

## **WEBCAST HELD FOR SEWER ABATEMENT PROJECT TEAM ON PRIVATE I&I ISSUES**

Engineering consultants and representatives of the County's sanitary sewer overflow abatement project team, along with members of the sewer district's Advisory Board and Steering Committee, attended a special webcast held recently at SUNY-IT on the topic of private infiltration and inflow (I&I) issues.

The two-hour webcast was arranged by Karl Schrantz, PE, of Shumaker Consulting Engineering, the project's engineering consultant. It highlighted several case studies of municipalities in various regions of the U.S. that have experienced many of the same challenges Oneida County now faces as a result of a NYSDEC-issued Consent Order signed last summer. The Consent Order mandates the county's compliance with state and federal permitting, environmental and water quality regulations.

I&I issues occurring on private property are considered among the most challenging for the project team to address over the course of the multi-year project, which will include repairs, remediation and a long-term study to determine the sources of excess storm water in the County's sewer system. The topic of I&I will be a top priority agenda item for the project Steering Committee to address at upcoming meetings over the next several months.

The Steering Committee was established to provide strategic oversight for the project and ensure broad community representation and dialogue in developing possible solutions for carrying out DEC mandates.

Among the webcast attendees were: Steve Devan, Oneida County Department of Water Pollution Control (OCDWPC); Alan Swierczek, Consulting Engineer; Jim Luz,

Shumaker Consulting Engineering; Wendi Richards, Brown and Caldwell; John LaGorga, Stearns & Wheeler; Richard Coriale, NYSDEC; Karl Schrantz, Shumaker Consulting Engineering; Roger Cleveland, Town of New Hartford Highway Department; James Praznik, OCDWPC; John Waters, OCDWPC; Michael Bocci, NYSDEC; Don Bathke, Village of New Hartford Highway Department; Deborah Day, City of Utica Engineering Department; Joseph Urban, Village of New York Mills; Joseph Lazenby, Village of Whitesboro; Don Ryan, Village of New Hartford; John Meagher, Town of New Hartford Engineering Department; Sal Granato, Town of Whitestown Highway Department; Bill Schmitt, Town of Whitestown attorney; Kurt Schwenzfeier, Town of New Hartford Planning Department.

Schrantz said the webcasts are being offered as a way to educate project team participants and familiarize them with some of the issues surrounding project tasks and milestones. Pleased with the turnout, the interest shown by attendees and the usefulness of the information presented, Schrantz said he plans to arrange additional webcasts and webinars on other project-related topics in the future.