




INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 15, 2013
TO: Commissioner Art Torres, President
THROUGH: Harlan L. Kelly, Jr., General Manager 
FROM: Steve Ritchie, Assistant General Manager, Water
SUBJECT: Declaration of Emergency/ Repair Water & Sewer Pipelines in the Vicinity of 15th Avenue and Wawona Street

In accordance with Chapter 6, Article IV, Section 6.60(D) of the Administrative Code of the City and County of San Francisco, I am declaring an emergency on behalf of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission.

On February 27, 2013, at approximately 3 a.m., a water main break took place near the intersection of 15th Avenue and Wawona Street. The 16-inch cast iron pipe under the road dates back to 1952 and pulled apart at a joint near that intersection. The broken water main inundated the area with large water and mud flows, impacting the street and nearby homes. It has been found that major soil subsidence has occurred, not only under the street, but also under a number of homes in the area, indicating major soil shifting.

The aging sewer pipeline along Wawona Street, from 15th Avenue to 16th Avenue had been scheduled for replacement in 2015, however, with the resultant soil subsidence there is concern that the sewer line may be vulnerable to a rupture.

This request for emergency declaration is to enable the Water Enterprise to repair the broken water main, adjacent water mains on 15th Avenue and Wawona, as well as replace the aging sewer line along the same corridor on Wawona Street, between 15th and 16th Avenues, to ensure that the shifting soil does not cause another pipeline rupture in either the water main system or the sewer system. This request for emergency declaration is for resources and materials to perform the work beyond the capabilities of the City forces as soon as possible for an estimated cost of \$1,000,000.

I am therefore declaring the existence of an emergency. I trust that this meets with your concurrence and approval.

CONCUR AND APPROVE:

Art Torres, President
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

cc: V. Courtney A. Caen F. Viotor A. Moran
S. Ritchie

- Edwin M. Lee
Mayor
- Art Torres
President
- Vince Courtney
Vice President
- Ann Moller Caen
Commissioner
- Francesca Viotor
Commissioner
- Anson Moran
Commissioner
- Harlan L. Kelly, Jr.
General Manager

