May 2018

RE: Gum Branch Wastewater Pipe Project

Dear Property Owner:

Sanders Utility Construction Co., under contract with Charlotte Water, will begin construction set up and preparation for Gum Branch Wastewater Outfall Project. Activity will begin between I-485 and Gum Branch Road.

Starting June 4th, crews will start clearing the easement and delivering pipe and material. Trees, shrubs, bushes and other vegetation within the construction easement area will be removed. Debris will be transported off site.

Construction can be loud, dirty and inconvenient. Crews will be using heavy equipment and storing materials (dirt, pipe) on-site. It will be muddy and the contractor will clean area as needed. Please be aware of your surroundings near the construction site and report any safety concerns to the project inspector as soon as possible.

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 500ft 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.
- Residents may hear a warning horn, a muffled noise, and slight vibration or rumble similar to a slammed door or thunder.

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Frequently Asked Questions

Will I lose driveway access to my property?
Construction activities will take place in easements along creek and within the street right-of-way. Our construction inspector will notify property owners if a driveway may be inaccessible for a few hours.

Will my water or sewer services be disrupted during construction?
Disruptions to water and/or sewer services are not expected. If a service interruption becomes necessary, affected customers will be notified in advance. Any unplanned service outages are considered an emergency. Please notify the project inspector.

Will traffic be impacted?
The majority of the work will not impact roadways. Most roads will be tunneled so traffic is not disrupted. In some cases and situations, traffic flaggers will help guide traffic through the area.

Why may blasting be necessary?
If large rock formations can’t be cracked or loosened by traditional methods, these sections of rock will be broken by blasting with small amounts of dynamite. Blasting is expensive and not taken lightly. Charlotte Water offers customers a free pre-blast survey if they are within 500 feet of blasting locations.

Is blasting safe?
Blasting is a standard construction procedure and all safety precautions are being taken. Most of the energy is consumed by breaking the rock inside the blast area. Ground and air vibrations may exceed the construction zone but decrease rapidly.

Who should I contact if I have questions?
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Heavy mats and several feet of dirt cover the dynamite drilled into rock.