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CITY CHOSE TRENCHLESS HDPE PLASTIC WATER MAIN TO SOLVE MORE THAN WATER LOSS

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ABSTRACT: High density polyethylene pipeline systems (HDPE) have been growing in use since the early 1950's. Awareness and confidence has increased through the decades; stimulating extensive use of HDPE in trenchless applications for underground utilities. With AWWA approvals and standards providing additional confidence in polyethylene water mains, you can now observe this industry working more with trenchless methods and moving into other areas of needed utility reconstruction. Included in these innovative applications, are trenchless installations of HDPE water mains; resulting in significant advantages over traditional pipe systems installed by traditional excavation.

This paper tells the story of one project in a busy Michigan community. It illustrates not only the physical features improving construction; but also tells of neighborhood residential benefits and the city's political and financial improvements. Looking below the surface will many times uncover why sound preparation can save more than money. Time spent doing it right can potentially match a newer technology (trenchless HDPE) with old fashion common sense and unexpected gains. If you're asked the question... Would you want to repair a failing water main using a material and technology that significantly decreases local disruption and construction time, maintains capacity and potentially increases utility performance, and does this at a lower price? Your answer would most likely be yes, not even mentioning that the method was established and proven in municipalities. Let us share some impressive project results and learn from you how HDPE water main reconstruction might help with one of your own problems.