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October 27, 2009

**RE: S. Hoyne Avenue, from W. 69th Street to W. 69th Place, and in
W. 69th Place, from S. Hamilton Avenue to S. Damen Avenue.
New Water Main Project**

Dear Resident:

The Chicago Department of Water Management will be installing a new water main in S. Hoyne Avenue, from W. 69th Street to W. 69th Place, and in W. 69th Place, from S. Hamilton Avenue to S. Damen Avenue. I have asked Commissioner John Spatz to provide full information packets to residents and business affected by these infrastructure improvements.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call my office.

In Your Service,

Latasha Thomas
Alderman, 17th Ward



City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley
Mayor



Department of Water Management
John F. Spatz, Jr.
Commissioner

WATER MANAGEMENT CUSTOMER NOTICE

At Alderman Thomas' request, I am providing you with material related to a project coming to your neighborhood. I want to be certain you are well informed, and that you know where to call if there are any questions or concerns.

Our crews are installing 1,295 feet of 8-inch water main in S. Hoyne Avenue, from W. 69th Street to W. 69th Place, and in W. 69th Place, from S. Hamilton Avenue to S. Damen Avenue. The old main dates back to 1891 and needs replacement.

I have asked my staff to assemble this material for you, and also to stay in close touch with the project. We know that construction always has some inconveniences and noise associated with it, but we want to do everything we can to minimize the inconvenience and conduct ourselves as good and thoughtful neighbors during our time in your street.

Please feel free to call Assistant Commissioner Tom LaPorte at (312) 742-1029, at any time. In the meantime, thank you in advance for your understanding and good will.

Sincerely

John F. Spatz, Jr.
Commissioner



City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley
Mayor



Department of Water Management
John F. Spatz, Jr.
Commissioner

Do you wonder what was happening in 1891? That's the year the old water main was installed beneath your street. Among other things:



- Fig Newtons were produced for the first time.
- The Wrigley Company was founded in Chicago, originally selling products such as soap and baking powder.
- Stanford University opened its doors.
- Thomas Edison patented the radio.
- Congress created the U.S. Courts of Appeal.
- Carnegie Hall in New York City opened.
- George A. Hormel and Company introduced Spam.
- James Naismith invented the game of basketball.



City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley
Mayor



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Commissioner

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Project: The Department of Water Management is installing 1,295 feet of 8-inch water main in S. Hoyne Avenue, from W. 69th Street to W. 69th Place, and in W. 69th Place, from S. Hamilton Avenue to S. Damen Avenue.

Reason: The old main consists of 6-inch pipe, and we want to expand capacity. Further, the old pipe dates back to 1891, and we can expect increasingly frequent breaks if we don't replace it.

Timing: Work starts shortly, if it hasn't already, and we expect the job to be completed in late April 2010 (restoration will follow in late May 2010). This, of course, is an estimate. Sometimes there are unexpected developments in the street, or other circumstances (e.g. weather) that force us to adjust our schedules.

Traffic: We will allow traffic to flow on S. Hoyne Avenue and W. 69th Place without interruption, but we will have to restrict parking around our work zone.

Parking: We will post our work area for "No Parking" as needed, during work hours. We are agreeable to parking outside of those hours, but will have to insist that cars be moved by the start of the next workday. We will try to preserve as much parking as we can.

Service Interruptions: We will have to interrupt water service for a brief period when we transfer service pipes to the new main. This will always be done with plenty of notice. The other possibility is that a break in the old main might force an immediate shutdown. This is common during construction. We are replacing some pretty old pipes. We will make sure neighbors know what is happening if that occurs.

CONTACT NUMBERS

**24-HOUR SERVICE AND INFORMATION LINE
3-1-1**

**ALDERMAN LATASHA R. THOMAS
773-723-0908**

**ASSISTANT WATER MANAGEMENT COMMISSIONER TOM LAPORTE
312-742-1029**



City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley
Mayor



Department of Water Management
John F. Spatz, Jr.
Commissioner

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What if there is a problem? There are always surprises in any construction project. If you have any concerns or questions, you can ask our foreman in the street. You can also call Assistant Commissioner Tom LaPorte directly at 312-742-1029. His cell is on the voicemail message, in case it's off hours.

Can I park when you're not working? We have no problem with you parking outside of our working hours. We have to insist that cars be out of our way at the start of the workday.

Will this ever end? Yes. As a matter of fact, the job is slated to conclude in late April 2010. Restoration will follow late May 2010. We always hesitate to promise specific dates, since we are at the mercy of other factors like weather and emergencies elsewhere in town.

Will you shut my water off? Yes, maybe a couple of times. When we switch over the services from the old main to the new main, we interrupt service. We give you 24-hour notice when this is to happen. In any construction project, there is also a risk that an old pipe will break. They can be fragile. This may necessitate an emergency shutdown. If we do this, we will let you know what is happening, even though we may be unable to give prior warning.

Why should I be nice about this? The crew working in the street will work hard to be good neighbors, and to respect both your convenience and your quality-of-life. By working together, we can complete this important project as friends working for the improvement of our community.