

# Tempe Wastewater BioIntel Program

**Changing the trajectory of public health at a local level with science, equity and trust.**

To advance public health and to serve as a national model, the City of Tempe utilizes sewage data derived from wastewater-based analysis to inform city decisions, strategic policy, and operational processes. The Tempe Wastewater BioIntel Program Interdisciplinary team is comprised of Tempe Community Health & Human Services, Tempe Fire Medical Rescue, IT: Enterprise GIS & Data Analytics, Municipal Utilities, Strategic Management & Innovation Office, Tempe Coalition, Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), Maricopa County of Public Health, ASU Biodesign Institute, National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), the Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen), and Town of Guadalupe.

On Tuesday, March 7, 2023, Tempe hosted a wastewater utility engagement workshop planned by the Water Environment Federation (WEF) in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Workshop attendees came from across the United States and were welcomed by Councilmember Joel Navarro. The purpose of the workshop was to gather wastewater utilities and health department representatives to collaborate and identify solutions for successful, long-term engagement of utilities in wastewater programs.

Tempe was honored at the invitation to highlight our program which has been at the forefront of this innovative work since 2018. As a member of Tempe's interdisciplinary team, Drew Rostain, Environmental Support Services Supervisor, presented Tempe's Wastewater BioIntel Program evolution, the wastewater sampling process, breakdown of collection sites, data collection and analysis, and future of the program.

Municipal Utilities' Mark Weber, Principal Civil Engineer, and Bryan Cassens, Plant Operations Manager, hosted the workshop attendees for a tour of the Kyrene Reclamation Plant.



The City of Tempe continues to be at the forefront of wastewater-based epidemiology, partnering with national, state and local agencies to be an emerging and innovative leader in promoting healthy communities at the local level.

Please visit the Tempe Wastewater BioIntel Program website at: <https://www.tempe.gov/government/strategic-management-and-innovation/strategic-initiatives-and-innovation/tempe-wastewater-biointel-program>

For more information, contact the Strategic Management and Innovation Office at [strategic\\_management\\_innovation@tempe.gov](mailto:strategic_management_innovation@tempe.gov) or Kimberly Sotelo at (480) 350-2913