



The Metropolitan District

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## MDC AWARDS CONTRACT TO BUILD SOUTH HARTFORD TUNNEL

Storage and Conveyance Tunnel a major component of the Clean Water Project

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For Immediate Release

**(HARTFORD, CT)** – The Metropolitan District (MDC) reached a significant milestone in the Clean Water Project (CWP), awarding the contract to construct the South Hartford Conveyance and Storage Tunnel (SHCST) to Kenny / Obayashi, a joint venture of two companies with extensive experience in tunnel construction. Kenny Construction was founded in 1927 and the Obayashi Corporation was founded in 1892. The Kenny / Obayashi joint venture was the low bidder for the SHCST with an amount of \$279.4 million, the largest contract ever awarded by the MDC as well as the largest project ever funded by the State of Connecticut's Clean Water Fund.

A contract signing ceremony was held at MDC headquarters in Hartford where MDC leadership and staff, state officials from the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the CT Office of the State Treasurer, and project consultants and were on hand to take part in the historic event.

The SHCST is a four mile long deep rock tunnel designed to temporarily store excess combined wastewater and storm water during rain events, and then convey the flows to the Hartford Water Pollution Control Facility (HWPCF) for treatment. The tunnel's capacity of 41.5 million gallons will help prevent the HWPCF from being overwhelmed during storms. The 18 foot diameter tunnel will be built in bedrock approximately 200 feet below ground, effectively eliminating surface disruption during construction.

Preliminary construction is scheduled to start in fall of 2016, with the tunnel boring machine scheduled to arrive in the fall of 2017. Tunnel boring operations will begin near the MDC's HWPCF on Brainard Road and continue through southern Hartford into West Hartford, ending on Talcott Road. The tunnel is projected to be complete and in operation by 2023.

"The SHCST is a key element of the Clean Water Project (CWP) and the goal of minimizing sewer overflows within MDC towns and improving local water quality in Trout Brook, the Park River, Wethersfield Cove and ultimately, the Connecticut River and Long Island Sound. The MDC is excited to have a skilled and experienced construction team on board for such a crucial part of the CWP," stated MDC CEO Scott Jellison. Jellison added, "I would like thank the Governor and the State Legislature for their collective support of the project and its funding, with a special thanks to the Senators and Representatives serving the eight member towns of the MDC for their part in securing critical grant and loan funding to minimize the cost of the project and impact on ratepayers. As to the benefits to the Wethersfield Cove, Representatives Russ Morin of Wethersfield and Antonio "Tony" Guerrera of Rocky Hill and Senators John Fonfara of Hartford and Paul Doyle of Wethersfield have been effective advocates for the project and their constituents."

**About the MDC:** *The MDC is a nonprofit municipal corporation chartered by the Connecticut General Assembly in 1929. The MDC provides water, sewer and household hazardous waste collection services to its member municipalities: Bloomfield, East Hartford, Hartford, Newington, Rocky Hill, West Hartford, Wethersfield and Windsor. In addition, the District supplies treated water to portions of Glastonbury, South Windsor, Farmington, East Granby and Portland.*

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Chairman Bill DiBella, District Clerk John Mirtle, and CEO Scott Jellison execute the South Hartford Conveyance & Storage Tunnel Contract



MDC Chairman Bill DiBella looks on as CEO Scott Jellison addresses the crowd gathered for the South Hartford Conveyance & Storage Tunnel contract signing