



## Office of the City Manager

710 Mill Bay Road, Room 114, Kodiak, Alaska 99615

### City of Kodiak Water and Sewer System Fully Operational

MAY 15, 2019 – KODIAK – Following the failure of an underground sewer force main that services 80% of the City sewer system, the City of Kodiak would like to inform the public that as of 8:45 p.m. on Wednesday night, repairs were completed and the system is fully operational and in compliance with the State Department of Environmental Conservation permit.

The break in the discharge pipe was caused by a collapsed section at Metrokin Way on May 9, 2019. The event lasted approximately six days and left wastewater discharge overflowing in Mission Lake and Mission Beach. As a result of the failure, the City was forced to turn off the pumps at lift station No. 4 on Father Herman Road and wastewater overflow discharge has occurred just offshore in Mission Bay. All areas of discharge are being monitored and water samples are being taken and tested daily until determined safe for the public.

A sewer force main that is approximately 45 years old and buried 28 feet under the surface was uncovered and found to be completely corroded, causing the collapse.

The City of Kodiak's Public Works staff and Contractor Brechan Construction, LLC were on scene 24 hours a day working on the repair.

"The City committed every resource available at its disposal to help make repairs and get operational. We're glad no one got hurt and that this critical infrastructure is now operational." stated City Manager, Mike Tvenge.

The City of Kodiak will now shift their focus on clean-up efforts in the vicinity and will continue to monitor affected sites for public health hazards. The City will notify the public when it is safe to resume activities in the Mission Lake, Mission Beach, and Mission Bay areas. In the meantime, the City requests the public's cooperation in following all posted signs and to avoid the area.

"Due to the length of time the overflow occurred, the City recommends citizens avoid any contact with the lake and beach, as well as abstain from any recreational use of the beach. If the public comes into contact with water or soil potentially affected by the overflow, they should shower and wash clothes thoroughly as soon as possible." said City Manager, Mike Tvenge.

If you have any questions regarding this press release, please contact Public Works Director Craig Walton at 907.486.8062.

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