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**City of Duluth Communications Office**

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**DATE: 2/11/2021**

**SUBJECT: City crews respond to water main break in East Hillside**

**BY: Kate Van Daele, Public Information Officer**

**City crews respond to water main break in East Hillside**

[Duluth, MN] City Utility Operation crews were notified of a possible water main break in the East Hillside neighborhood early this morning. When on the scene, crews confirmed the break, located at 1157 North 6th Avenue East. It is unknown how long it will take to repair. However, it will be fixed sometime today.

Crews ask drivers to be conscious of their work and avoid the work zone if possible.

This is the seventh water main break to occur in Duluth in the last seven days. Water main breaks are common in the winter months, especially when there is a drastic temperature change. On average, the City experiences one hundred water main breaks a year.

In 2017, the Public Utilities Commission approved a comprehensive water main plan that prioritizes water main replacements in conjunction with the City's street maintenance initiative. This partnership has allowed the City to fund as many replacements as possible. Also, staff look at neighborhoods with the most significant number of breaks and prioritize replacing those ahead of other locations. In 2021, the Hidden Valley neighborhood will complete its second phase of work and replace some of the worst water mains in the city.

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