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Project Information Line
877.329.5858
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dwsd.org

DWSD Sewer Repairs To Begin

In early spring 2007, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) will begin repairs on the sanitary interceptor sewer located under Garfield Road and 15 Mile Road. This sewer services customers located in Chesterfield, Clinton, Macomb and Harrison Townships, as well as Fraser and Sterling Heights, transporting waste water to the Detroit Wastewater Treatment Plant, located in Detroit, Michigan. DWSD has contacted and held meetings with the townships and cities to coordinate this critical, multi-phase project. The construction will involve the area along Garfield Road between Moravian Road and 15 Mile Road, and along 15 Mile Road from Garfield Road to just west of Moravian Road. The required repairs will at times necessitate intermittent rolling road closures.

As part of a maintenance program, DWSD recently performed an inspection of the sewer to verify the condition of the sewer and identify areas requiring routine repairs to extend the life of the sewer. The investigation included closed circuit television inspection, manned entry inspections, and soil investigations to properly assess the condition of the sewer and surrounding soils. Results of the investigation revealed that five primary areas as well as other minor areas required repairs. The primary repair areas are located near the intersection of 15 Mile Road and Garfield Road and also on 15 Mile Road, just west of Moravian Road. Minor repairs are located throughout the work area indicated above.

Property Owner Questions To Be Addressed

Though the benefits of routine maintenance are clear, DWSD recognizes that a repair project of this magnitude will temporarily impact some residential and commercial properties. The department's intent is to minimize these inconveniences as much as possible while moving the repairs to completion as soon as possible.

DWSD plans to schedule an informational meeting in February to provide added project details about plans for noise and dust control, traffic controls, site safety measures, and timeline information. The meeting will be conducted in an open house format in order to allow for individual discussions with property owners and community members. Those unable to attend the meeting can refer to DWSD's Web site (dwsd.org) for project details and updates, or may call the Project Information Line at 877.329.5858. DWSD will also provide written updates as appropriate throughout the repair period to keep all property and community members fully informed of progress.

Property Access and Restoration

Most of the repairs will be performed from inside the sewer pipe with minimal impact at the ground surface. However, in order to get the necessary work crews and supplies inside the sewer, access shafts will need to be constructed along Garfield Road and 15 Mile Road. In addition, staging areas for manpower and repair materials will be required. In order to accomplish this, single lane closures will be required at the access sites. Owners along the repair route will be provided with access to their property at all times. In an effort to maintain service to the customers along the entire sewer system, the majority of this project will be performed during nighttime hours to take advantage of low flow conditions in the sewer.

The majority of the access structures are located within the landscaped area outside of the roadway. While the department will take care to preserve as much of the landscaping as possible, areas at the structures will be impacted. Under the contract, DWSD and its contractors are responsible to restore any impacted area to its original condition and will work with property owners as restoration begins. Weather conditions will dictate the scheduling of most of the restoration work.

Project Schedule

Due to the nature of the work inside the sewer system, the proposed repairs will be performed mostly during nighttime hours, 7 days per week. The scheduled repairs are anticipated to take 14 months to complete. However, weather will be a factor due to flow conditions inside the sewer. Therefore, the total project duration is an estimate at this time.

Construction Route

