

# Sewer Lateral Line Discussion

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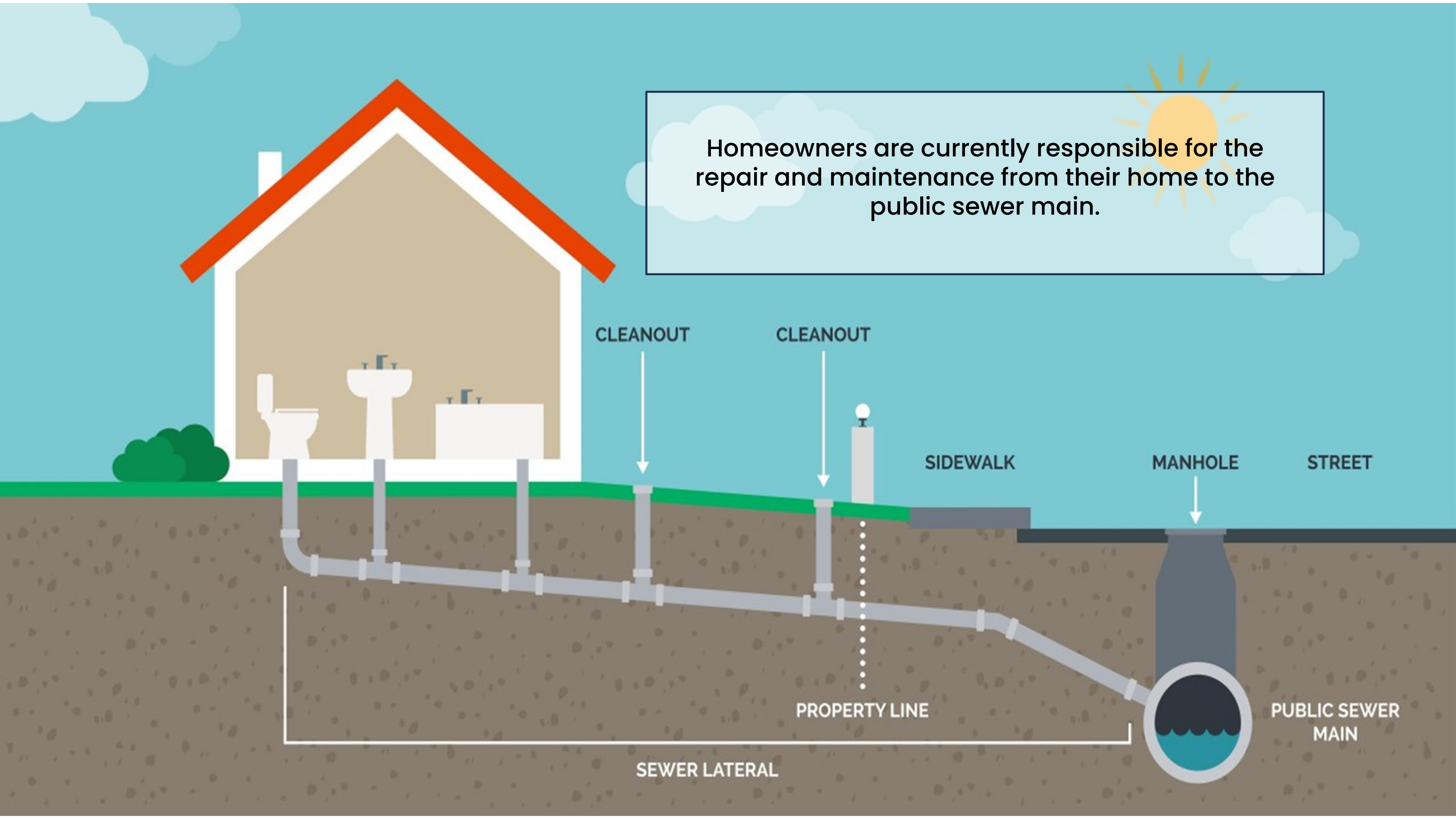


**WATER UTILITIES**  
**LEE'S SUMMIT**

# Current Challenges

- The repair of sewer lateral lines in the under-City Streets has been a discussion point for many years
- Significant cost to repair in the right of way
- Homeowners' have a difficult time hiring/finding contractors to perform the work
- Potential impacts to the public infrastructure
- Complexity of the work

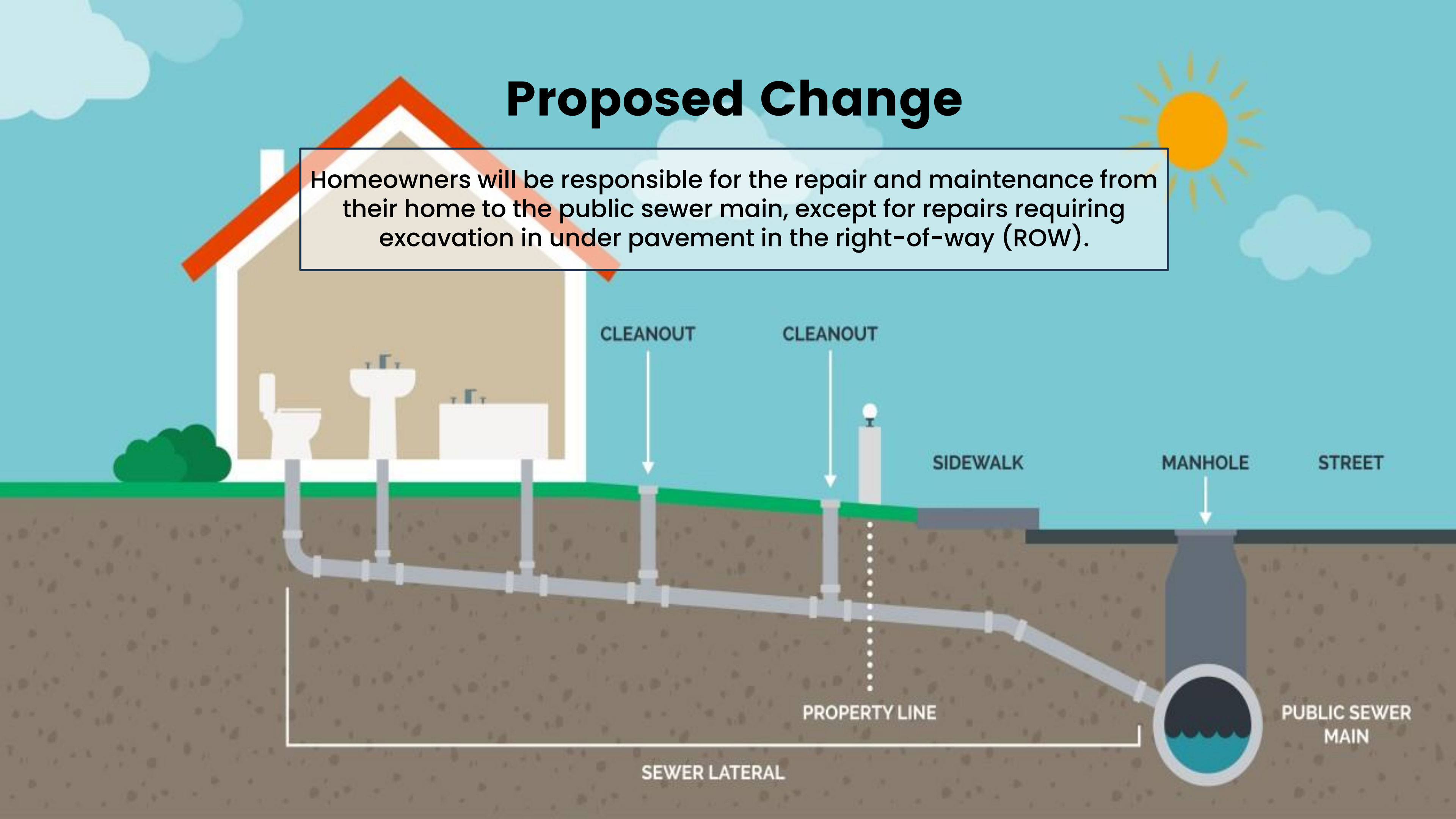
Homeowners are currently responsible for the repair and maintenance from their home to the public sewer main.





# Proposed Change

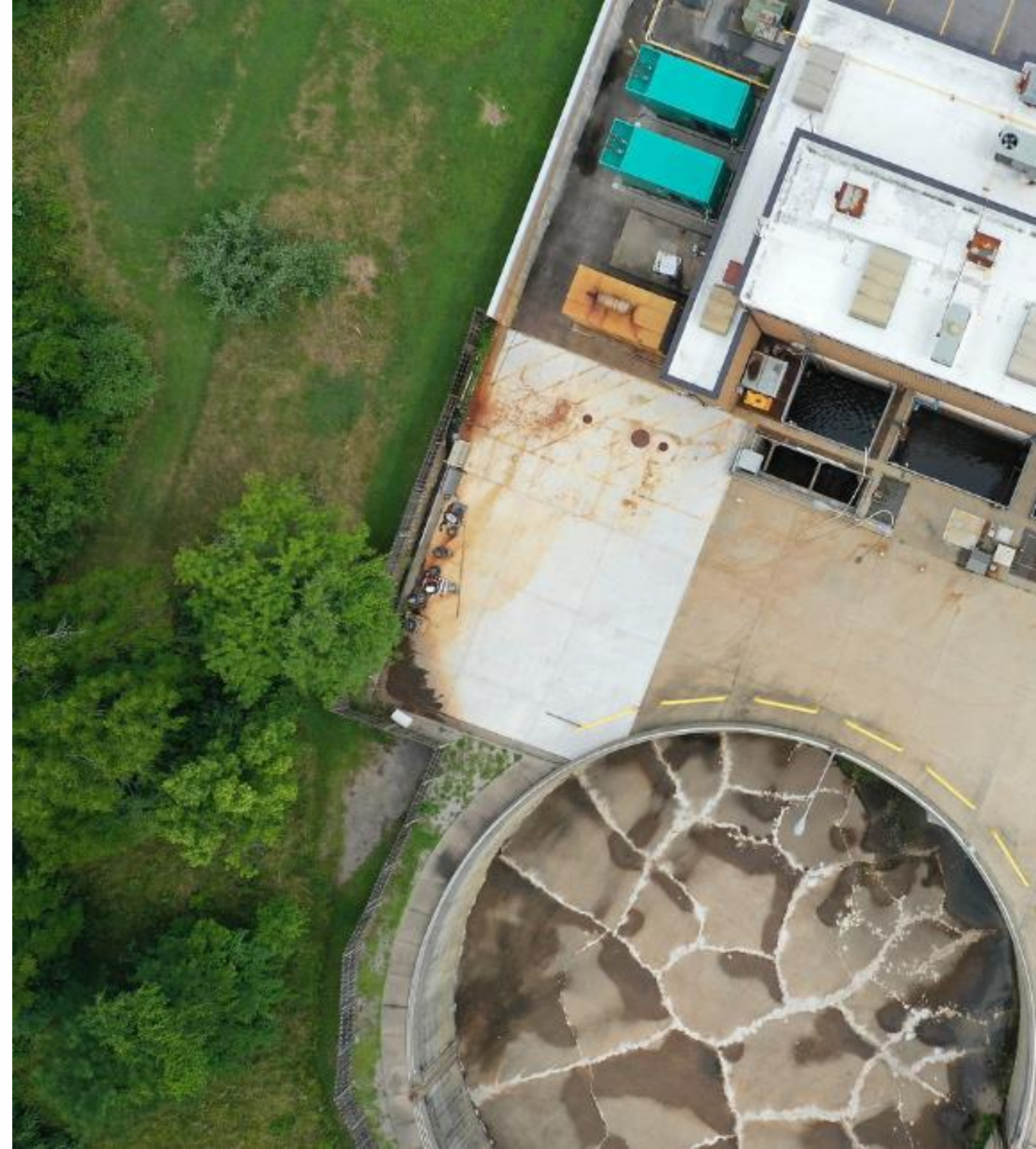
Homeowners will be responsible for the repair and maintenance from their home to the public sewer main, except for repairs requiring excavation in under pavement in the right-of-way (ROW).





# Other Communities

- Level of Service varies among communities
  - Many communities provide repairs only in the ROW at City Cost
  - Others charge an annual fee and provide repairs
  - Some provide partial reimbursement for resident lead repairs
  - Many recommend and endorse sewer lateral insurance
- Most follow our existing practice







# Recommendations

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- Create a departmental policy to enable the repair of sewer laterals requiring excavation in the ROW.
    - Single Family Only
      - Attached and Detached
      - Owner Occupied
  - Continue recommending private insurance policies and provide customer education regarding companies that offer additional insurance opportunities:
    - American Water Resources
    - HomeServe
    - Homeowners existing insurance in some cases

# Lateral Repair Initiative

- Sanitary Sewer Lateral Repair Policy
  - Ownership and maintenance of the sanitary sewer lateral and connection remains with the resident
  - Repairs not requiring excavation under the pavement in the ROW are the owner's responsibility
  - LSWU will repair structural failures requiring excavation through the pavement in the ROW
    - Homeowners shall apply and provide all required information such as:
      - Video of the structural defects
      - Proof that the repair requires excavation and is in the ROW
    - Subject to approval cost to repair the sewer lateral, excavate, and restore the pavement in the ROW will be paid for by the department.
    - Repairs will be scheduled and repaired during normal business hours

# Not for General Maintenance

Residents are still required to perform general maintenance and repairs to the sewer lateral.

- Root intrusion and lateral backups due to lack of maintenance would continue to be the homeowner's responsibility
- Grease and Flushable Wipes are considered general maintenance
- Removal of root intrusion is general maintenance
- Issues that can be solved without excavation within the ROW



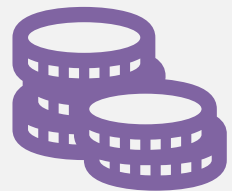
# What's Next?



Approve the departmental policy with requirements



Budget \$120K for pilot lateral repair program



Track the work and cost of work for a year



Report to WUAB with one year of history and revisit this recommendation

**Questions?**