



## CITY OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

### NOTICE OF UPCOMING TEMPORARY DRAWDOWN OF WATERSHOPS POND (LAKE MASSASOIT)

In 2021-2022, the City of Springfield will be constructing improvements to the Watershops Pond Dam. The dam impounds the Mill River to form Watershops Pond, also known as Lake Massasoit. The work of the Project will be facilitated by a temporary drawdown of the entire pond by opening the low-level sluice gates. The bottom of the pond is deeper than the low-level outlets at the dam; thus, a residual pool will remain in the deepest portions of the pond basin. Pending final acquisition of permits, the schedule for drawdown is as follows:

<b>Target Date to Commence Drawdown:</b>	<b>October 23, 2020</b>
Target Date to Attain Full Drawdown:	November 1, 2020.
Normal Water Surface Elevation of Watershops Pond:	154.3± feet above sea level (NAVD88)
Normal Area of Watershops Pond:	192.6± acres
Water Surface Elevation of Residual Pool during Drawdown:	140.5± feet above sea level (NAVD88)
Area of Residual Pool during Drawdown:	20± acres
Deepest Point Within Watershops Pond:	135.8± feet above sea level (NAVD88)
<b>Target Date to Commence Refilling of Watershops Pond:</b>	<b>April 1, 2022</b>
Target Date to Complete Refilling of Watershops Pond:	April 22, 2022

The temporary drawdown of Watershops Pond was selected as the preferred alternative for water control during the dam improvement Project. An alternatives analysis and the selected alternative are discussed in detail in the **Environmental Impact Report** prepared for the Project. That document is available here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/m3dl7kzrnwn0wqx/EEA%20no.%2016234%20-%20Watershops%20Pond%20SEIR.pdf?dl=0>

Should the dam repairs be completed sooner than anticipated by the Project schedule, the City may refill the pond in the fall of 2021, if weather events provide sufficient rainfall to do so. Please note that the target dates are approximate, and actual times to complete the drawdown or refilling of the pond will be dependent on weather conditions during the operations. The general performance standards for the drawdown and the refill have been adapted from the “Final Generic Environmental Impact Report (GEIR) for Eutrophication and Aquatic Plant Management in Massachusetts” (Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 2004).

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