MEDIA RELEASE
PROJECT UPDATE

December 13, 2019

Work continues on large sewer pipe under Harrods Creek in Prospect

LOUISVILLE – Work is progressing at the construction site along Harrods Creek in Prospect, KY, to repair a break in a sewer line. Crews have installed about 50 percent of the sheet piling necessary to build a protective box that allows workers to descend 35-feet into the ground to make the repair. The construction of the box should be completed by early Monday. The soil will be removed from inside the box, allowing workers to safely enter the area, inspect the damage, and begin repairs to the pipe.

MSD has stopped the overflow of sewage into Harrods Creek, but not before 1,050,000 gallons of sewer water entered the stream. All regulatory agencies have been notified.

We are working 24/7 to complete this repair as soon as possible. Construction will continue at least throughout next week.

Background
A break in a 30-inch force main in the Prospect area was initially confirmed on Monday, November 25. Contractors unearthed sections of the pipe that are 10-feet below the surface and determined the break was in a significantly deeper part of the pipe.

It is a challenging situation. The break is in a section of the 30-inch force main that runs near and 35-feet under Harrods Creek behind Harrods Run Road and Timber Creek Court.

It is essential to reduce flow from the pipe, for the repair to go forward. MSD is dewatering the pipe at the construction site by using tanker trucks and a temporary treatment containment unit at an MSD pumping station located in the Ken Carla Subdivision. Drivers should use caution in the area of U.S. 42 and Ken Carla Drive due to the traffic from these tanker trucks.

Since the break in the pipe has caused sewage to spill into Harrods Creek, the public should avoid contact with the creek from the Harrods Run Road area to the Ohio River. MSD customers will not see any problems with their sewer service.

Force mains are pipelines that move wastewater under pressure from the discharge side of a pump or pneumatic ejector to a water quality treatment center.

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 670 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.