

PRESS RELEASE

May 29, 2018

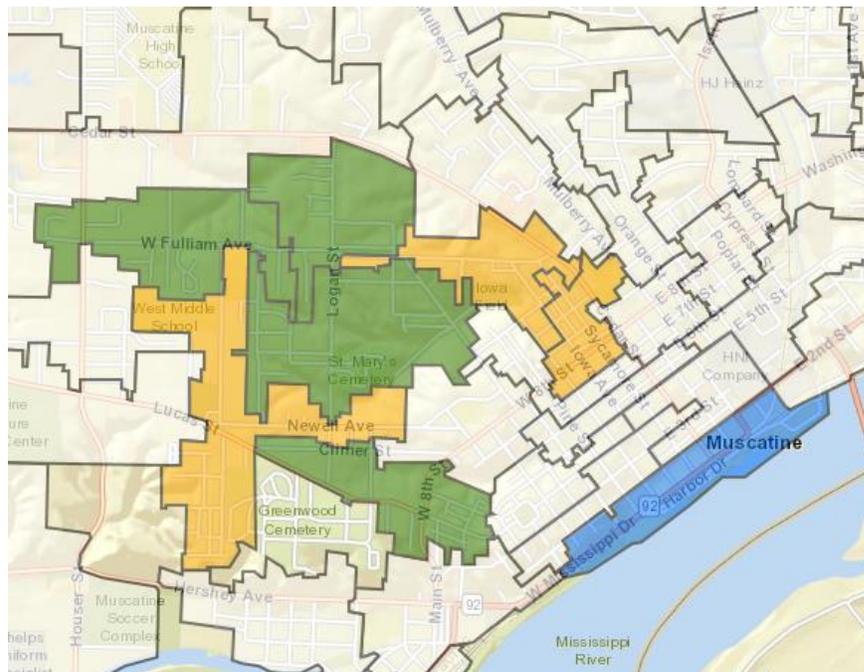
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1,000th Fiber Customer Installed

At the monthly Muscatine Board of Water, Electric and Communications Trustees meeting, General Manager Sal LoBianco advised the Trustees that a Fiber to the Home project milestone was reached May 15th when the 1,000th customer was converted from the legacy HFC system to the all fiber system. Customer conversions started in January 2018. As of the Board Meeting, 4 of 63 Service Areas have been fully converted and the Legacy system shut down (green); installations are occurring in 3 additional Service Areas (yellow); and construction work is active in Muscatine's Downtown Area (blue), customer notifications in those neighborhoods are expected to start in late June.



Fiber Map Source: <https://www.mpw.org/communications/>

LoBianco advised the Board of bills passed into law during the recent State Legislative session. HF 2379 helps municipal utilities with their own pension plan, like MP&W, improve recruitment of qualified candidates with public sector or municipal utility experience. It allows employees with previous Iowa Public Employee's Retirement System (IPERS) retirement system service the opportunity to maintain that retirement benefit if working for a municipal utility with its own pension plan. MP&W maintains its existing pension plan for employees with no previous IPERS service.

SF 2311 enacted updates to many state laws concerning utilities. For community-owned, municipal utilities like MP&W, SF 2311 ensures control and decision making for community services, rates and programs stays local. The bill, in part, removes reporting obligations to the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) regarding energy efficiency programs. It also affirms local control for energy rate setting. Municipal utilities have been setting rates locally and in the benefit of their communities for decades.

MP&W thanks Hon. Representative Gary Carlson and Hon. Senator Mark Lofgren for their leadership on these bills.

In other news, the Board:

- Awarded the contract for the Unit 9 Turbine Roof Replacement Project to Advance Builders Corp, of Cedar Rapids, IA, for a total of \$159,900. The project will restore approximately 12,000 square feet of the existing roof structure and five roof drains at MP&W's Generation Plant.

Muscatine Power and Water (MP&W) is a customer-driven, not-for-profit municipal utility, established by the community for the purpose of serving the community responsively, competitively, and responsibly. MP&W provides reliable electricity, high quality water, and state-of-the-art communications services, including broadband and video services, to homes and businesses throughout the Muscatine community at rates below state and national averages with outstanding customer service. MP&W is locally controlled and operated for the benefit and betterment of the community.