

DWSD MEDIA ADVISORY



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 19, 2014

DWSD to get help with water main breaks

The Detroit Board of Water Commissioners Operations, Regulatory, Compliance and Procurement (ORCAP) Committee today approved a new contract that will assist with the detection and repair of water main breaks.

The \$4.2 million contract, pending full board approval, has been awarded to Blaze Contracting, Inc.

“The extreme cold weather, record snowfall and accumulated ice impede our ability to excavate, locate and repair faulty pipes in a timely manner,” said DWSD Director Sue McCormick. “Mother Nature is contributing to a backlog that we are compelled to address in the most expeditious manner to prevent water loss and ensure that customers are not without water service.”

“Blaze Contracting, together with DWSD work crews and the two other contractors already on board, will help facilitate this effort,” she said.

The contract follows the submission last week of a Main Break Action Plan by Director McCormick to the Board of Water Commissioners. The plan includes: a greater public focus on the use of the 24/7 hotline; adding personnel to allow for 24/7 coverage in the central yard; and assessing equipment and training needs.

The new contract and the Action Plan are in accordance with Mayor Mike Duggan’s directive to all City agencies to step up the response to citizens’ needs.

DWSD to get help with water main breaks (continued)

At the end of January, there were 312 reported water main incidents, the latest number available. That compares with 330 in January 2013.

DWSD also receives 17 or 18 new reports every day. The outstanding repair work orders number approximately 160.

Detroiters are encouraged to call the DWSD emergency number – **(313) 267-7401** --to report water main breaks/leaks or running water.

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