

## CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK PRESS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Highland Park, MI* – RE: GLWA Supreme Court Ruling Press Release

Although the recent Michigan Supreme Court ruling was not in our favor, the City of Highland Park appreciates that GLWA is finally supporting our Water Department's continued effort in addressing our major infrastructure needs for water and sewer. A large percentage of the water and sewer system is over 120 years old; with the ever-rising cost of water and sewer rates, extremely limited financial resources, and new compliance requirements, Highland Park will continue to be diligent in addressing the infrastructure needs as the reduction of leaks reduces the GLWA sewer charges dollar for dollar.

To illustrate, per GLWA, the reduction of our leaks by two-thirds will reduce our sewer bill from \$7 million to \$2.4 million a year.

The 24 leaks referenced in GLWA's press release from the 2021 Highland Park Leak Survey Report were comprised of distribution main (3), service line (1), valve packing (4), hydrant (1), and abandoned services lines (15). Ninety-nine percent of the estimated real loss volume identified was attributed to 3 water main locations: E Grand Boulevard at Brush (valve partially open when it was sounded appeared to be a leak – no leak at this location), Manchester between Woodward & Oakland, and Tyler 41 feet west of Woodward were all repaired in 2021.

As many member partners are aware, as soon as leaks are addressed, others appear in an old metropolitan system. The City of Highland Park looks forward to moving to a metered system where its usage can be accurately measured and replacing infrastructure to redevelop the city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Damon L. Garrett". The signature is stylized and includes a star at the end.

Damon L. Garrett, PE  
Director