

CITY OF DETROIT

News Release

Water and Sewerage Department

Dave Bing, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DWSD LOSES KEY MANAGEMENT TEAM MEMBER

Assistant Director-Wastewater Operations Samuel A. Smalley was recognized for his outstanding service to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) at the December 18th meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners (BOWC). He was presented a plaque commemorating his many accomplishments, which include leading the Wastewater Treatment Plant into substantial compliance with Clean Water Act standards.

“The record is clear that Sam has played a key role in our efforts to comply with the requirements of our wastewater discharge permit, meeting national wastewater standards and liberation this year from the federal consent decree,” said Sue F. McCormick, DWSD Director. “His expertise in this and other matters vital to our recent successes represents a level of talent that will be difficult to replace.”

DWSD’s improved compliance status directly led to a ruling on March 27 of this year by U.S. District Judge Sean Cox that ended 35 years of federal oversight of the department.

Smalley, an engineer, also initiated a new plan to upgrade the processing of biosolids at the Wastewater Treatment Plant from a traditional incineration process to a more cost-effective, “green” method of biosolid drying. In addition, Smalley improved the overall efficiency of the department’s Asset Maintenance function, which includes maintaining all DWSD facilities, infrastructure, and equipment. He leaves DWSD to accept a position in the private sector.

He joined DWSD in June of 2007. In 2008, he served as the Assistant Director of Asset Maintenance and was named the Assistant Director of Wastewater Operations in October 2010 where he was responsible for maintaining and upgrading the physical assets, including infrastructure, facilities, and equipment.

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Mr. Smalley is a registered professional engineer in California and Michigan, and has over 20 years of experience in engineering design, construction management, and utility management in the water and wastewater industry. He obtained a B.S. in Civil Engineering from San Diego State University, and holds both an F-1 Water Treatment Plant Operator license and an S-1 Water Distribution System Operator license.

DWSD supplies high-quality drinking water to Detroit and 127 other communities in southeast Michigan. The Department provides wastewater services to Detroit and 76 other southeast Michigan communities.

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Pictured in the attached photo are (from left to right): Deputy Director Darryl A. Latimer; Director Sue F. McCormick; Commissioner Fred Barnes; Commissioner Linda Forte; Samuel A. Smalley; Commissioner Mary E. Blackmon; Commissioner J. Bryan Williams; BOWC Chairman James Fausone; and Commissioner Bradley Kenoyer.