

CITY of HOUSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
Houston, TX

The City of Houston Police Department was experiencing corrosion of a gas line under the access road to its maintenance garage. This gas line is perceived as a crucial element to the City of Houston because it is the fuel line for the backup generators that operate the emergency electrical center for the Houston Police Department's fueling depot. Extreme fiscal limitations in the City of Houston's annual Police Department's budget and the heightened state of alert in national and local security demanded a quick, inexpensive and reliable solution.



THE PROBLEM:

A run of approximately 220 linear feet of natural gas line running beneath the driveway to the maintenance garage was isolated. The pipe was a 2-inch, iron pipe gas line that ran directly between the fuel center, Municipal Courts building, HPD parking facility and motor pool garage at the Houston Police Department's main headquarters. In this situation, traditional pipe replacement would be faced with a most challenging issue of excavating the parking lot and roadway while rerouting the high throughput Municipal Court and HPD parking and fueling center. This endeavor would have certainly resulted in time and cost overruns due to the necessary steps mandated to ensure no damage was done to the existing fuel tanks. Additionally, this project was extremely time sensitive.

THE SOLUTION:

This is a textbook case highlighting one of the advantages of the ePIPE[®] system over traditional pipe replacement. Traditionally, this project would have incurred weeks of disruption and inconvenience to hundreds of employees and thousands of additional patrons. TDT Plumbing, an authorized ePIPE[®] installer arrived early in the morning and was able to clean and apply the ePIPE[®] barrier coating to the pipeline in one business day. The following day, after inspection by city officials, the line was approved and returned to service. The job was performed without disruption to the daily operations of the Municipal Court Building, HPD Headquarters, the fueling center or the maintenance garage at a fraction of the cost of a full pipe replacement.

