



City of Beacon, New York

Office of the Mayor

Lee Kyriacou, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY OFFICIALS MARK COMPLETION OF POCKET DAM REHABILITATION

BEACON, NY –Mayor Lee Kyriacou and Councilmembers Molly Rhodes, Paloma Wake, and Wren Longno today joined City officials and project engineers to mark the completion of the rehabilitation of the City of Beacon’s Pocket Dam located at the end of Pocket Road off East Main Street. The rehabilitation of the Pocket Dam completes Phase 1 of a \$2.76 Million two-phase capital project that started in June 2022 and which also includes the rehabilitation of the Mount Beacon Reservoir Dam. The completion commemoration featured the Mayor and Councilmembers ceremonially closing the Pocket Dam valve to allow the reservoir to begin refilling from waters coming out of the Mount Beacon Reservoir.

The Pocket Dam is the City’s smallest dam with a capacity of only 200,000 gallons, but it plays an outsized role in the City’s water system. The Pocket Dam is the holding dam for water coming out of Mount Beacon Reservoir as well as from the water catchment area along dry brook where it is then piped into the City’s water filtration plant on Liberty Street. Constructed in the 1920’s, the Pocket Dam was leaking approximately 80,000 gallons of water daily, despite attempts several decades ago to patch the leaks. The recent rehabilitation was the first comprehensive reconstruction since the Dam’s construction.

Kyriacou thanked the project team and the City’s water employees and noted, “This project continues and builds upon thirty years of slow but steady investment in Beacon’s critical infrastructure, including infrastructure no one sees but we all depend on.” Kyriacou further noted that the current project would be followed in 2023 with rehabilitation of the City’s Melzingah Dam and future development of a third ground well to augment the City’s water supplies.

Following the event, the Mayor and Councilmembers toured the ongoing rehabilitation work on the Mount Beacon Dam, which is slated for completion in late 2022 or spring of 2023. While the Pocket Dam rehabilitation was primarily to address water leaks, the rehabilitation of the Mount Beacon Dam will increase the spillway capacity of that structure dam to manage increasingly intense storm events so that the dam does not overtop and spill water in an uncontrolled manner.

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Photos:

- (1) (Left to Right): Councilmembers Wren Longno, Molly Rhodes, and Paloma Wake and Mayor Lee Kyriacou close the Pocket Dam Water Valve to begin refilling of reservoir
- (2) Mayor and Councilmembers get tour of rehabilitated Pocket Dam by Superintendent of Water Ed Balicki and Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator Matt Fezza

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