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MEDIA RELEASE

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Portion of large sewer pipe fails under Harrod's Creek in Prospect

Public asked to avoid creek and downstream areas

LOUISVILLE – Residents of Prospect are asked to conserve water usage and avoid Harrods Creek while MSD contractors work to repair a break in a sewer line in the area. 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.

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.

Drivers should use caution in the area of U.S. 42 and Ken Carla Drive due to traffic from tanker trucks hauling sewage from the pump station in this area for treatment at an MSD water quality treatment center.

MSD Operations is investigating all options to limit or prevent sewage spilling into Harrods Creek and make the repair safely and efficiently. Due to the complexity of the situation, specialized equipment is needed. A crane is in use at the site to install extra-long sheeting—40-feet long—to protect workers as they work 35-feet below the surface. Work will continue 24/7 until the repair is complete.

Background

This break was initially confirmed on Monday, November 25. Contractors have been working to unearth and inspect sections of the pipe that are 10-feet below the surface. It has been confirmed that the break is significantly deeper and likely approximately 35 feet deep.

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.

Media Opportunity

Who: MSD Chief of Operations Brian Bingham
When: 3:30 today
Where: Harrods Run road, park at the end, walk to the site



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.