

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **DWSD RECORDS \$9 MILLION IN SAVINGS**

The Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) recently saved more than \$9 million related to a wastewater project.

The Oakwood District Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Relief Sewer project, also known as PCS 79, helps to convey wastewater and stormwater to the wastewater treatment plant, preventing basement backups and sewage overflows to the Rouge River.

The department received forgiveness on loan principal from the State of Michigan, in the amount of \$9,313,375. DWSD received assistance on the project – monitored by the state Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) – through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

Forgiveness on the loan principal was stipulated in the original loan contract, under the condition that the project be finished under the loan budget. Forgiveness was established at 40 percent of the final loan amount, and the \$9.3 million forgiven represented 40 percent of the cost of the project. However, final forgiveness could be applied only after the project's completion and after the project cost was established.

“We are constantly looking for ways to operate more efficiently and in ways that ease the burden on our customers,” said DWSD Director Sue McCormick. “We are proud that our efforts to reduce costs are recognized.”

A final disbursement request for the project's loan funding was paid by the State Revolving Fund, the state agency that served as lender, on September 6, making the project administratively complete.

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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