both homeowners and commercial landscapers.

- Provide incentives for harvesting rainwater. Rainwater harvesting is being used in many communities as a component of an overall water conservation portfolio. Financial or other incentives might encourage some to join in this effort that otherwise would not have taken part.
- Implement a strong water conservation plan to include conservation measures and programs. Water that is conserved rather than consumed is the least expensive "source" in the portfolio of any municipal water system. Many communities in Central Texas have robust conservation programs

that yield substantial results. Development of a conservation plan would be an important investment in the future of the community.

- Establish a citizen advisory committee for water supply and conservation policy. Establishing a water conservation policy committee could be a key element of gaining consensus on a water conservation program. Without community consensus, such a program has a reduced likelihood of success.
- Educate the public on current water and sewer usage. A properly devised education program can yield significant results, as many people in the public do not have a keen understanding of where our water comes from, how it is treated, how it is distributed, and how it is disposed of. An element of the program should be directed to children in the community, including an emphasis on the importance of conservation for future generations.
- Establish a recognition program for commercial and individual "water wise" customers. Recognition and incentives are valuable tools in developing public awareness of worthwhile objectives. Even relatively small rewards can go a long way towards winning public support for conservation efforts.
- Establish minimum standards for water reuse for high water demand industries.



Stormwater System

La Grange is situated within a bend of the Colorado River, which makes the community susceptible to riverine flooding during periods of elevated river levels. In addition to this large scale riverine risk, the City also experiences localized flooding, largely due to limitations within the existing storm drain system, which can become overwhelmed during intense rainfall events. As a result, La Grange must manage both types of flooding hazards, those driven by the Colorado River as well as those caused by insufficient local drainage capacity.

Existing System Conditions

La Grange's drainage network consists of open ditches, storm sewers, culverts, and historic channels, with all runoff ultimately draining to the Colorado River. This creates a combined risk of both local flooding and riverine flooding during major storm events.

Much of the system is aging, and many storm sewer lines were originally designed for only a two year rainfall event, which is far below current engineering standards. Outdated pipe materials and limited inlet capacity contribute to blockages, reduced conveyance and recurring street flooding. Maintenance has historically been reactive rather than proactive, which has resulted in clogged culverts, sediment filled ditches and deteriorating infrastructure.

In the city center, stormwater is conveyed primarily through an underground pipe system designed to move runoff efficiently through developed areas. However, upstream of the downtown area, stormwater flows through a network of open channels before entering the buried pipe system. These open channels play an important role in conveying runoff, but they are inherently more vulnerable to performance issues than enclosed pipe systems.

Open channels are prone to debris accumulation, including tree limbs, trash, eroded sediment, and materials washed in during storms. They also experience vegetation growth along the channel bed and banks, which can obstruct flow if not routinely maintained.

Key Issues & Problem Areas

Localized Flooding & Capacity Constraints

Frequent street and yard flooding occurs where storm sewers are undersized or inlets are easily obstructed.

Neighborhood Drainage Limitations

Several neighborhoods experience persistent flooding related to inadequate ditch systems, off site runoff and insufficient culvert capacity.

Riverine Flood Exposure

Major Colorado River flood events, most notably Hurricane Harvey which inundated roughly 300 structures, highlight the community's vulnerability and the need for long term system resilience.

Maintenance Challenges

City maintenance is largely based on responding to complaints. Aging pipes, sediment accumulation and vegetation growth in channels reduce system performance over time and contribute to localized flooding.

Solutions for Existing Conditions

Major thoroughfares in La Grange—including North and South Jefferson Street and East and West Travis Street—cross over the Colorado River. The risks associated with driving during flooding can be reduced by using flood warning systems equipped with flashing alerts that activate when water levels rise. In addition, the City can reinforce public safety by promoting the Turn Around, Don't Drown campaign to educate and warn residents about the dangers of traveling through floodwaters.

Nature based solutions can be most effectively applied in the Colorado River floodplain, the upstream open channel drainage areas, and the downtown core, where La Grange experiences both riverine flooding and localized drainage issues. Practical approaches such as riparian and floodplain restoration, vegetated channel enhancements, and green infrastructure retrofits like rain gardens and permeable pavement are worth considering.

2018 Comprehensive Plan

The 2018 Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map indicates that most planned development is located outside the Effective FEMA 1 Percent Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone. However, La Grange High School and Middle School lie within the 0.2 Percent Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone, and the Elementary School is positioned along the floodplain fringe. Although these facilities are located outside the 1 Percent Annual Chance Flood Hazard Zone, and therefore are not required to carry flood insurance, the absence of insurance coverage increases their vulnerability, as they could still experience flood impacts due to their proximity to mapped hazard areas.

Additionally, the City's future land use map designates industrial development within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). To reduce long term exposure and enhance public safety, this area should instead be preserved as open space.

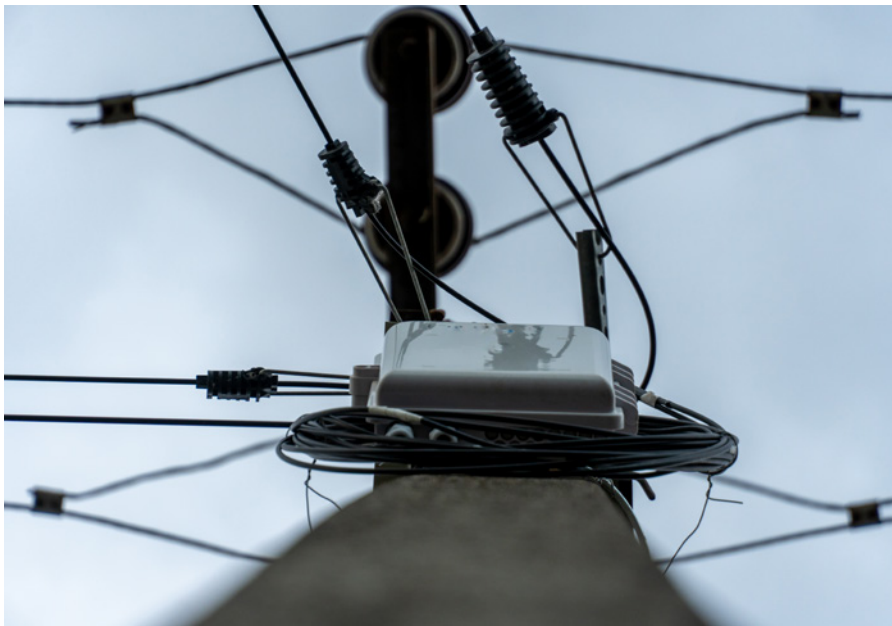
Implementation

The 2025 Stormwater Master Plan (SWMP) outlines several key regulatory and maintenance actions that, if implemented, would significantly improve stormwater conveyance and enhance public safety. These actions include adopting a formal drainage design manual, establishing freeboard requirements, and introducing specific regulations for critical facilities to ensure they are protected to a higher standard. The plan also recommends requiring compensatory cut for developments that displace flood storage. In addition, the SWMP identifies flood prone “hot spots” throughout the city and proposes prioritizing maintenance in these areas to reduce localized flooding and improve overall system performance.



Telecommunication Utilities

Telecommunications utilities in La Grange provide digital and internet access to the City of Lagrange. Broadband service is delivered primarily through private providers offering fiber, cable, copper, and licensed fixed wireless technologies. These systems provide residential internet access, and help facilitate commercial activity, public safety communications, and institutional operations. The physical network includes fiber backbone corridors, cable distribution lines, and associated utility infrastructure typically located within roadway rights-of-way and on shared utility poles. Fiber and cable networks form the primary wired broadband framework within the city, with connections extending from trunk lines into residential neighborhoods and commercial areas. The following section describes the existing telecommunications infrastructure and broadband coverage conditions within La Grange.



Broadband Coverage

Broadband Serviceable Locations (BSLs) were evaluated using Federal Communications Commission (FCC) performance thresholds. Under FCC definitions:

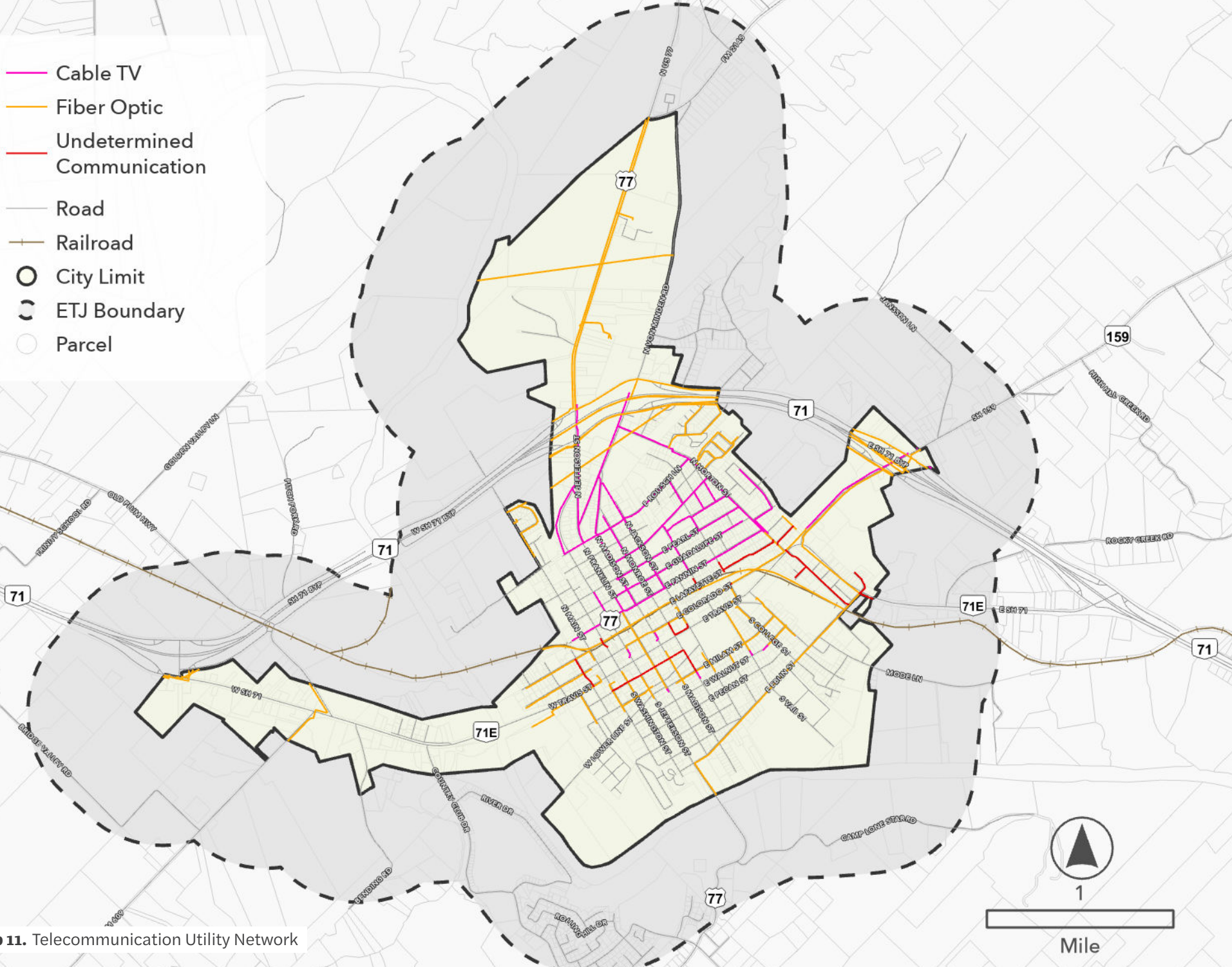
- Served – Locations with access to low-latency Fiber, Cable, Copper, or Licensed Terrestrial Fixed Wireless service offering speeds of at least 100/20 Mbps.
- Underserved – Locations with access to low-latency Fiber, Cable, Copper, or Licensed Terrestrial Fixed Wireless offering speeds below 100/20 Mbps but at or above 25/3 Mbps.
- Unserved – Locations with service that is not low-latency or offers speeds below 25/3 Mbps, as well as all Geostationary Satellite, Non-geostationary Satellite, Unlicensed Terrestrial Fixed Wireless, and other non-qualifying technologies.

Based on these definitions, the City of La Grange contains very few Underserved or Unserved BSLs. The vast majority of locations qualify as Served under the FCC threshold of 100/20 Mbps. This indicates that fixed broadband infrastructure is largely in place and capable of supporting modern residential and business uses. While localized gaps or performance differences may still occur, the overall broadband footprint does not suggest widespread coverage deficiencies. Future broadband efforts may therefore be better focused on network resilience and competition rather than basic access expansion.

Cable/Fiber Optic

The utility dataset shows approximately 58 miles of fiber optic lines, 12 miles of cable and television lines, and 2 miles of undetermined telecommunications lines within the City of Lagrange. Fiber accounts for the majority of mapped wired infrastructure within the study area. These figures reflect mapped utility corridors only and do not represent complete service coverage, customer connections, or all last-mile distribution lines. The data illustrate the extent of documented infrastructure and does not guarantee broadband availability at every location.

- Cable TV
- Fiber Optic
- Undetermined Communication
- Road
- Railroad
- City Limit
- ETJ Boundary
- Parcel



Map 11. Telecommunication Utility Network

Gas and Electric Utilities

In a comprehensive plan, understanding utility infrastructure is essential because land use decisions are only as feasible as the systems that support them. Electrical and natural gas networks influence where growth can occur, how resilient the community is to disruption, and what long-term capital investments may be needed. The location, ownership, and condition of these systems affect redevelopment potential, housing construction costs, emergency preparedness, and economic development

Natural Gas

Natural gas service in La Grange is primarily provided by DCP Midstream, now owned by Phillips 66. Service coverage is concentrated in the northern portion of the City and does not extend south of East Milam Street into the residential areas surrounding La Grange High School.

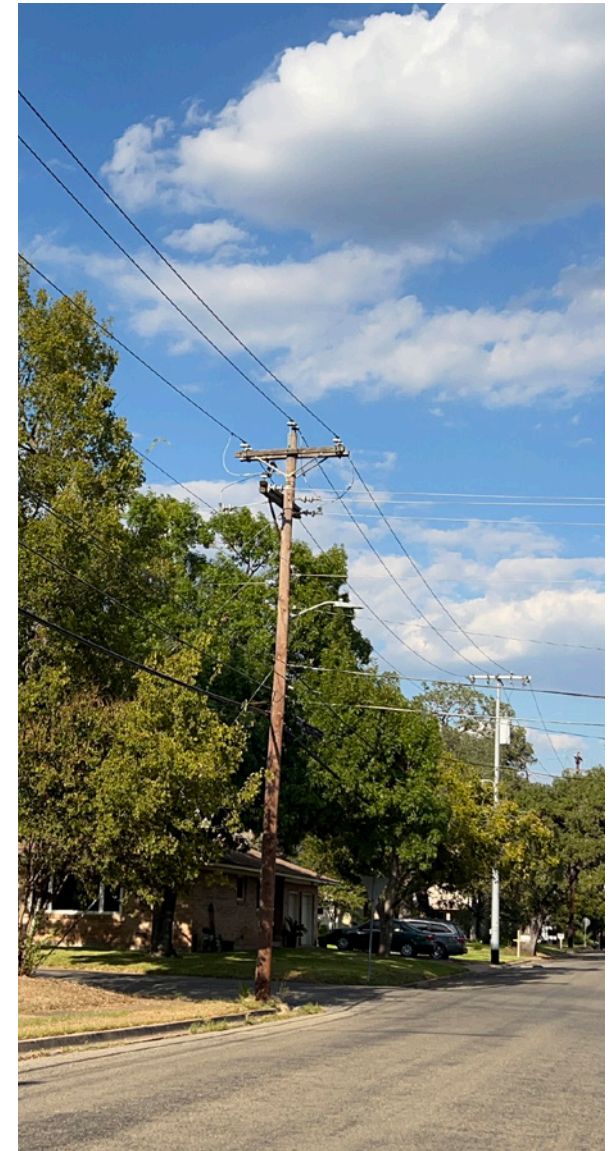
Differences in natural gas availability can influence housing development patterns, appliance choices, and overall energy diversity. Areas without gas service rely more heavily on electric systems or propane. Future growth or redevelopment in currently unserved areas would require coordination with the provider if service expansion is desired, as extending distribution mains involves additional infrastructure investment.

Electric

Electric service within La Grange is provided by both the City of La Grange and Fayette Electric Cooperative. When there is a mixed ownership structure for electric utilities coordination is typically required for system upgrades, maintenance planning, and future expansion.

Within the City limits, there are approximately 63 miles of power lines supported by 1,393 overhead utility poles. Only about 6 percent of the system is buried, meaning the large majority of electrical infrastructure remains overhead. There are significant resilience impacts when overhead utilities make up the vast majority of the network.. Overhead systems are more exposed to wind, ice, lightning, and falling limbs, which can lead to service interruptions during severe weather.

Because most of the system is overhead, any future undergrounding would likely need to be targeted to priority areas such as downtown corridors, critical facilities, or major routes rather than pursued citywide. Redevelopment projects create a practical opportunity to make these upgrades. When streets are rebuilt or utilities are already being relocated for drainage or sidewalk improvements, electrical lines can be moved underground at a lower cost. Coordinating undergrounding with corridor improvements or downtown revitalization efforts allows the City and utility providers to improve reliability and aesthetics without relying on costly standalone projects.





Map 13. Electrical Network



