

Genesee County's Response to Pam Turner's Letter - D.W.S.D.


We are pleased Detroit finally issued a statement that they are willing to discuss our continued customer status of the Detroit water system. We are disappointed that in spite of numerous requests to meet, Detroit only responded to an editorial in the "Flint Journal" supporting construction of the new water line.

As Ms. Turner stated, "In the last seven years, Detroit has made major efforts to improve relations with its water customers." During this same time period, our water rates increased 10 million dollars for a total of \$25 million annually! We hope this is not what they consider to be improved relations.

We have always made it clear that our goal has been to provide the most reliable and cost effective system for providing water to this region. In furtherance of this goal, we have made numerous proposals to Detroit, on behalf of our region, to establish a true partnership. Unfortunately, each proposal has been rejected and the one counter proposal offered by Detroit significantly raised costs to Flint and Genesee County.

We stand ready to work with Detroit to establish a system that is mutually beneficial. But, we cannot remain a mere customer whose continued participation only benefits Detroit. If Detroit is serious about negotiating a new partnership that is mutually beneficial, we are available. If, however, they are only interested in maintaining the status quo, then Flint, Genesee, Sanilac, and Lapeer Counties will no longer be treated as renters and are ready, willing and able to construct a new water line at no greater expense than we would otherwise pay Detroit.

(My office will be sending a formal and detailed response to Ms. Turner and a detailed copy of the response will be available on both the Karegnondi Water Authority ([Karegnondi.com](http://Karegnondi.com)) and Genesee County Drain Commissioner, Division of Water and Waste Services ([gcdcwss.com](http://gcdcwss.com)) websites.)

Jeff Wright   
Genesee County Drain Commissioner  
810-732-1590 (work)  
810-287-1925 (cell)