



Highlights from year one of the Clean Water Project

We completed 200 miles of television inspections of sewer pipes!

70% of MDC homeowners complied with in-house plumbing and basement inspections!

We're on track planning and designing work for construction to begin in 2008!

MDC



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What's ahead in 2008

We will begin replacing, repairing and upgrading our sewer system to eliminate the problems that have plagued our region for too many years. Since all the sewers in the MDC's eight member towns end up under Hartford, this area will be a major focus of the Clean Water Project. Construction projects in Hartford will include major sections of sewers along Edgewood Street and Homestead Avenue, and the storm drains along Granby Street. Additionally, we will continue the design phase of projects including sewer separations at Park River, Franklin Avenue, Farmington Avenue and Tower Avenue in Hartford.



Funding the Clean Water Project

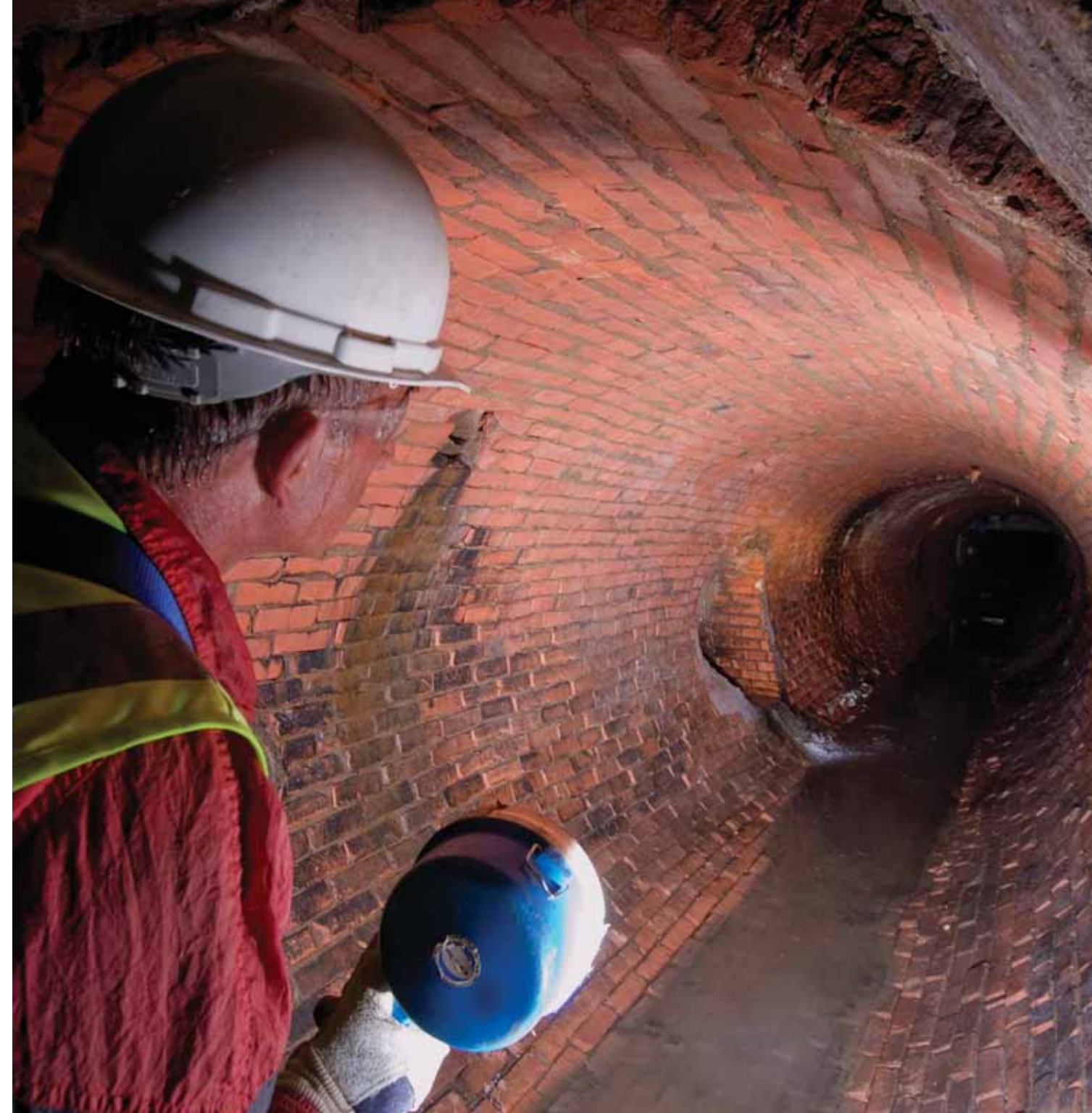
Voters approved \$800 million to fund the first phase of up to three phases of the Clean Water Project – our regional health and environment improvement program.

It remains our goal to pay for 25-35% of the entire project with grant money and to subsidize an additional 50% of the project with state/federal supported low-cost loans. We will repay the debt with a fee based upon each customer's water use.

As always, we are committed to using the referendum dollars wisely, carefully controlling budgets while looking for lowest cost ways to fully satisfy our federal and state consent orders.

District sewer fee ordinance

To help pay for the Clean Water Project, the District board recently passed an ordinance that permits the MDC to add a "sewer fee" to customer water bills. This special service fee allows the District to pay borrowing costs for the Clean Water Project's projected 15 years of expenditures – while avoiding any increases to the District's existing "ad valorem" charges through each member town's tax levy. District consultants estimate that the service fee (based on actual water usage) will add \$25 to \$35 per year to an average household water bill for each year of the program.



2007 Year in Review

Finding the right solutions for you has taken us to some very interesting places this year



The Clean Water Project is the largest sewer rehab project in Connecticut's history!



Last November, your passage of the \$800 million Bonding Referendum for the Clean Water Project was a landmark event for the Capital Region. Your overwhelming endorsement authorized the District to improve our sewer system to eliminate basement sewage flooding, and sewage overflows to local streams and the Connecticut River. The project will satisfy federal and state orders which require program completion within 15 years.

Our first year has focused on planning projects with our member municipalities, advancing the design concept of the various facilities, as well as further development of our business and financing systems to successfully manage the largest program of its type ever performed in Connecticut. We are fully committed to create a sustainable legacy of economic opportunity, open competitiveness, environmental protection, and an efficient sewer system.

The Clean Water Project will affect you. The individual household flooding and sewer overflow abatement program will challenge all of us to work together to successfully build a "new" infrastructure system. From excavating and reconstructing sewers in your street or yard to daily traffic detours, our design and construction management will use every means and method to minimize our impacts to you. To help you, local project coordination offices will be established in each neighborhood to handle any concerns. We are coordinating our construction work with all other municipal and utility projects to minimize the total public impacts.

Through our Citizens Advisory Committee and Strategic Advisory Committee, we will continue to seek guidance from local government leaders and citizens to make the Clean Water Project the best for the region. The Citizens Advisory Committee will continue to review our planning activities and design concepts to ensure that their recommendations are addressed. The Strategic Advisory Committee will assist us develop race/gender neutral business procurement, and workforce development systems that expand minority and woman-owned business opportunities to work on the Clean Water Project.

Our first year has addressed a wide range of challenges. We have met all federal and state requirements this year. Although focused primarily on planning and engineering, we constructed several projects – Tower Avenue, Tremont Street, pipe lining in Newington, West Hartford and Wethersfield, and new pumping stations – which will become part of the Clean Water Project.

Thank you for making our first Clean Water Project year a success. 2008 presents significant new challenges as major construction begins. Please be assured that MDC's staff is committed to a Clean Water Project with sustainable environmental improvements, which fully comply with all regulatory standards.

Chuck Sheehan
Chief Executive Officer
The Metropolitan District

From old sewers to flooded basements

The places we have gone this year have indeed been interesting, and important to reaching the primary goal of the Clean Water Project: To eliminate raw sewage from entering our homes, businesses and water ways. To meet this goal, our planning and design team spent the last year:

- Determining what causes the flooding and sewage overflows after major rain storms
- Conducting almost 200 miles of television inspections of our existing sewer pipes
- Identifying District member town and neighborhood needs as we plan each project
- Preparing project sewer designs to solicit public construction bids
- Developing a community relations and outreach program



The Clean Water Project design team has studied hundreds of miles of sewers to determine how to best improve the system.



Nicola Allen of Hartford is looking forward to having the Clean Water Project finally reduce flooding on her street after it rains.

Thanks for helping us put the sewer system to the test

Television inspections of pipes, smoke and dye tests, in-home visits to our customers. These are some ways we analyze the flow of water through underground pipes and sewers to look for solutions to our drainage issues. We would like to thank our patient and supportive customers who allowed us inside to inspect their plumbing designs and basements.

We're checking up on ourselves, too

We hired Infrastructure Management Group (IMG) to examine the MDC's total effort to develop the resources and infrastructure needed for the Clean Water Project and to continue to monitor our performance.

"The MDC has taken the proper steps to efficiently manage the Clean Water Project."

~John Joyner, President, IMG

We want everyone's voices heard

We owe a debt of gratitude to the citizens and professionals who serve on two very important MDC committees: The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) and the Strategic Advisory Committee (SAC).

CAC members are leaders from our MDC member communities, environmental organizations, local businesses and non-governmental organizations. They provide valuable input and suggestions related to sewer pollution,

water quality, environmental health, and other issues important to the public.

SAC members include businesses, government and construction industry professionals, as well as MDC Commissioners. This committee directs the MDC's outreach to small, woman and minority-owned businesses in the region (as well as qualified individuals) to award opportunities available on the Clean Water Project.



Lillian Ruiz, Director of Human Relations for the City of Hartford, is one of the community leaders who has volunteered to serve on the SAC to advise the MDC.

Identifying a local, qualified workforce



We are developing strategic partnerships with local organizations such as the Hartford Jobs Funnel and HEDCO's Business Resource Center.

It will take a substantial workforce to complete the \$1.6 billion Clean

Water Project over the next 15-plus years – and we fully intend to utilize local, existing resources for training, workforce development and business as much as possible. This past year, we have:

- Helped local and minority contractors complete the MDC's pre-qualification process
- Sponsored an independent "Disparity Study" of the available workforce to be sure it can meet our needs for the project and community
- Facilitated job-training opportunities for young adults who want to enter the construction field

Keeping YOU informed

It's our responsibility to keep you informed on the Clean Water Project – and we take that seriously.

Look for regular on-going updates from the MDC in the following ways:

- **"Clean Water Update!"** our monthly cable access TV show
- **"Newslines,"** the MDC's monthly newsletter in English and Spanish
- **www.thecleanwaterproject.com** our web site
- **Bill inserts**
- **CWP Information Line:** 860-251-6942



- Bloomfield
- East Hartford
- Hartford
- Newington
- Rocky Hill
- West Hartford
- Wethersfield
- Windsor

