



To: The News Editor

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NORTH STREET SEWAGE WORKS

The National Water Commission is advising that it is working feverishly to carry out emergency remedial works on the North Street Sewer line in St. Andrew which has been causing an overflow of waste water into the Barnes Gully.

“We have carried out the necessary field investigations on the trunk sewer main along North Street and have found that the blockage which is causing the overflow cannot be removed in the traditional way, but will involve more extensive technical work,” notes Garth Jackson, NWC Chief Engineer.

In a recently held implementation meeting, it was pointed out that the scope of works in the short term will involve trench excavation of 5-6 meters deep to facilitate the replacement and laying of approximately 180-280 meters of a section of the 100-year-old existing 30” rectangular sewer main along North Street. “The work may involve the extension of the replacement sewer to accommodate an additional blocked segment in addition to re-alignment of the proposed route to avoid conflict with a large diameter water main in the same vicinity,” adds Mr. Jackson.

Commenting on the issue, Corporate PR Manager at the NWC, Charles Buchanan points out that the proposed emergency works which will commence as soon as is possible will have implications for businesses in the immediate vicinity where the work is to be carried out, as well as for road users.

“Regrettably, we foresee the unavoidable closure of the section of North Street extending from its intersection with East Street to its intersection with Central Avenue for the duration of the works. Off roads, including Hanover Street, Wildman Street, Rum Lane, Central Avenue, East Street and Georges Lane will also be impacted. We have therefore engaged the road authority in getting the necessary approval for road closures and will ensure the necessary notification is issued advising of alternate routes,” reports Buchanan.

The successful completion of this project will not only improve sewage conveyance in that area of Kingston but will also satisfy a NEPA enforcement order and subsequent court action. Once started, the very technical and challenging work is projected to last for two weeks and should be completed by the end of February 2011.

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