

**TOWN OF GUILDERLAND
MCKOWNVILLE STORMWATER AND WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ) ISSUE #7**

What work is completed and what remains?

The water project is 100% complete. The storm water project is 25% complete, with new storm mains and lateral lines installed on McKown Road, Knowles Terrace and Waverly Street.

What impact does National Grid's work have on the remaining storm water project?

During the installation of storm water pipe on McKown Road at the start of construction, Bast Hatfield, the Town's contractor, encountered undisclosed and unmarked National Grid gas lines. While installing the storm water system on the north side of Western Avenue, more conflicts with gas lines were encountered. The Town expended \$1,400,000 in project funds to remedy these unanticipated situations which caused an 11-month delay in the project.

Due to the likelihood of other undisclosed gas pipes and abandoned infrastructure, the Town's engineer, Delaware Engineering, recommended that National Grid first install its new planned gas lines on the north side of Western Avenue and then provide the Town with its "as built" drawings and maps of underground utilities to minimize conflicts with the Town's remaining storm water work.

Why did the work of McKown Road take so long to complete?

McKown Road's piping is a large 36" diameter HDPE (tough plastic) which conveys storm water from a portion of Western Avenue to Krumkill Creek. This piping will also transport all storm water from the new storm water system in the McKownville neighborhoods on the north side of Western Avenue to the Krumkill Creek. It was necessary to install this new piping to transport the storm water from the new system to the Krumkill Creek.

The delays and extra costs with the installation of McKown Road storm sewer piping were caused by previously unknown abandoned underground National Grid gas lines which were wrapped in asbestos. A certified contractor was hired to remove the asbestos. The storm water line was also relocated to avoid a large trunk pipe that transported sewage to Albany County's facility. This substantial works and resulting delays resulted in the unexpected disbursement of a large amount of the funds that were intended for constructing the new storm water system on the north side of Western Avenue.

The Town has submitted a claim against National Grid for costs directly associated with the delays and overruns caused by the abandoned gas pipes and other delays.

Why is Bast Hatfield no longer the contractor?

Because of the delays caused by National Grid's mismarked gas lines, Bast Hatfield sustained substantial losses and was granted a release from the remainder of the project's storm water contract.

When will the new storm water installations begin and how long will construction last?

The original plan for the new storm water installations was the spring of 2021. Because of COVID-19 and delays caused by National Grid's mismarked gas lines, the construction of the storm water system is scheduled for the spring of 2022. The work is anticipated to take nine months.

Where can I obtain more project information?

In accordance with COVID-19 guidelines, Delaware Engineering will provide construction updates at virtual meetings of the McKownville Improvement Association. Updates will also be posted on the Town's website (www.townofguilderland.org) and McKownville Improvement Association's website (<https://mckownville.org/>).