

**CITY OF UNIVERSITY CITY**  
**Public Works Department**  
**Sanitary Sewer Lateral Repair Program Information**

A sewer lateral is considered defective when it cannot be cleared to function properly. The SSLRP repair assistance program covers the first \$2,500 of the cost of the repair, and to replace sidewalk, driveway and street pavement removed to accomplish the sewer lateral repair. In the event obstacles such as yard sheds, garages, etc., are in the path of the sewer lateral or lie over the damaged portion of the lateral, the City reserves the right to reroute the sewer lateral to avoid the necessity of removing the structures. In the event rerouting is impractical, the City and the homeowner will meet to discuss a solution. The City will make the final decision.

**Homeowners are responsible for submitting all required documentation and following all of the procedures for the program, including:**

**(1) COMPLETE A CHECKLIST.** Homeowners must submit a completed checklist and application form, a videotaped inspection of the sewer lateral, and a sketch which indicates the defect, and any other available documentation to demonstrate the severity of the problem to the Department of Public Works, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of City Hall. Incomplete application packages will not be accepted. All documentation, including the inspection video, may also be emailed directly to Project Manager, call 314-505-8560 for email address. Please include the property address in the subject line.

**In the case of a cave-in or other emergency, contact the Department of Public Works immediately.** In case of an emergency, the City Manager or his designee may waive this and other requirements.

**(2) CITY REVIEWS THE APPLICATION PACKAGE:** The City will approve/disapprove the repair request in writing to the homeowner within ten (10) days of receiving the application. Approval will not be given if any part of the application does not meet the program standards. The costs incurred for cabling, video inspection, etc. will not be applied towards the repair cost, and are the responsibility of the homeowner.

**(3) CITY WILL WRITE REPAIR SPECIFICATIONS AND SOLICIT BIDS (A MINIMUM OF THREE (3) CONTRACTORS WILL BE SENT THE BID PACKAGE):** Once the application is approved, the City will write specifications for the repair and solicit bids from a minimum of three (3) participating U. City SSLRP licensed drain-layers. Once bids have been received, the City will review and approve the lowest, responsible bid and forward all necessary documents to the homeowner for review and signature.

**(4) SCHEDULING OF THE LATERAL REPAIR:** After the City receives the signed approval package back from the homeowner, the City will generate a purchase order number, typically within five (5) working days. Then the City will forward the documents to the contractor who will contact the homeowner within five (5) working days to collect payment and schedule a repair date.

**(5) CONTRACTOR SUBMITS DOCUMENTATION PACKAGE FOR PAYMENT:** The City will only pay up to \$2500 of the cost of the approved repair upon completion and inspection of the approved work and submittal of an itemized bill from the contractor. Once the final inspection is completed and passed, the City will process the contractor invoice.

**(6) PAYMENT OF APPROVED DOCUMENTATION PACKAGES:** Effective September 25, 2018, the City will pay the first \$2,500 of the approved corrective work. Payment will be made directly to the approved contractor. The program covers \$2,500 of approved corrective work plus backfilling, seeding and strawing. It is the homeowner's responsibility to water and maintain the seeded area.

**Note:** The City may periodically amend the program in the best interest of the City and its homeowners, except as may be restricted by state law or City ordinance. Expenses incurred prior to January 1, 2000, are ineligible for the program.

# Public Works Department

## Sanitary Sewer Lateral Repair Program

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### **About the Program**

The Sanitary Sewer Lateral Repair Program (SSLRP) was established in January 2000 to help homeowners pay for costly sewer lateral repairs that can average anywhere from \$3,000 to \$8,500. Effective September 25, 2018, the City's program will cover the first \$2,500 of the expenses specifically related to the approved repair or replacement of the sewer lateral, including excavation, repair or replacement of the sewer lateral, backfilling, pavement, seeding and strawing. The program does not cover restoration of any landscape or hardscape. Only expenses approved by the City are covered under this program. The program is limited to available funds.

### **What Is a Sewer Lateral?**

A sewer lateral carries wastes from your home to the Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) main sewer. The sewer lateral extends from your home to MSD's main connection. The sewer lateral is owned by the homeowner, and they are responsible for repairs or maintenance to the lateral.

### **What Is a Defective Sewer Lateral?**

A defective sewer lateral is defined as (1) a lateral that has a *raw sewage* back-up, and it cannot be cleared when cabled, or (2) a broken or offset lateral may have caused a sink hole to form as a result of raw sewage seeping into the ground, or (3) a lateral which is more than 50% blocked due to damage, roots, or other debris.

### **Doesn't MSD Cover Sewer Repairs?**

The Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) only repairs the sewer main. MSD does not pay for repairs to your sewer lateral or the connection to its main, as this is the homeowner's responsibility.

### **What Does the Program Cover?**

The City's Sanitary Sewer Lateral Repair Program will pay the first \$2,500 of the repair or replacement cost of the sewer lateral. Damaged or blocked pipes located inside or under your home or under any permanently attached structures are not covered under this program.

### **Who Is Eligible to Participate In the Program?**

The Sanitary Sewer Lateral Repair Program applies only to residential buildings of up to six (6) units. The program is not available to commercial or industrial property. See the reverse side of this letter for detailed information on the Sanitary Sewer Lateral Repair Program.

### **How Do I Apply?**

To serve you better, we have designed a simple checklist for you to complete when applying to the repair program. The checklist and application must be completed in order for the City to evaluate your case.

### **Who Should I Contact?**

If you have additional questions regarding the City's Sanitary Sewer Lateral Repair Program, contact the Public Works Department at 505-8560. Application may also be requested in writing and mailed to the Department of Public Works, 6801 Delmar Blvd., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, University City, MO 63130.