

Project Headquarters

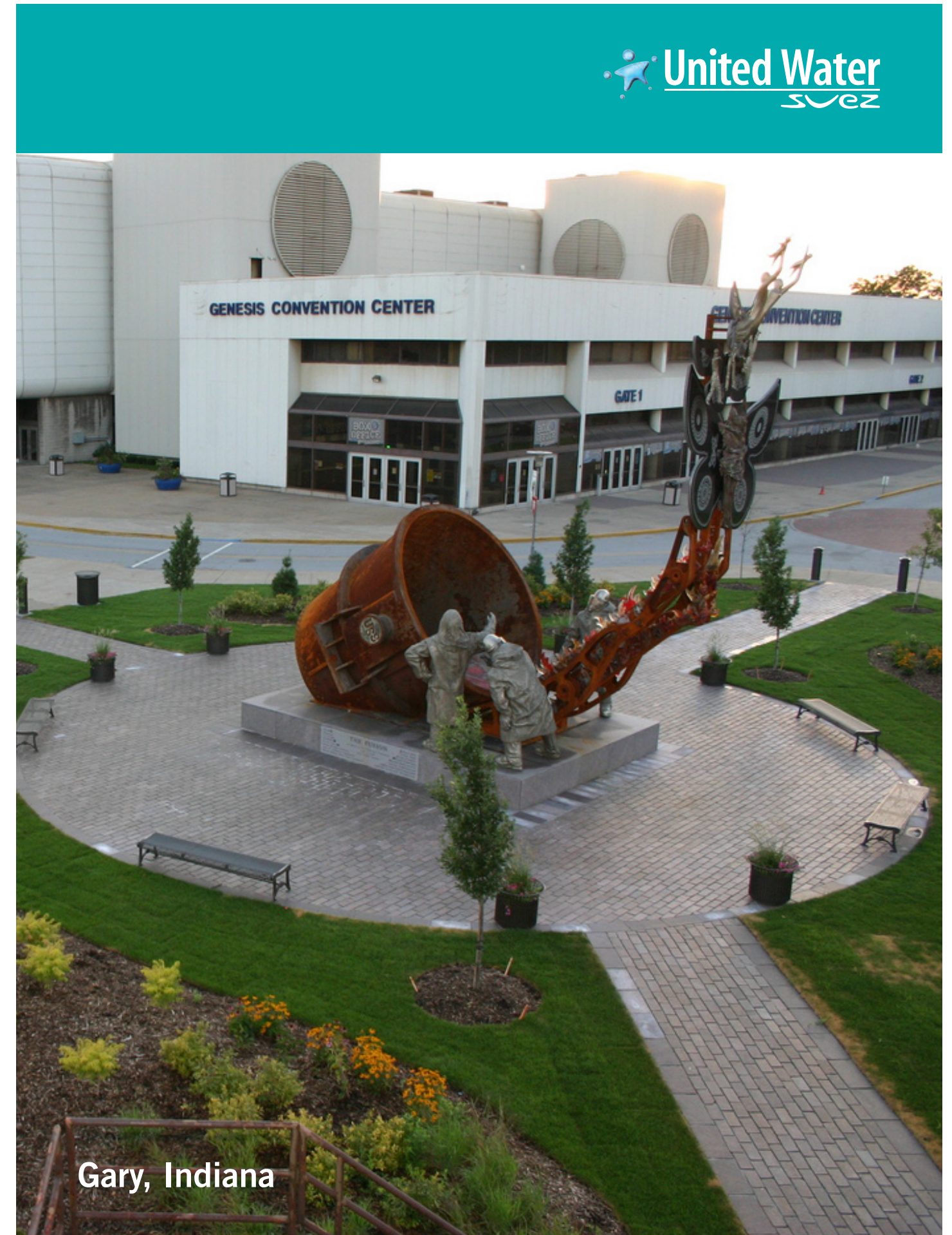
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Gary, Indiana



Gary is an industrial city built around a booming steel industry. As times changed, community leaders recognized that the city required a solid infrastructure to write the next chapter in its history. In 1998 the Gary Sanitary District awarded a contract to United Water to operate and maintain the 60 million gallons per day (mgd) wastewater treatment plant and collection system. The District, which serves Gary and surrounding communities, had been operating under a complex consent decree issued by the United States Environmental Protection Agency since 1978. When United Water came on board, the decree contained dozens of items which required remediation.

United Water entered into the 10 year contract and guaranteed that it would achieve compliance with all regulatory requirements. The Gary Sanitary District is the nation's third largest municipal wastewater project operating under private management. Since United Water became the operator, all the decree items have been satisfied with the exception of one (which is outside of the scope of the contract). The company's expertise, combined with the District's investments, have created lasting benefits for the Gary area.

For the community, this means that Grand Calumet River, which discharges into Lake Michigan, is substantially cleaner and safer for wildlife and recreational activities. For the District, this means that the EPA recognizes the improvements and has assigned compliance oversight back to the Indiana Department of Environmental Management.

There were "100 reasons to come home" to Gary when the community celebrated its centennial in July 2006. One of those reasons is significantly better environmental compliance since Gary entered into a public-private partnership with United Water in 1998.

United Water has also had a positive financial impact. The company's cost-effective management has helped the District to maintain stable rates for its customers since 1999.



In addition to making significant technical and environmental improvements that provide the foundation for economic growth, United Water has made a commitment to the community on several other levels. The company has an active Adopt-A-School program with Lew Wallace High School and is involved with numerous community organizations. United Water has also met and exceeded its contractual commitment to utilize Minority and Women Owned Businesses.

United Water looks forward to continuous improvement as Gary moves forward with its plans for the next century.



Fast Facts

CLIENT

Gary Sanitary District

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Operation, maintenance and management of 60 mgd Class IV activated sludge wastewater treatment plant. Responsibilities include 360-mile sewer collection system with 25 miles of storm sewers and five miles of separate sanitary sewers; 36 pumping stations, including 20 sanitary remote pumping stations and 16 storm water pumping stations; 12 combined sewer overflows (CSOs).

POPULATION SERVED

180,000

AWARDS

U.S. Conference of Mayors Outstanding Achievement Award; Indiana Water Environmental Association Safety Awards; Indiana Water Environmental Association Laboratory Awards.