



14 Mile Road Water Main Replacement & Monitoring Project

FAQs

October 2026

What is the main purpose of the 14 Mile Road Water Main project?

The main purpose of this project is to greatly increase the reliability and resiliency of the pipeline along 14 Mile Road, which services many communities in southern Oakland County. The project will occur in two phases and will not only replace approximately three miles of transmission main along 14 Mile Road that has seen multiple failures within the last decade, it will also inspect about three miles of pipe, make any repairs resulting from the inspection, and then install an Acoustic Fiber Optic (AFO) monitoring system in the inspected three miles of pipe to allow for the continuous real-time monitoring of the pipeline's condition.

When will the project begin?

The work is being done in two phases. Construction on Phase One, or the direct replacement of pipe, is expected to begin in November 2026.

Phase Two, or the inspection and renewal of pipe and the installation of AFO, will not begin until after the completion of Phase One. Phase Two is anticipated to begin in 2028.

When is the expected project completion?

Phase One pipe work is expected to be completed in January 2028 with restoration completing in spring 2028. It is anticipated that Phase Two will be completed by the end of December 2028.

What are the phases of the project?

Phase One

- Replaces over three miles of 48-inch prestressed concrete cylinder pipe (PCCP) with 54-inch steel pipe; This segment of pipe is located along 14 Mile Road from just west of Haggerty Road to just east of Farmington Road;

Phase Two

- Involves the:
 - Inspection of three miles of 54-inch PCCP along 14 Mile Road from just east of Farmington Road to GLWA's Franklin Pump Station, which is located on Inkster Road, just north of 14 Mile Road;
 - Renewal of pipe segments identified during inspection, if any;
 - Installation of an Acoustic Fiber Optic (AFO) Monitoring System within the entire three-mile segment of PCCP.

What is AFO and why is it important to the project?

AFO stands for Acoustic Fiber Optic, which is a technology that allows for continuous monitoring of underground prestressed concrete cylinder pipelines (PCCP). Over the lifetime of PCCP pipes, the steel wire strands that provide structural integrity to the pipe will break or fail, lowering the structural integrity of the pipe segment. By installing AFO cable inside of the pipeline, the system can "hear" the vibrations caused by the wire-breaks. Documenting when and where these wire-breaks occur will provide GLWA with the information to continually monitor the condition of the pipeline and proactively make repairs on pipes before a main breaks and causes the significant disruptions that have occurred in the last seven years.

An AFO monitoring system will be installed within the inspected and renewed three-mile section of 48-inch PCCP main along 14 Mile from Farmington Road to GLWAE's Franklin Pumping Station on Inkster Rd.

Will traffic be impacted?

Yes, traffic impacts will occur throughout the duration of the project, with the largest impacts taking place during installation of the new 54-inch steel main between M-5 and Farmington Road.

To allow for safe construction of the new pipeline, we anticipate the need to restrict traffic to one-way along 14 Mile for local traffic only. GLWA will ensure that access to homes and businesses is always provided throughout the construction. Notifications of traffic updates and detour routes will be provided to impacted residents well in advance of the traffic control measures going into effect.

Will my water be impacted by the construction?

GLWA does not expect that there will be any impact to water service during this project.

How much will this project cost?

GLWA will be investing approximately \$81 million into this critical water infrastructure improvement.

What else has GLWA done to build resiliency in this area of the regional system?

In 2022, GLWA installed a parallel 24-inch main on 14 Mile west of M-5 and just recently completed the emergency replacement of the 42-inch main on 14 Mile west of M-5, which provides water to Novi, Commerce Township, Walled Lake, and Wixom. In 2024, GLWA completed the 14 Mile redundancy loop project which connects its 8 Mile transmission main to its 14 Mile Road transmission main.

How can I find regular updates regarding the work on 14 Mile Road?

The project team will be releasing regular updates on the GLWA website ([glwater.org](https://www.glwater.org)) and the GLWA social media accounts. Once construction begins, GLWA will host a series of community engagement events in the impacted communities to meet with residents and businesses.

In addition, GLWA has set up a project hotline to address any imminent concerns. The project team can be reached through the 14 Mile hotline at 313-237-7900.

You can view project updates and information at <https://www.glwater.org/cip-project/14-mile-replacement-project/> or by scanning the QR code below.

