



**DEPARTMENT OF WATER MANAGEMENT  
CITY OF CHICAGO**

May 14, 2015

**RE: Water and Sewer Main Replacement Projects (#1501281 and #6921)**

Dear Neighbor,

In coordination with Mayor Rahm Emanuel's "Building a New Chicago" infrastructure investment program, and at Alderman Ameya Pawar's request, I would like to provide you with information about upcoming water and sewer construction projects in your neighborhood.

By the end of May, Department of Water Management (DWM) crews will begin to install new water main in Cullom Avenue, from Ravenswood Avenue to Hermitage Avenue, and in the alley west of Hermitage, from Montrose Avenue to Berteau Avenue. The old water mains date back to 1899, and needs to be replaced.

After completion of the water main project, we will install a new sewer in Paulina Street, from Montrose to Cullom, and in Cullom, from Paulina to Ravenswood. The old sewer dates back to 1889, and also needs to be replaced.

During the water pipe construction, there will be no access to garages in the alley west of Hermitage, from Montrose to Berteau. When we have specific dates for construction, we will post notification signs. It is strongly advised to move any vehicles from garages before this posted time, or park on the street during the duration of the project.

When we are working in the street, we will close it to traffic for safety reasons. You will always be able to reach your home or business, even if it means putting a metal plate in place. Outside of working hours, a travel lane will be left open for local traffic only.

The sewer project will require the full closure and detour of Montrose at Paulina for about four days during construction. "Through traffic" will be detoured to Ashland, Lawrence and Damen. Only local traffic will be allowed between Damen and Hermitage during the closure.

We will post our work area for "No Parking" as needed, during work hours (7am-4pm). We are agreeable to parking outside of those hours, but will have to insist that cars be moved by the start of the next workday. We will try to preserve as much parking as we can.

We know that construction always involves inconveniences and noise. We will do everything possible to maintain your quality of life throughout these projects, and conducting ourselves as good and thoughtful neighbors in the course of our presence on your street.

Should you have any questions or concerns, you can either ask the construction foreman during the project, or call any of the following numbers:

- 24-Hour Service and Information Line: 311
- 47<sup>th</sup> Ward Office: 773-868-4747
- DWM Office of Public Affairs: 312-744-8822

When we switch over the services from the old main to the new main, we will interrupt water service. We give you 24-hour notice when this is to happen. However, in the event of an emergency shutdown during construction, we may not be able to give you prior warning.

After the old water main has been replaced and you have been connected to the new water main, please open all your water faucets and hose taps and flush your water for 3 to 5 minutes. Sediment can collect in the aerator screen located at the tip of your faucets. These screens should be removed prior to flushing.

This flushing will help maintain optimum water quality by removing sediment, rust, or any particulates that may have come loose from your property's water service line as a result of the water main replacement. If you have any questions or concerns about your water quality, please call us at 312-744-8190.

Lastly, if you don't already have one, I ask you to consider the installation of a water meter in your home to help you save money on your water bill. For more information on this free program, go to [www.metersave.org](http://www.metersave.org)

Thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation during these important infrastructure investment projects.

Sincerely,

Thomas Powers  
Commissioner