



Niagara Falls Water Board Accepts State Water Infrastructure Grant

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At its regular board meeting of October 23 the Niagara Falls Water Board voted to accept a grant from the NY State Facilities Development Corporation for funding the replacement of the watermain along Bollier Avenue in the city from 82nd Street to Military Road pursuant to the NYS Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA). Governor Andrew Cuomo's recent announcement of the grant is at: <http://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-20-million-grants-vital-water-infrastructure-improvements-western-new>.

The Governor's announcement indicates that the state has approved the NFWB request of \$240,000, the maximum state contribution of 60% of the \$400,000 total project cost. Of the 17 Western New York projects listed in the Governor's announcement the NFWB grant is the only grant made to a Niagara County water system.

"This unprecedented investment continues New York's commitment to helping municipalities develop necessary infrastructure to protect our water resources," Cuomo said, adding: "These investments are crucial to supporting the health and safety of our communities, and help lay the foundation for future growth and prosperity in every corner of this great state."

NFWB Chairman Dan O'Callaghan acknowledged with thanks the support for the grant application of Niagara Falls Mayor Paul Dyster, Niagara County 3rd District Legislator Mark Grozio and the Niagara Falls City Council, especially Councilwoman Grandinetti and Councilman Andrew Touma.

Further project details:

The application grew out of the NFWB capital improvement plan that detailed needed improvements to water, sewer and storm facilities for the

years 2016 to 2020. The Bollier Avenue Watermain was identified as the top priority for water facilities. The existing watermain along Bollier Avenue is comprised of Victory pipe which has required many repairs due to poor aging of pipe material. The existing watermain is a 10-inch pipe which serves not only residents along Bollier but is a larger network pipe that serves the surrounding residential area and businesses. Replacement of this main will insure safe drinking water for the residents, eliminate service interruption for many users and substantially reduce the associated time and expense caused by multiple repairs to the aged pipes.

The Niagara Falls Water Board and staff remain committed to the highest quality of waste water treatment and the treatment and distribution of drinking water consistent with public health laws and regulations, the public enjoyment of natural resources, the protection of fish and wildlife, the economic development of the city of Niagara Falls and the general well-being of the surrounding area.

Attached photo: Left to right, City Engineer John Gerlach, Executive Director Rolfe Porter, Niagara County Legislature (3rd District) Mark Grozio, Niagara Falls City Council Member Andrew Touma and Niagara Falls Water Board Chairman Dan O'Callaghan

