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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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## **Another problem for one of MSD's largest sewer lines**

*Problem is in a sewer pipe under Main Street that was already in danger of collapsing*

LOUISVILLE, KY – The 84-inch sewer pipe that MSD is preparing to repair now appears to have another problem. On Sunday, a remote-control camera was put into the line for inspection. Video from the camera shows a 5- by 2-foot hole in the side of the pipe. Debris, including abandoned pipes, have fallen into the large sewer line from this hole. MSD last inspected this portion of the line on June 21, and this cave-in was not there.

For public safety, MSD has further reduced Main Street traffic in this area. Only one lane is open to traffic on the north side of Main Street midway between Third and Fourth streets to midway between Fourth and Fifth streets. Access to the PNC garage is open.

At this point, MSD is determining the amount of damage to the large pipe and how this will affect the ongoing planned repair of the sewer line. A team of outside experts and MSD engineers are looking at options that will allow safe entry into this pipe for a closer inspection. This will help us modify the repair plan. In the meantime, sewer service continues. There have been no injuries with this project or the cave-in.

We ask for your patience and caution as you drive in this area for the safety of not only our workers but of pedestrians, as well.

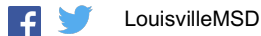
### **Background**

The sewer line was installed between 1958 and 1960 and is one of the city's largest and most vital, carrying approximately 40 percent of Louisville's wastewater flow. Known as the Ohio River Interceptor, the pipe carries wastewater to MSD's Morris Forman Water Quality Treatment Center for treatment and release of the treated water into the Ohio River. In March, MSD discovered a problem with the pipe and closed part of Main Street between Fourth and Seventh streets. In June, MSD announced a \$20 million project to repair the damaged section from Fourth to midway between Seventh and Eighth streets.

The repair project for the interceptor pipe includes lining the interior of the pipe with corrosion-resistant PVC panels fit together by hand and sealed to the unique shape of the pipe. This repair essentially creates a sturdy new pipe inside the damaged pipe.

The sewer pipe must be nearly empty for the repair to take place. To do this, MSD established a “pump-around,” which is a temporary sewer line that utilizes existing pipes to convey the wastewater from Main and Fourth streets to a temporary pumping station at Fourth Street and River Road. From there, the wastewater travels west in four temporary pipes along River Road, then up an embankment and around the floodwall, down West Washington Street to Ninth Street. The pipes continue up the hill on Ninth Street where the wastewater re-enters the existing sewer pipe under Main Street.

For more information on MSD’s West Main Repair visit <http://louisvillemsd.org/westmainrepair>.



#### **About MSD**

The Louisville/Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) works to achieve and maintain clean, environmentally safe waterways for a healthy and vibrant community. The organization’s more than 630 employees provide wastewater management, drainage and flood protection services across the 376 square miles of Louisville Metro. In addition to operating and maintaining Louisville Metro’s sewer system, floodwall system, water quality treatment centers and flood pumping stations, MSD invests in hundreds of infrastructure improvement projects each year, plants more than 1,000 trees and other vegetation annually to enhance water filtration and reduce runoff, and provides numerous outreach programs to inform and educate the community about protecting our waterways.