



# MONROE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY PROJECT INFORMATION BULLETIN 2020 CATHODIC PROTECTION PROGRAM



Eng. No. 19-046

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## **Background**

The Water Authority will be doing maintenance work on our water transmission main located near your property. This bulletin explains the upcoming work, and identifies whom to contact if you have any questions while the work is being done.

## **Project Details**

**Why is this Project needed?** The transmission main is made of steel and has to be protected from corrosion. The original pipeline installation included two protection methods which were designed to work together: a coating system which was applied during the manufacturing process and a cathodic protection system that was installed during pipeline installation. The cathodic protection system is designed to deteriorate over time. (Basically parts of the cathodic protection corrode instead of the transmission main.) The current cathodic protection system has reached the end of its useful life, and by replacing it, we greatly extend the life of the transmission main. The new system is designed to last 20-25 years.

**Where is the project located?** The steel water main receiving a replacement cathodic protection system begins at Echo Street in the town of Irondequoit and runs through Irondequoit into the town of Penfield near Plank Road both within the right-of-way and on Water Authority easement.

## **Work Details**

The new protection system installation generally consists of the following four phases:

1. Testing along the water main,
2. Installing cathodic protection anodes and test stations,
3. Testing of the new installations, and
4. Restoring disturbed areas.

**Initial testing** is done to confirm that the transmission main is electrically isolated from other underground facilities such as gas mains. If any problems are discovered, they are corrected.

The new cathodic protection system will be buried underground and out of sight. This system includes the **installation of anode bags** along the water main. Anode bags consist of a magnesium bar (anode) placed in a cloth sack surrounded by gypsum. Once the anode is connected to the water main, it will electrically sacrifice itself (corrode) to protect the steel main.

Anode bags will be installed within the easements and street rights-of-way parallel to the main. The anodes will be placed into holes and connected to each other with a buried wire. The buried wire will then be connected to the water main at test stations. Although there will be digging near the main, this project should create little inconvenience to residents and traffic.

**Testing** will be performed at the test stations to assure that the protection system is functioning properly.

The **restoration work** includes returning grass and paved areas to their preconstruction condition. Lawn and field areas will be graded and seeded. If any area fails to grow properly, the contractor will be required to correct the problem. The Authority's contractor will also complete all pavement restoration.

## **Schedule**

The duration of this work depends on a number of factors. However, our expectations are for the work to start in early October and be completed by December. Final lawn restoration will be completed by June of 2021.

## **Questions**

A MCWA inspector will be on-site throughout the project. All of our inspectors carry a photo ID card, wear MCWA uniforms, and drive a vehicle with a Water Authority logo on it. You can also contact our Customer Service representatives at 442-7200 weekdays from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., or our Dispatcher at 442-2009 weekdays before 8:30 a.m., after 4:30 p.m., and on weekends and holidays.