



GENESEE COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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What: Genesee County Drain Commissioner's office to build 42" parallel pipe

Additional Info:

Genesee County Drain Commissioner's office announces it will ask for bids to construct a 42" pipeline, which will run parallel to the existing 72", which is owned by the County, but services the City of Flint. Genesee County Water and Waste Services Advisory Board has approved a tentative bid date for April 14th. This 7-mile line will run primarily down Potter road, between Henderson and Genesee, and will take the place of the 72" as a connection point between Genesee County's Water Plant and the local communities served by GCDC.

We anticipate construction will begin in May, and hope to conclude work in September.

The need for Genesee County to construct this pipeline stems directly from actions taken by the State of Michigan and City of Flint, which led to the Flint Water Crisis. Those actions created a situation where Flint is required by EPA order to continue utilizing a 72" pipeline, which Genesee County owns, to deliver water from the Great Lakes Water Authority (formerly DWSD/Detroit), to residents in Flint. Genesee County had planned to utilize this pipeline to deliver treated water from our treatment plant which is currently under construction.

Not building a second pipeline would force Genesee County residents to remain on the GLWA system (formerly DWSD).

The resulting costs of a protracted delay in activating the KWA pipeline would be dire for Genesee County. Residents could be forced to absorb over \$60 million in water payments to GLWA, while at the same time making the planned bond payments for the KWA pipeline.

Beyond saving our community \$60 million, this parallel pipeline will allow Genesee County to move to a much more reliable system (KWA), on schedule. KWA was completed on time, and under budget. A delayed transition to the more reliable and cost effective KWA pipeline, because of the mistakes of others, cannot and will not be tolerated.