



# ***PRESS RELEASE***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE TIME January 11, 2018, Afternoon Release

## UPDATED INFORMATION ON THE SOUTH BEACH STREET CLEAN UP AND RECONSTRUCTION

As of 4:00 PM Thursday afternoon the following downtown streets have been decontaminated by Clean Harbors, Inc. Easy Street, Cambridge Street, Oak Street and Broad Street from Steamship Wharf to South Beach Street. The crews are currently decontaminating the area of South Beach Street near the road failure.

All downtown streets in the Core area are now open to regular traffic and parking with the exception of South Beach Street from Broad Street to Harborview Way, Sea Street and Whaler's Lane at South Beach Street. The South Beach Street Extension is closed from Broad Street to Oak Street.

Toscana Corporation removed a small section of the pavement from South Beach Street to provide access for National Grid to be able to assess the condition of the main electric cables that provide power to the island. Crews were able to locate the critical utility conduits and are now conducting their assessment of the integrity of the utilities.

Hager-Richter Geo Science, a specialty engineering firm contracted to conduct a subsurface utility study utilizing ground penetrating radar is currently conducting that study on South Beach Street between Broad Street and Easton Street. That initial study is expected to be completed by Friday.

Today, members of the Town's Disaster Recovery Team took representatives from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (Mass. DEP) on a walking tour of the impacted area. The tour was followed up with a debriefing conference call with other members of the Mass. DEP and the U.S. Department of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Part of that discussion resulted in the recommendation that the screened single point of discharge outfall behind the Nantucket Yacht Club remain in place in the event of additional flooding or other problems caused by extreme weather conditions.

Engineers from Environmental Partners Group arrived on scene today to start work on an independent forensic assessment of the failure on behalf of the Town. Although not believed to be related to the sewer force main failure Town officials are working with the Mass. DEP following the discovery of a discharge of some type of petroleum product from the bulkhead on Easy Street into the Easy Street Basin. Representatives from the Emergency Response Section of the Mass. DEP advised that the Mass. DEP has assumed responsibility for the investigation into and remediation of the leaking product. At the time of this press release no source has been discovered however they are continuing to identifying the source and abate the release at the catch basin area. The latest report is that the release has slowed significantly (Tide Receded). Questions regarding discharge of the oil/fuel should be directed to the Mass. DEP, the phone number is (508) 946-2700.

Although all sewer and water service remains unaffected the Town requests that the public continue to limit their water use as much as possible to limit the volume of effluent that enters the system.

For additional information please contact the Public Information Officer, Lt. Angus MacVicar at 508-325-4100 x-5700.

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