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PAUL F. ADAMSON, MAYOR

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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City of New Franklin Announces Water Project will begin in 2020

New Franklin, Ohio, July 15, 2020- Mayor Paul Adamson is pleased to announce that the City of New Franklin, in partnership with Aqua Ohio, has been selected as one of only two recipients included in Ohio EPA’s plan to receive a Water Supply Revolving Loan Account (WRSLA) regionalization loan under its principal forgiveness program. Funding received through this competitive program reserved in the amount of $4.2 million dollars will support the first phase of bringing high quality drinking water to New Franklin. Upon completion of the project, Ohio EPA plans to forgive approximately $2.1 million dollars of the loan, essentially eliminating 50% of project costs. “This is a huge blessing for our community as we deal with so many challenging situations these days,” commented Mayor Paul Adamson. “Bringing a critical utility such as water is a game-changer for our City.”

“The New Franklin Project is a great example of how our principal forgiveness funding can be used to support communities that want to come together on projects that benefit their region.” said Ohio EPA Director Laurie A. Stevenson.

The service area will extend water lines from South Main Street to West Caston Road, then to Coleman Drive, Catalina Drive, Renninger Road and finally to Manchester Road. The lines will run north to Vanderhoof Road and south to Grace Church, just south of Center Road, totaling approximately 3 miles on the S.R. 93 commercial corridor. Mayor Adamson noted that “Unlike some other cities, there will be no mandatory assessments. Since we were successful in securing the grant funding, access to water will be voluntary. Residents and businesses will be encouraged to take advantage of this clean water source, but it will be up to them to decide if and when they want to. The water lines will be there when businesses and residents are ready to tie in.”
Public utilities play a significant role in promoting responsible development. When families are considering moving to a new community or a business considers relocating or looks to expand within its hometown, access to city water is a key factor in their decision. In addition, access to water allows the City to assist existing businesses that need water, while promoting New Franklin as a major player for new economic growth and opportunities.

Aqua Ohio is Aqua America’s second-largest subsidiary and serves about 500,000 people, an average of 40 million gallons of water daily through 36 water systems. “We're excited to work with the City of New Franklin to deliver reliable water service that's continually monitored for safety,” said Aqua Ohio President Ed Kolodziej. “This project is a great example of the power of public and private entities working together to make a community stronger.”

The project is expected to begin later this year, and the lines should be in by the end of next year. Additional announcements will be made as the project progresses. For more information, please visit the City's website at www.newfranklin.org. Heidi Griesmer, Deputy Director for Communications with the Ohio EPA can be reached at the following: Heidi.Griesmer@epa.ohio.gov, or 614.644.2160.

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