



City of Mascotte

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Raising the Water Tower

With the City of Mascotte growing and doing so at higher elevations, good and consistent water pressure throughout the City was becoming a concern. A new tower, built in 1999 was not high enough to adequately address water pressure throughout the City. While water pressure in Mascotte was never below the DEP required minimum, some homes were just above the minimum (30 psi) while other homes had an adequate water pressure (average psi in Mascotte was 49). City Officials began to look at how the water pressure could be improved so that it was a consistent good pressure no matter where you lived in the City, not too high and not too low.

Insuring an optimum quality of life, while saving tax dollars has become the highest priority to the Mascotte leaders. During the planning and design of the future new water system it was determined that the pressure matter could be fixed with pumps added to the new system, but those fixes were a few years away and the problem was now. If the new water tower were higher, there would not be a problem. But, you can't raise a water tower to make it 50 feet taller! Or can you?

Research found that a company out of Kentucky, Pittsburg Tank raises water towers, had a sound history of raising much larger towers than Mascotte's and guaranteed (and bonded) that they could do it within a week to ten days timeframe. Cost estimates were just below \$300,000 (to be paid from sewer impact funds generated by new growth and not paid for out of property tax dollars). This cost was half the cost of pumps added to the new system. Boldly (although with great concern for such a project) the leaders of Mascotte grasped this process and saw their 125 foot tall water tower raised 50 feet to a new 175 foot height; a height that insures current and future city-wide homes and businesses, water pressure at a strong average psi of 70. This makes a big difference in fire hydrant flows and for quality of life for the residents (washers fill faster, irrigation systems work better, garden hoses to wash cars, homes, etc have better pressure, showers have a good steady pressure and bathrooms upstairs work the same as they do downstairs.)

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) must issue a notice for the City to bring the water tank back on line. Once that is done, City residents should see better water pressure, hopefully by the end of July. (Final water tests and engineered documentation have been delivered to DEP for their review and release.)



