From the Office of Councilmember Mark Clayton - Monday, July 13, 2015

Pipeline Flushing Activities Near Doctors Hospital

We have received calls and e-mails from citizens about the water being released from fire hydrants over the past several days. Specifically, *For the Love of The Lake* expressed concern about water draining into the Celebration Tree Grove located inside White Rock Lake Park. Today, at my office's request, Dallas Water Utilities (DWU) management conducted a visual inspection of the area. Regrettably, they verified that a small amount of water had entered the Celebration Tree Grove located near the intersection of Poppy Drive and E. Lawther Drive. In response, DWU has ceased flushing activities near the immediate area and water has begun to dissipate. Officials from Dallas Water Utilities will be meeting with concerned citizens at the location on Friday to discuss the findings and alleged damages. DWU has assured me that they will take whatever action is necessary to restore the area to its original state.

Why is water pipeline flushing necessary?

Like other cities and water utility systems, DWU pipeline flushing program helps sustain optimal water quality within its potable water system. DWU is required to flush its dead-end mains and others located within the extremities of its system, to remain compliant with Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) regulations. *(Texas Administrative Code Title 30, Chapter 290.46.)*

Flushing can occur for a variety of reasons; pipeline repairs, new construction and chlorine residual maintenance. During the flushing process, field crews may operate various fire hydrants within thoroughfares and at the end of cul-de-sacs. Fire hydrants are adjusted to create high water flows and velocities in the water system to scour and clean the inside of water pipelines. DWU is dedicated to water conservation and realizes that it is a limited resource. However, water pipeline flushing is also critical to maintaining high-quality drinking water. The flushing program is continually monitored to ensure that water is used in the most efficient way possible.