WHAT: Contractors for Charlotte Water will begin the second phase of construction work for a wastewater pipe replacement project in the Belmont/Optimist Park neighborhoods. Below is an estimated schedule of activities for the next two-three months.

WHEN: Beginning in January.

WHERE: Crews will begin at Alexander Street at Belmont Avenue and work along the Hunter Auto & Wrecker property. A tunnel will be constructed under N. Davidson Street to avoid detouring motorists. (see map)

WHAT TO EXPECT:

Moving equipment on site – Crews will move construction equipment and materials to easements along the project site throughout construction.

Pipe delivery and storage – Pipe is delivered and stored within the construction easements.

Establishing a safe work zone – Fencing will be installed and pipe will be stabilized to prevent it from moving.

Trench digging, placing pipe and backfilling – From Alexander Street and along Hunter Auto & Wrecker property.

Tunnel preparation and construction – On Hunter Auto & Wrecker property and under N. Davidson Street.

Customers May Feel a Rumble – Crews may remove rock formations by use of small blasting. Areas along the alignment where blasting is required will be determined shortly after site clearing and residents within 500 feet radius of the blasting sites will be contacted further. Blasting is a standard construction procedure in which holes are drilled into the rock for dynamite placement and covered with heavy mats. A seismograph monitor records blast vibrations to verify they are within specifications. All safety precautions will be taken. Customers may hear a warning horn, a muffled noise, and slight vibration or rumble similar to a slammed door or thunder.

Construction traffic (dump trucks) along the alignment, within the easements.

NEXT STEPS: Pipe installation in this immediate area is expected to take two-three months. Once these activities are completed, crews will continue laying pipe toward N. Caldwell Street while continuing tunneling under N. Davidson Street (expected through the summer). Construction schedules are subject to change, due to weather and other conditions.

QUESTIONS: Please visit the project website at www.charlottewater.org (click on “construction projects”) for updates on progress. If you have a question, please contact project engineer Matt Bedford, 704-336-1009 or mbedford@charlottenc.gov. If you want to receive email updates about the project, email your name and property address to ccoley@charlottenc.gov. Type “Belmont/Optimist Park Email List” in the subject line.