
L C A M e d i a S t a t e m e n t

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RE: LCA Selected as Successful Bidder for Allentown Water / Sewer Lease

Lehigh County Authority (LCA) is pleased to learn that our bid was selected today for the lease of the Allentown water and sewer system. It is our understanding that the bidding process was quite competitive, and LCA's efforts to submit a meaningful offer to the city was effective.

Over the course of the past 6 months, LCA has made its case to the city, county, in-city and suburban residents and businesses, and municipal leaders across the Lehigh Valley that a professional, local, non-profit organization could provide a competitive solution for the city – one that will ultimately provide the greatest benefit to the city's customers and employees in the long term, and provide the greatest level of protection to our existing customers in suburban communities.

To develop a successful bid, LCA's team of staff members, Board of Directors, and professional experts have expended considerable effort to ensure all the risks were carefully weighed against the benefits LCA brings to the deal in terms of regional management of water resources and financial stability.

Under LCA's non-profit model, which offers the lowest cost of financing available, city customers will ultimately benefit from rates that reflect actual costs with no additional cost for shareholder profits. In addition, LCA's proven track record of professional system operations will result in water and sewer services that meet the needs and expectations of both the city and suburban communities for the foreseeable future. Because the city and LCA systems are already fully interconnected, a smooth transition to LCA operation of the city systems will be possible, promoting long-term stability of system operations and water resource management.

Over the next several months, LCA will work closely with the city administration and staff to ensure the city's needs are met. LCA is committed to working through all the difficult transition issues that are likely to arise, and will seek to provide services to city customers with the same care and attention that is provided to our existing customers in suburban communities.

More information will be published as it becomes available on our website at www.lehighcountyauthority.org, including opportunities for the public to provide feedback or ask questions. We expect our existing customers will have questions, and we welcome the opportunity to answer those, as well as continuing to respond to the city's needs. We are optimistic that today marks the beginning of an even stronger partnership with the city for the provision of water and sewer services in Lehigh County.

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