



GENESEE COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT  
153 CEDAR STREET  
BATAVIA, NEW YORK 14020

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## STATE OF THE GENESEE COUNTY WATER SUPPLY January 2024

### Current Threats:

- City of Batavia Water Treatment Plant (WTP), which supplies 50% of the water to County residents, is susceptible to low groundwater conditions caused by drought and surface water contamination by flooding;
- The wellfield that supplies the City of Batavia WTP is threatened by contamination from an abandoned landfill and industrial site. Contaminates include Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFAS) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS);
- Genesee County has been under emergency water restrictions for the past four years;
- Based on the County's latest projections, there will be a water deficit of approximately 2.1 million gallons per day this summer during peak demand periods.
- There is no additional water supply to support economic development and expansion.

### Objectives:

#### **Resiliency**

- Replace the aging and jeopardized City of Batavia WTP with a regional supply network;
- Diversify the County's water supplies with Monroe County Water Authority (MCWA) Great Lakes-sourced water which includes water purchased from the Erie County Water Authority
- Provide public water to rural residents that currently have unreliable, contaminated and unsafe wells.

#### **Capacity**

- Increase water supply throughout the County for residential use;
- Provide water for economic development and support key regional industry priority pillars such as food processing and agribusiness.

### Phased Work:

#### **Phase 1**

- Regionalized water supply with a 2.5 million gallon per day (MGD) supply from the Monroe County Water Authority (MCWA);
- Completed in 2001 for \$30 million;
- Genesee County took over the City of Batavia WTP and used revenue from operations and a \$0.60 per 1,000-gallon water surcharge on usage to fund Phase 1.

#### **Phase 2**

*\* Original plans for the Genesee County Water Supply Program Phase 2 envisioned a project in 2010 that would have increased water supply from the MCWA to 10 MGD and allowed for the abandonment of the*

*City of Batavia WTP current operations, but global events and economic impacts did not allow it to be initiated.*

- The new phase 2 is currently under construction for \$30 million;
- The phase will supply an additional 2.5 MGD from MCWA sources to stay ahead of growing water demands;
- Funded by an increase of the water surcharge to \$1.20 per 1,000 gallons.
- Estimated completion date: May 2025

### **Phase 3**

- Need to eliminate water shortages and allow for the repurposing of the vulnerable City of Batavia WTP;
- Current plans and designs will have a target completion date of 2025;
- The estimated cost is currently \$150 million, which is too large to be entirely borne by water users;
- Closing the City of Batavia WTP will involve a Source-Supply Change for the City of Batavia;
- To comply with Lead and Copper Corrosion Rule revisions, the City of Batavia will need to fund \$15 million in lead service removals and meter changes. This cost is in addition to the \$150 million needed to bring enough water to Genesee County to allow for the decommissioning of the City of Batavia WTP as a source supply and conversion into an integral pumping station.
- Without a Phase 3 project, Genesee County will continue to experience water shortages during peak summer months, weaken residents' quality of life, and hinder future economic development.
- Estimated completion date: 2029

### Water Supply Source Change:

- Genesee County has partnered with Arcadis to perform a source-supply change study that will evaluate the effects on areas of blended water in the central region of Genesee County that will be transitioned to 100% Monroe County Water Authority sourced water from Lake Ontario. Arcadis is currently leading a Source Water Change Evaluation to understand the current water quality conditions in critical areas relating to corrosion control treatment (CCT) and the proposed change from a groundwater source to surface water.
- This study is expected to continue over the next 2-3 years as the following must be completed:
  - NYSDOH approval of the proposed water sampling plan
  - 6 month water sampling period at 20 sampling sites
  - Desktop CCT assessment (once all data has been collected from the sampling period)
  - Demonstrative CCT analysis (pipe rig) if required (pending the results of the desktop CCT assessment)

### **For more information:**

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