

## Wayne County Communities Work Together to Develop Regional Water Storage Project

The Wayne County Water and Sewer Authority and the Towns of Arcadia, Huron, Lyons, Marion, Sodus, and Williamson are working collaboratively to construct a Regional Storage Project to provide enhanced water storage and related redundancy and water system resiliency. The Project includes additional water storage, pumping, and transmission improvements.

The primary components of the project include:

- A new, 2.0 million-gallon water storage tank located on Brantling Hill Road in the Town of Arcadia.
- A new pumping station on Route 88 in the Town of Sodus.
- Improvements to the Route 21 pumping station in the Town of Williamson.
- Approximately 18 miles of transmission main.
- A secondary transmission connection into Huron.
- A transmission crossing of the Erie Canal.

### The Benefits

- Regional Water System Reliability – Improved system reliability and stability for homes and businesses. Increased operational flexibility and reliability, particularly during high demand periods in the summer months, when existing storage capabilities may be stressed.
- Economic Development - Increased capacity to support economic development and agriculture in Wayne County.
- Expansion Opportunities – Will be instrumental for public water expansion in central and eastern Wayne County, providing opportunities for growth.
- Shared Infrastructure – One consolidated storage and transmission system among several communities, resulting in improved efficiency and capital/operational cost savings.
- Regional Approach – A regional approach increased State financial support for the project.
- Minimized Environmental Impacts – Consolidation will eliminate multiple individual community storage tanks and accompanying infrastructure, minimizing environmental impacts.

### Project Costs

The total projected cost is estimated at \$10.5 Million, with a significant portion of that cost offset by external resources including grants awarded to the WCWSA.

The Authority has been awarded grants totaling \$4,650,000 which include the following:

- \$250,000 Senate Initiative Grant which was secured by New York State Senator Pamela Helming (R-54), supported by New York State Assemblyman Brian Manktelow.
- \$500,000 Northern Borders Regional Commission (“NBRC”) Grant.
- \$3,900,000 Inter-Municipal Grant (“IMG”) Grant.

## **Impacts on Users**

While increased costs to residents are unavoidable with large capital projects, the regional approach offers significant savings when compared to undertaking separate capital improvement projects for each community's water storage needs. Based on current funding projections, an average single-family home within a water district, or having access to public water, will see an approximate \$45 to \$75 annual increase in water related charges upon completion of the project. Because Williamson is a supplier of water, an average user in Williamson will pay less.

Owners of properties other than single-family homes are encouraged to contact their Town Officials for an estimate of charges based on their locally adopted schedule of rates. Charges will first be seen on resident's property tax bills starting in January 2021.

Properties along the route of the transmission mains may be able to connect with the approval from the Town and Water Authority, and payment of applicable charges. Details will be forthcoming in future correspondence.

## **The Timeline**

Engineering design for the project, which will be completed in several phases, is underway. Construction of the initial transmission phase began in late July of 2020. Construction of the 2.0 million-gallon storage tank is planned for 2021, with construction of the remaining phases continuing through 2023.

## **Additional Project Information**

Each town will be conducting a public hearing regarding the project in coming weeks; the date of which will be published in the Town's official newspaper. Please contact your public officials for details on how to participate in the public meeting. Additional project information is also provided in the Map, Plan, and Report on file at each Town Clerk's office. The document is also available on the Authority's website at [wcwsa.org](http://wcwsa.org).