

Project: Sandy Beach Road Water Main Replacement

Department: Water

The water main in Sandy Beach Road was installed in the 1970's. The main is ductile iron pipe and should have had a life span approaching 40-50 years. However, in the fall of 2018 a large leak was detected near Sandy Beach Park. As the water main is buried very deep in the roadway, it took the Borough several days to track down the exact location of the leak and make the repair. The reason for the leakage was an extremely corroded section of ductile iron pipe. As there is also sever corrosion on a ductile iron sewer main at Hungry Point, it is suspected that the pipe in this area may be at the end of its life cycle and should be replaced. The Borough is planning to perform additional investigation on the pipe before settling on a final scope of work for this project, but at the present time it is anticipated that all of the water main will need to be replaced. This project is estimated to be up to \$4.1 million to complete and will involve asphalt repairs for any pavement that is removed during the pipe project.

If possible, the project could be delayed in order to fully investigate the extent of the corrosion and the overall scope of the work downgraded to replace only the sections of pipe that are showing signs of impending failure. The project would install new HDPE water main and extension of all existing water services to the new main. The new main could be installed at a lesser depth than the current main and also placed in the landward ditch line to reduce impacts to pavement as much as possible and therefore reducing costs.

If this work is not completed, leaks from the system will continue to occur at any time of day or night. Emergency repairs to deep water mains such as this cause service interruptions for unknown amounts of time and can cause untreated water to enter the distribution system, a condition called a cross connection, that can pose a health hazard to customers.



Severely corroded pipe removed from Sandy Beach area in 2018.



New Ductile Iron pipe.