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Contact: Laura Hidas, Special Assistant to the General Manager
Phone: 510.668.4206
Email: Laura.Hidas@acwd.com

Alameda County Water District Continues Work on Major Water Main Break in Union City

Fremont, Calif. — Emergency repair crews for the Alameda County Water District are on the site of a major break in a main water line in Union City. The break is a very serious one, with damage to a 14-inch-diameter pipe running beneath a busy thoroughfare.

ACWD crews moved quickly to mitigate the impact to customers in the area. Water was diverted via hoses to restore service to some customers, and at this time, very few customers are without water service.

Fixing the break may be a complex and lengthy process. The pipe in question lies eight feet below the surface of Union City Blvd., and is very close to rail tracks operated by the Union Pacific Railroad. Crews must be precise and deliberate in their excavation and repair work, and this will take time.

ACWD is working with officials of Union City to minimize traffic disruptions in the area. At this time, residents are being asked to avoid the area while repairs are being made. The City of Union City will update its residents on traffic issues via Nixle, Facebook, Twitter and Nextdoor, along with notifying the news media.

The cause of the break is not yet known. We are aware that a contractor for an electric/gas utility was excavating in a location near the break, and that is being considered as a possible cause. At this time, however, our focus is on safely excavating and repairing the damaged pipe.

Whenever a break occurs in a water line, it is possible some customers will see discoloration or sediment in their drinking water. ACWD is actively monitoring water quality, and at this time has found no reason for concern about water quality in its service area.

Customers with questions about water service or quality can contact ACWD at (510) 668-6500. As new information becomes available, customers can visit www.acwd.org or follow ACWD's Facebook and Twitter feeds @AlamedaCountyWD.

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