Pennsylvania American Water Takes Next Step in $5 Million Downtown Scranton Water Main Improvement Project

100 block of North Washington Avenue to close to through traffic Monday as crews complete preparatory work

SCRANTON, Pa. (Nov. 12, 2026) – Pennsylvania American Water will begin preparatory work Monday on North Washington Avenue in downtown Scranton to support its accelerated $5 million Downtown Scranton Water Main Replacement Project. The work is in addition to the larger main replacement project and will install a valve needed to tie into the new water main when construction moves forward in the spring.

“This is an important step that will help us move the larger downtown project forward efficiently while being mindful of businesses, residents and visitors,” said Pennsylvania American Water Director of Engineering Dan Rickard. “By completing this work now, we’ll have an important connection in place when construction begins next year.”

Pennsylvania American Water’s contractor, R.L.E. Enterprises, is expected to close the 100 block of North Washington Avenue between Lackawanna Avenue and Biden Street at approximately 10 a.m. Monday to stage equipment and begin excavation.

The block will be closed to traffic because there is not enough room to safely accommodate vehicles while construction is underway. This section of roadway has been closed previously for utility work without significant issues.

Crews are targeting approximately 8 p.m. Monday to begin the planned water service shutdown, helping minimize disruption during normal downtown business hours. Work will continue overnight, with service and roadway restoration expected Tuesday.

The work supports Pennsylvania American Water’s previously announced accelerated Downtown Scranton Water Main Replacement Project. Originally planned for 2028, the approximately $5 million project has been advanced, with broader construction expected to begin in spring 2027.

The project will replace approximately one mile of aging water main along North Washington Avenue between Lackawanna Avenue and Gibson Street and along Mulberry Street between North Washington Avenue and Madison Avenue. Plans include replacing existing 24-inch and six-inch water mains with a new 16-inch main to improve system capacity, flexibility and water flow.

Pennsylvania American Water is coordinating with the City of Scranton and the city’s engineering consultant, Reilly Associates, as the project moves forward. The company plans to complete the larger project in phases, coordinating construction to maintain access to downtown businesses and minimize impacts wherever possible.

About American Water
American Water (NYSE: AWK) is the largest regulated water and wastewater utility company in the United States. With a history dating back to 1886 and celebrating 140 years in 2026, We Keep Life Flowing® by providing safe, clean, reliable and affordable drinking water and wastewater services to approximately 14 million people with regulated operations in 14 states and on 19 military installations. American Water’s approximately 7,000 talented professionals leverage their significant expertise and the company’s national size and scale to achieve excellent outcomes for the benefit of customers, employees, investors and other stakeholders. For more information, visit amwater.com and join American Water on LinkedIn, Facebook, X and Instagram.

About Pennsylvania American Water
Pennsylvania American Water, a subsidiary of American Water, is the largest regulated water utility in the state with approximately 1,200 dedicated employees working to provide safe, clean, reliable and affordable water and wastewater services to approximately 2.5 million people.

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