

**Boston Water and  
Sewer Commission**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Boston Water and Sewer Commission's Chief Engineer  
John P. Sullivan Receives Two Prestigious Awards**

*Sullivan Recognized as a City of Boston "Unsung Hero," "Champion" of the Charles River*

**Boston, Mass.**, October 2, 2018 — [Boston Water and Sewer Commission \(BWSC\)](#) Chief Engineer John P. Sullivan recently received two awards honoring his public service, one a Henry L. Shattuck Award given to Boston municipal workers who are "unsung heroes and role models," the other from the Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA) for his efforts to protect the Charles River.

John P. Sullivan has been with BWSC for 46 years, 28 of them as Chief Engineer. He knows the system well: both his father and grandfather worked for the City of Boston in the same field. "Boston Water and Sewer Commission has great people, a strong record of accomplishment and a tradition of collaboration, all of which are reflected in John Sullivan and his well-deserved honors," said Boston Water and Sewer Commission Executive Director Henry F. Vitale. Perhaps his most significant achievement has been overseeing more than \$1 billion dollars of water, sewer and storm drain infrastructure improvements. "It's a great job because you get to make things better," Mr. Sullivan told the *Boston Globe* upon learning of the Shattuck honor.

Mr. Sullivan is a nationally recognized expert on water and sewer matters and was sent to Flint, Michigan, to advise that city when dangerous levels of lead in the drinking water created a massive public health crisis. He has also been a leader introducing to Boston environmentally sound "green infrastructure" techniques, which help reduce the polluting impact of storm water runoff.

One of 11 Shattuck Award honorees for 2018, Mr. Sullivan was also named as one of this year's "Champions of the Charles" for his "tireless dedication" to protecting the region's iconic waterway. This honor was bestowed by the Charles River Watershed Association (CRWA), a science and advocacy organization. The private – public partnership between CRWA and BWSC has been extremely successful and is used as a national model.



L-R: Boston Municipal Research Bureau (BMRB) President Sam Tyler; BMRB Chairman Thomas Samoluk; Kara Buckley, P&G Gillette; BWSC Chief Engineer John P. Sullivan; Boston Mayor Martin J. Walsh; BWSC Executive Director Henry F. Vitale.

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Boston is home to New England's oldest and largest water, sewer and stormwater systems, which are owned, maintained and operated by the Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC). Established in 1977, BWSC provides potable water and sewer services to more than one million people per day. BWSC is also the leading organizer of *We Are All Connected*, a campaign to raise public awareness about the importance of protecting and preserving Boston's waterways. For more information please visit: [www.bwsc.org](http://www.bwsc.org).