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NEWS RELEASE

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Sanitary Sewer Breaks Near Kerper Boulevard

DUBUQUE, Iowa – A 30-inch sanitary sewer force main has ruptured in two locations near Kerper Boulevard causing untreated wastewater to overflow in the area.

One break occurred on City property under the floor of the former Public Works Garage at 925 Kerper Boulevard. The other break occurred on the south side of Kerper Boulevard on Alliant Energy property. A member of the Public Works Department discovered the break it shortly after it occurred at approximately 2 p.m. this afternoon. The Cedar Street pump station serving the area was then shut down to stop the overflow.

Some untreated wastewater entered the City's stormwater sewer system before the leak could be contained. Crews are working to mitigate the spill and repair the sewer main. The causes of the breaks are unknown and staff are still assessing the damage. Intermittent disruptions to sanitary sewer service are expected in the area of the breaks.

A force main is a pipeline to transfer wastewater from a lower to higher elevation. A simple description is that a force main is a wastewater pipeline with a lift station pump forcing the wastewater to the treatment facility.

This sanitary sewer force main is connected to the City's Cedar Street lift station and serves the Kerper Boulevard Industrial Park and the entire Couler Valley area, pumping wastewater to Dubuque's Water Pollution Control Plant on Julien Dubuque Drive. The main's capacity is estimated at five to six million gallons per day.

Residents are cautioned to keep their children and pets away from the affected area.

For more information, contact the Iowa Department of Natural Resources' Manchester Field Office at 563-927-2640 or John Klostermann at 563-589-4250.

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NOTE: Map attached



Old Public Works Garage Break Area

Alliant Energy Break Area

E 11TH ST

KERPER BLVD

Hwy 61/151

E 9TH ST

E 7TH ST

COMMERCIAL ST

