



# CITY OF AURORA

May 4, 2021

TO: CITY MANAGER & CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: LANCE ELEY; WASTEWATER SUPERINTENDENT  
RE: LAND APPLICATION OF BIOSOLIDS

The City of Aurora Wastewater Treatment Facility is at a unique time and place to make a few changes that will open up some time for staff to focus on many different areas in the collection system and the treatment plant in order for the department to operate more efficiently and effectively. The focus of concern now is the land application of biosolids.

In many years' past, the City of Aurora has had the luxury and convenience of having a Wastewater Superintendent with enough property to land apply our biosolids on without the concern of searching elsewhere. Now, we're at the mercy of finding other property owners that want the biosolids as fertilizer and are willing to allow us to land apply, which seems to be a challenge. As you'll see in the explanation of cost and time packet I provided, I've been in contact with a local hauler to quote the cost for someone else to land apply our biosolids, in turn freeing up quite a bit of time for staff to be able to focus on numerous other tasks needing attention within our department.

I have taken the time to go through the 2020 budget for comparison along with the 2021 budget. There is plenty of space in the budget to allow for an outside hauler to land apply our biosolids without changing the budget at all. This would free up anywhere from a month to 2 months' time during the busy season for staff to focus on tasks in the collection system, I&I, and treatment facility updates and maintenance.

In summary, by allowing an outside hauler to handle the land application process, we will be able to operate more efficiently and effectively as a whole. Many other cities in our area are already using outside land appliers and it seems to benefit them in numerous ways. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me with any concerns.

Sincerely,

Lance Eley, WWTF Supt.

