



**VILLAGE OF BURNHAM**  
14450 S. Manistee Avenue  
Burnham, Illinois 60633  
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Robert E. Polk, Mayor

November 16, 2020

Dear Burnham Residents,

The area north of State Street, south of the Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad, east of Torrence Avenue, and west of Alice Avenue has historically experienced low flow and pressure during times of high water demand. Robinson Engineering, conducted an extensive engineering study of the Village's water system to determine alternatives to increase water pressure and flow rate to the area.

Robinson Engineering analyzed this section of the Village's internal water distribution system by utilizing a computerized hydraulic model that simulates pressures and flows within the distribution system. The study utilized hydrant flow reports performed in this area in October 2015. The experienced low flow was confirmed with the results of the hydrant testing.

To address the low pressures and fire flows available to the study area, several modeling scenarios were examined. The Village chose the option that involves extending a 12 inch main 350 feet from Torrence Avenue to Saginaw Avenue along 145th Street. Modeling predicts that these improvements will produce increased flow at all times, and will provide higher sustained pressure during high demand times such as the summer watering season or during firefighting activities. Further, the new main provides a secondary connection to the Torrence Avenue transmission main. This extra connection will provide the additional benefit of continuous water service to the area should there be a disruption on the original 6-inch connection. Previously, if there was a break on that line, the entire area would be without water service until the break was repaired.

Mayor Polk was able to secure 100% construction funding of \$251,444.00 through the Cook County Department of Planning and Development. And also thanks to Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle and the County Board. The water main extension was installed in October 2020 by H. Linden and Sons Construction. Satisfactory drinking water analysis test results were received from Suburban Laboratories on 10/29/20. Upon receipt of the results, the new water main was put into service on 10/30/2020.

**David W. Shilling, PE**

Engineer



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