SUPERVISOR LAVIN OUTLINES WATERLINE UPGRADES THROUGHOUT TOWN

(Amherst, NY) – The Town of Amherst Engineering Department is replacing 11,750 linear feet of waterlines throughout the Town, removing old cast iron pipes that have corroded and failed, causing waterline breaks and environmental concerns.



"The Town of Amherst closely monitors the effectiveness of our aging waterlines and strategically replaces areas that have exceeded their life expectancy. Deteriorated waterlines are an expensive problem, but we must continuously invest in infrastructure repairs to eventually rid our town of these problematic pipes. Corroded cast iron lines are prone to watermain breaks, which cause disruption to neighborhoods and businesses, and through our consistent replacement procedures, we address those issues," said Supervisor Shawn Lavin.

The Town's largest project this year is on Commerce Drive with 2,250 linear feet of corroded and degraded 12-inch cast iron watermain being replaced with new 12-in PVC pipe. An additional 2,000 feet will be replaced in spring/summer 2027.

Additional projects include:

- Dutchmill Drive – Replacing 450 linear feet of degraded cast iron waterline with new 8-inch PVC
- Paul Drive – Replacing 950 linear feet with PVC
- Philip Drive – Replacing 1,900 linear feet with PVC (spring 2027)
- Cindy, Ava and Kim drives - Replacing 1,750 linear feet of 6-inch cast iron watermain with 8-inch PVC. Phase II of the project includes an additional 1,600 linear feet during the spring/summer of 2027
- North Forest Road – Installing a new 8-inch PVC watermain (approximately 850 linear feet) and new hydrant

“The pipes that we are replacing are more than 50 years old and certainly showing their age. As the old cast iron lines deteriorate, they can cause repetitive service outages and significant environmental concerns. We replace them with PVC pipes because they will last decades without corroding or rusting,” said Brian Armstrong, Director of Engineering Services. “Our replacement plan truly upgrades the town’s waterline infrastructure in an efficient and effective approach, however with so many linear feet to replace, we have our work cut out for us.”

Despite the rising cost of construction, the Engineering Department was able to secure effective bids on the projects, allowing much of the work to be completed this year, providing residents on those streets with better service. Traffic restrictions will continue to be posted accordingly.