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*****Public Notice & Official Statement*****

Status of Ongoing Hydrant Repair Efforts in Niagara Falls

Contrary to recent media coverage, The Niagara Falls Water Board (NFWB) confirms that all hydrants located in the 2200 block of 13th street in the City of Niagara Falls remain operable and are providing adequate water pressure. Concerns were recently raised over the functionality of a specific hydrant on this block; however, the NFWB and Niagara Falls Fire Department (NFFD) have identified a simple gasket issue that was moderately affecting one individual unit. At no time did this gasket malfunction impact NFFD's ability to provide adequate fire-fighting services.

"We want ratepayers and the general public to be assured that over the last year the Niagara Falls Water Board has made it a top priority to fix as many hydrants as possible and we have been extremely successful in doing so," said NFWB Chairman Dan O'Callaghan. "After years and years of neglect, we have fixed or replaced more than 100 hydrants over the last several months, with a goal of finishing up this effort by the upcoming summer."

"Over the course of the past year, the number of non-working hydrants in the City of Niagara Falls have been cut in half, drastically improving the operations of the Niagara Falls Fire Department during structure fires," said NFFD Chief Thomas Colangelo. "This vast transformation is due in no small part to new and proactive leadership at the Niagara Falls Water Board. We thank them for their commitment to the people of Niagara Falls and look forward to continued partnership in the future."

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

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