

On The Water Front

News and Information About Your Water and Sewer Utilities

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From The Commissioner

This issue of *On The Water Front* features articles on two recent projects. First is the installation of a new water main in Mill Street. The second is the rehabilitation of an old sanitary sewer in Cambridge Street. Both projects highlight DPW&P's continuing investment in the City's water and wastewater infrastructure.

The City has its share of water main breaks and sewer collapses. Without our rehabilitation program these would be even more common and more disruptive. The immensity of our water and sewer systems coupled with many decades of replacing and renovating old pipes helps limit the impacts of water and sewer main breaks as both systems have built-in redundancy so that most failures are very localized.

Of course, all of these improvement projects are costly and paid for by water and sewer ratepayers. The days of federal and state financial assistance are long past so it is up to the community, that is local government, residents, businesses and institutions, to insure that our critical infrastructure remains functional. Thank you for helping DPW&P continue on this path forward. It is of utmost importance to the quality of life in Worcester.



Paul J. Moosey., P. E.

Commissioner of Public Works & Parks

Mill Street Water Main Construction

Scope of Work:

Water Operations is nearing completion of a project on Mill Street to replace 7,500 feet of 8-inch diameter cast iron water main, installed in 1940, with new 12-inch diameter cement lined ductile iron pipe. Included will be a rehabilitated connection to the 48-inch diameter transmission main in Chandler Street. Additionally, 580' of old 2-inch and 4-inch lines on the west side of Mill St will be relayed with 6-inch cement lined ductile iron pipe. The total cost of this project will be \$1.4 Million. While the majority of the work was completed in the fall, some of the smaller main work in the west side of Mill Street will be completed in the spring of 2016.

Reason for Work:

With the assistance of our consultant, Tata & Howard of Marlborough, DPW&P Water Engineering has been using a hydraulic model of our distribution system to do advance planning. This model had shown a weakness in our distribution grid in our low pressure system, specifically in getting water through the Mill Street section of Worcester. By increasing the size of this main and making a new connection to our main supply line in Chandler Street, we will increase reliability and fire flow along the length of Mill Street and reinforce the Main-South section of the Low Service distribution system. This new pipe will also alleviate rust problems that have occurred along Mill Street in the past.

In Memoriam

Cynthia Blomstrom

February 22, 1955—November 10, 2015

DPW&P has sadly lost a great woman, **Cindy Blomstrom**, whose dedication to the Department was evident in her 39 years of service.

She took pride in every phone call she answered and every customer she assisted. She struggled every single day to come to work, overcoming numerous ailments and life issues. She had the strongest commitment to work and DPW&P-Water Billing that we have ever witnessed.

She was one of a kind. A person who would give you her last nickel if you needed it. A true friend.



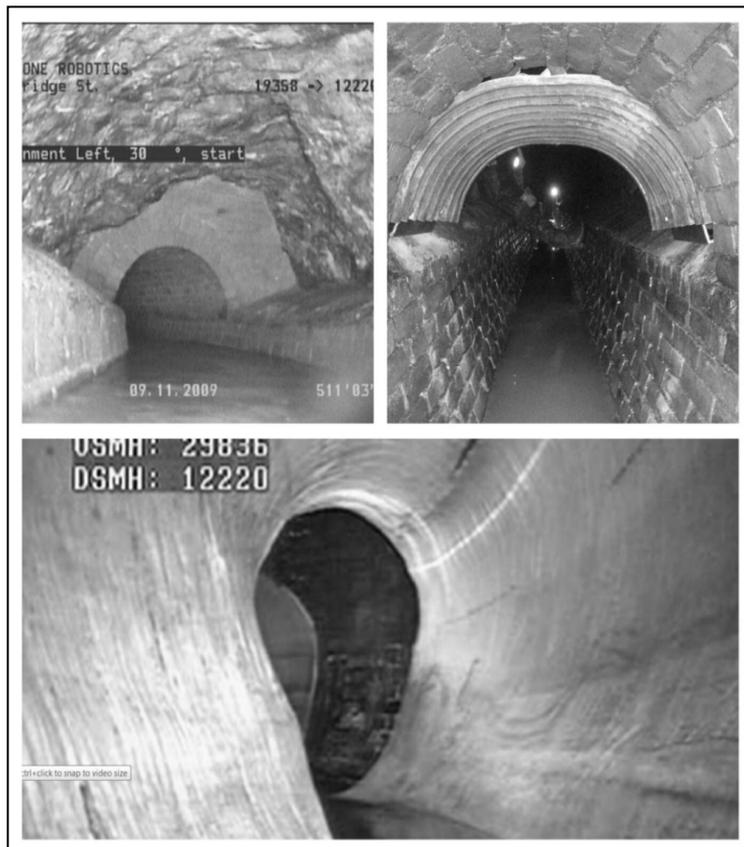
Cambridge Street Area Sewer Improvements Project

Sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) and Inflow & Infiltration (I/I) affect all communities with sewer collection systems and can potentially damage property, pose health risks, and harm the environment. SSOs sometimes occur in several areas of the City. The Worcester Department of Public Works and Parks (DPW&P) has been working diligently to track down the causes of these overflows under the its Sewer System Overflow (SSO) and Inflow & Infiltration (I/I) Programs.

The DPW&P continued its long-standing program of upgrading the City's sewer system, parts of which are over 120 years old. Renovating the sewer system improves aging sewer infrastructure, eliminates structural defects, and reduces groundwater infiltration. As a part of this ongoing effort, repairs were made to the sanitary sewers in the Cambridge Street area. This project intends to extend the life of this critical sewer interceptor by improving its structural integrity and restoring sewer capacity. These repairs will greatly reduce the likelihood of future SSOs in this area.

The City's Cambridge Street Area Sewer Improvements project included installation of cured-in-place pipe and lining manholes in the following areas:

- Cambridge Street from Nixon Ave to Saugus Place
- Saugus Place from Cambridge Street and cross country to Fremont Street
- Fremont Street from the Saugus Place Easement to the intersection with Cambridge and Canterbury Streets
- Cambridge Street from the intersection with Canterbury and Fremont Streets to the railroad bridge near the South Worcester playground
- Crystal and South Crystal Streets from the intersection with Illinois Street under the railroad easement to the intersection with Cambridge Street



A portion of the existing 4-foot by 6-foot egg-shaped sewer was built in bedrock to depths 30 feet below the ground. A rock tunnel was constructed and the bottom of the sewer was built using bricks. In order to rehabilitate the rock tunnel/brick sanitary sewer on Cambridge Street, Saugus Place and Fremont Street using a cured-in-place pipe, the contractor installed corrugated metal along the brick ledge to create a form for the liner within the rock tunnel section of the pipe. The liner was then installed to form a new pipe within the existing pipe.

(Picture at left shows rock tunnel, before, during, and after lining)

If you have questions, comments or suggestions related to the content of **On The Water Front**, please call 508-929-1300 or write to: DPW&P Water Operations, 18 East Worcester Street, Worcester, MA 01604 ATTN: On The Water Front