The Macomb County Public Works Office has two goals:
to improve the quality of life for our residents; and to serve as a critical component of
economic development in our community. The MCPWO administers 475 county drains that
prevent flooding in our communities. Some of these drains are open streams or creeks, while
others are massive underground structures that carry storm water away from neighborhoods
and businesses. Given our responsibility for these waterways, we are actively engaged in
numerous initiatives to enhance the overall water quality in our lakes and rivers, most notably
the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair. In addition, we operate 48 miles of sanitary sewer lines
which transport waste from 800,000 citizens to the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA)
Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) where it is treated before being released to the
Detroit River.

In 2019, Commissioner Miller announced a major initiative to significantly reduce the
number of combined sewer overflows (CSO) in Macomb County. This plan will double the
capacity of the Chapaton Retention Basin in St. Clair Shores, eliminating about 75% of annual
CSOs. Construction is to begin in mid 2020 with completion expected in 2022.