



**"RE-BUILDING THE CITY'S WATER SYSTEMS FOR THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY"**

# **Sewerage & Water Board OF NEW ORLEANS**

625 ST. JOSEPH STREET  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70165 • 504-529-2837 OR 52-WATER  
[www.swbno.org](http://www.swbno.org)

Richard Rainey

Director of Communications

504.418.2848

[rrainey@swbno.org](mailto:rrainey@swbno.org)

**For Immediate Release**

February 2, 2018

## **RESCHEDULED: TRAFFIC ADVISORY: Lane Closures on South Claiborne as Construction Continues on Water Hammer Project**

***Note: Due to wet roadway conditions, this shift in lane closures has been rescheduled for tomorrow, Feb. 3***

**New Orleans** - Construction on the Water Hammer Project will enter its next phase later this week, which will cause some lane closures near the Carrollton Water Plant on South Claiborne Avenue. The Water Hammer Project is an infrastructure investment that will make the City's water supply more resilient and help prevent future boil water advisories.

During this phase of construction, B&K Construction, working for Sewerage and Water Board (S&WB), will temporarily close the south two lanes of South Claiborne Avenue Eastbound and shift the traffic lanes to the north two lanes. During this phase of the construction, South Claiborne Avenue Eastbound will reduce from 3 lanes to 2 lanes from Hamilton Street through Eagle Street. **Due to wet roadway conditions, this shift has been rescheduled to begin tomorrow Saturday, Feb. 3,** and is expected to be in place for approximately 3 months. Once this phase of construction is complete, all lanes will be reopened to traffic.

## About The Project

Prompted by disruptions in electricity resulting in water service interruptions to New Orleans residents, the S&WB and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) launched the Water Hammer project to upgrade the water distribution facilities at the Carrollton Water Purification Plant.

The upgrades are designed to reduce the occurrence of “water hammer.” Water hammer is a surge of water pressure caused by power loss at a water plant. This can result in shockwaves in the water system that can damage and lead to water main breaks. The project includes two new 200 foot tall water tanks that will hold 4 million gallons of water. In the event of complete power loss the towers will provide uninterrupted water pressure for 40 minutes and continuous water service to the city.

The Water Hammer Project is part of a comprehensive update on resiliency efforts at the water plant. The Water towers are a major proactive measure that S&WB has taken to ensure residents continue to receive high quality water every day. The Water Hammer Project was designed by Stanley Consultants, Inc. and was constructed by B&K Construction, LLC. Funding for the project comes from FEMA.

###