

July 3, 2007

Mr. Andrew Brunhart, General Manager
Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission
14501 Sweitzer Lane
Laurel, Maryland 20707

Dear Mr. Brunhart,

I am writing to you to express my concern regarding the recent surge of water main breaks in Montgomery County, but particularly the disproportionate number of breaks in the Bethesda, Chevy Chase, and Potomac areas.

Since January, there have been sixty-eight water main breaks and fifteen water main leaks in Bethesda alone. Residents have had to endure varying degrees of property damage, disruption of service, numerous road closures, and traffic backups during the ensuing repairs. The County has been left with a patchwork of repairs to its roads, which jeopardizes their long-term structural integrity and degrades the appearance of our neighborhoods as roads are generally not restored to their original condition.

In this context, I urge you to accelerate WSSC's current plans for pipe replacement and to prioritize the Commission's efforts in those areas that have experienced the greatest number of ruptures as well as where the pipe is the oldest. To the extent that I can assist you in this endeavor, I offer my support and collaboration.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Roger Berliner
Councilmember - District 1