



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 20, 2017

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*****Official Statement and Notice of Special Meeting*****

**Repair Work to Begin on Water Transmission Line Break
at 47th Street and Niagara Falls Boulevard in City of
Niagara Falls Following Award of Emergency Contract**

At 9:30 a.m. on Thursday December 21, 2017 the Niagara Falls Water Board (NFWB) will hold a special meeting at its offices located at 5815 Buffalo Ave, Niagara Falls, NY for the purpose of awarding an emergency bid at \$292,000 to Concrete Applied Technologies Corporation (CATCO) to address a major water transmission line break in the vicinity of 47th Street and Niagara Falls Boulevard in the City of Niagara Falls. NFWB received tabulations of bids for the emergency work on Wednesday night, and CATCO was the lowest bidder.

CATCO will work to repair a concrete 36-inch transmission line break that supplies much of the City of Niagara Falls. The necessary work to repair the line requires CATCO to transition from the former concrete lines to cast iron lines, as well as replace parts that were over 50 years old and from the original installation.

While no specific timeline has been set for a start date or length of repair, the NFWB continues to work diligently and urgently with City of Niagara Falls Engineering Staff to resolve the situation. Timing is currently being driven on availability of necessary parts and where they can be sourced from. This is a developing situation and NFWB intends immediately to begin coordinating with CATCO regarding all available options to expedite procurement of the necessary parts and to complete any repairs that are possible before parts arrive.

While most customers may not notice a change in water pressure, some may experience slightly lower pressure especially during periods of peak usage. Normal water pressure is approximately 45 PSI, and some customers are receiving up to 40 PSI. Niagara Falls High School has been pressurized and Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center continues to receive water at 32 PSI. Additionally, the hospital has installed pumps to address some of the vertical distribution issues they are currently facing, which the NFWB believes has helped them reach necessary levels to operate.

The problems experienced by Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center were experienced on floors where booster pumps had not been installed. Customers with multi-floor structures that are experiencing pressure problems are encouraged to contact a licensed plumber to evaluate whether a booster pump should be installed to minimize issues resulting from future interruptions in water pressure.

The NFWB will continue to provide updates as such information becomes available, via www.NFWB.org.

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