WHAT: Contractors for Charlotte Water will begin tunnel construction work for a wastewater pipe replacement project in the Wilmore neighborhood.

WHEN: Early January.

WHERE: Crews will begin the tunnel work in Abbott Park and Revolution Park and tunnel under I-77. (see map)

WHAT TO EXPECT:
Tunnel preparation – Crews will begin setup work for tunnel construction from Abbott Park, 1300 Spruce Street, toward Revolution Park, 2425 Barrington Drive. Work includes installing traffic control and greenway detour signage, security fencing and erosion control. Access to park amenities, playgrounds and sports fields will be maintained for areas outside the construction zone.

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

Digging the tunnel – Customers near the area may hear drilling noise as crews dig the tunnel entrance and exit shafts and tunnel under I-77. Crews may work Monday-Saturday, from sunrise to sunset.

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.

Pipe installation – After the tunnel structure is complete, crews will install pipe, pushing it through the tunnel from Abbott Park to Revolution Park.

NEXT STEPS: Tunnel work is expected to be underway until mid-2019. Once the tunnel is complete, you may continue to see construction traffic along the easements as pipe is tested, manholes are adjusted and temporary restoration occurs. Construction schedules are subject to change, due to weather and other conditions.

LEGEND:
- Tunnel
- Pipe Alignment
- Creek

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 “Wilmore Email List” in the subject line.