To: All Engineering and Architectural Consultants and City Agencies

From: James Garin, P.E.
Director of Engineering, BWSO

Subject: Engineering Directive
Local Law 96 of NYC Regarding Vertical Datum

Date: February 24, 2014

Local Law 96, approved by the Mayor on November 19, 2013, amends the New York City Administrative Code to establish the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD 88) as the city datum. It mandates that all elevations provided in construction documents be referred to and identified as NAVD 88.

Therefore, the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (NYCDEP) is issuing the following protocol for applications and contract drawings submitted to this agency related but not limited to Site Connection Proposals, House Connection Proposals, Private Drains, Private Sewers, Drainage Proposals, and Contract Drawings; the datum conversion must be provided in the drawing submission legend from borough sewer datum to NAVD 88 and any elevation callouts related to the sewer system must reference both NAVD 88 and the local borough sewer datum (see Attachment A for example). Signed and sealed surveys submitted as part of the application package will be accepted in NAVD 88.

Elevations on Drainage Plans and Amended Drainage Plans should be exclusively in NAVD 88. A note correlating adjustments to the different data from NAVD 88 should be added to the plans. Plans already submitted for review to NYCDEP would be exempt from this change.

The datum change discussed above shall be effective immediately and should be included on any new projects submitted to this agency. If the applicant has already received preliminary discretionary approval, projects may be submitted in the reference data that was previously accepted. As is stated in Local Law 96, conversions to NAVD shall be performed by registered design professionals or surveyors.

Cc: James Roberts, P.E., Deputy Commissioner, BWSO
Edward Coleman, P.E., Assistant Commissioner
Jannine McColgan, P.E., Deputy Director of Engineering
Nicholas Barbaro, P.E., Chief, Division of Capital Planning
Paul Faublas, P.E., Chief, Division of Review & Construction Compliance
Irina Veytsman, P.E., Chief, Plan Review Section
Jake Ozyman, P.E., Chief, Drainage Review Section
Peter Gordon, P.E., Chief, Project Development Section
Prakashchandra Shah, P.E., Chief, Capital Drainage Section
James Luke, P.E., Chief, Permitting & Compliance Section
Selim Andrawis, P.E., E.I.C., Plan Review & Permitting Section
Ketki Patel, P.E., E.I.C., Drainage Review Section
John Weiburg, P.E., E.I.C., Plan Review Section
Samir V. Patel, P.E., E.I.C., Plan Review Section
Vincent Malveaux, E.I.C., Site Connection Proposals Section
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF WATER & SEWER OPERATIONS

Attachment ‘A’

NOTE: ALL ELEVATIONS REFER TO THE NORTH AMERICAN VERTICAL DATUM OF 1988 (NAVD 88), WHICH IS xxxx FEET* BELOW THE xxxx BOROUGH SEWER DATUM.

*This graphic and notes are shown to clearly demonstrate the procedure for submission. This conversion varies and should be provided by a NYS Licensed Surveyor.
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*This graphic and notes are shown to clearly demonstrate the procedure for submission. This conversion varies and should be provided by a NYS Licensed Surveyor.