



Department of Public Works

Engineering Division

James M. Wolfe, P.E., City Engineer

City-County Building, Room 115
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
Phone: (608) 266-4751
Fax: (608) 264-9275
engineering@cityofmadison.com
www.cityofmadison.com/engineering

Assistant City Engineer

Bryan Cooper, AIA
Gregory T. Fries, P.E.
Chris Petykowski, P.E.

Principal Architect

Amy Loewenstein Scanlon, AIA

Principal Engineer 2

Janet Schmidt, P.E.

Principal Engineer 1

Kyle Frank, P.E.
Mark D. Moder, P.E.
Fadi El Musa Gonzalez, P.E.
Andrew J. Zwieg, P.E.

Financial Manager

Steven B. Danner-Rivers

Operations Manager

Ryan Schmidt

Parcel Number: «Parcel»

Situs Address:«SitusAddress»

«OwnerName1»

«OwnerName2»

«OwnerAddress»

«OwnerCityStZip»

October 2, 2026

Re: Backyard Sanitary Sewer Lateral Relocation for Dickson Pl, Irwin Pl, Dodge St, Carver St, Martin St Reconstruction project

Dear resident,

As you may be aware, your property's sanitary service is connected to a backyard sanitary sewer main. This sewer main is difficult for our maintenance crews to access and adequately clean and has caused sewer backups in the past due to its poor condition. As part of proposed street reconstruction projects in the area, including the upcoming 'Dickson Pl, Irwin Pl, Dodge St, Carver St, Martin St Reconstruction' project, the City intends to install new sanitary sewer mains within the roadways and then work with property owners to redirect their sanitary service laterals to these new sewer mains. Eventually, the City intends to abandon the existing sanitary sewer mains. The purpose of this letter is to explain the City's Plumbing Conversion policy as it relates to your specific property.

Although abandoning the backyard sewer main will require property owners to redirect their plumbing systems, the City will reimburse a significant portion of this cost. A second notice will be sent to the property owner on record of the address listed on this letter with updated information regarding reimbursement rates for 2027. For reference, the following dollar amounts are for the year 2026. For plumbing conversions, the City's policy is to offer a two-year reimbursement period that starts on June 1st of the year following substantial completion of the City project. During year one of the reimbursement period, 100% of up to \$11,000 spent on lateral relocations will be offered for private properties. The City then reimburses in reduced percentages for portions of total relocation costs over \$11,000 and up to \$18,000 (the total reimbursement maximum is \$15,375 for relocations costing \$18,000 or more). Between year one and year two of the reimbursement period, reimbursement amounts will decrease by 5% per month until June 1st of the second year. Work on the 'Dickson Pl, Irwin Pl, Dodge St, Carver St, Martin St Reconstruction' project is scheduled to begin next year, 2027. A two-year reimbursement period will begin on June 1st following substantial completion of the project (the start of reimbursement period is currently assumed to be June 1, 2028).

After the two-year reimbursement period, the City will not provide cost-sharing for this work. A summary of the City's policy on this topic has been included with this letter. Please note that a separate special assessment will be charged for lateral removal/replacement and reconnection for the portion of your property's lateral within the public right-of-way and is associated with the street reconstruction project. This assessment is not a part of the reimbursement being discussed in this letter.

In order to receive reimbursement, the City would direct private property owners to obtain at least three bids for the work from contractors pre-approved by the City. Obtaining three (3) contractor quotes ensures that you are obtaining a fair price to complete the work. If you are unable to obtain 3 quotes, the City has waived this requirement in the past on a case-by-case basis. A list of pre-approved contractors can be found on the City's website here:

<https://www.cityofmadison.com/engineering/developers-contractors/contractors/prequalified-contractor-list>

(Click 'Approved Contractors to work in the City right-of-way for Utilities/Others', then scroll to Section 305)

Below are examples of plumbing contractors who have recently completed plumbing conversions for private property owners impacted by similar City reconstruction projects, where a backyard sewer was abandoned and their sanitary lateral needed to be re-routed to the roadway:

- C J Kavon Company, LLC
- Dave Jones, LLC
- H.J. Pertzborn Plumbing & Fire Protection Corporation
- Hooper Corporation
- Monona Plumbing & Fire Protection
- South Central Contracting Inc.

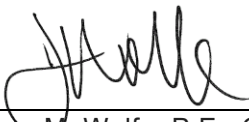
(Note: The listing of these example contractors should not be interpreted as an endorsement or recommendation of any particular company by the City of Madison. This list is provided solely as a reference.)

Timeline for Plumbing Conversion to Minimize Out-of-Pocket Expenses and to Maximize Reimbursement:

As previously mentioned, the City intends to abandon the backyard sewer mains that serve properties within the Lake Forest neighborhood. This current public project includes properties along Dickson Pl, Irwin Pl, Dodge St, Carver St, and Martin St. Once new sewer mains on these streets are installed, the City will be requiring this property to connect to a new sanitary main placed within an adjacent roadway. Property owners interested in obtaining the maximum reimbursement for the sewer lateral reroute will need to hire a contractor and complete the reroute within the 1-year reimbursement period, which again begins June 1st following substantial completion of the project. You will be notified when the reimbursement period begins.

Similarly, City Engineering highly recommends that property owners coordinate completion of their plumbing conversion and lateral relocation while the public project is underway and the regional groundwater dewatering systems expected for the public project are still in-place (i.e. while the area's high groundwater table is temporarily lowered). This could significantly reduce the cost of the plumbing conversion and lateral relocation, thus reducing potential out-of-pocket expenses for the property owner.

If you have questions on the above information, please feel free to contact the sewer design engineer, Eric Cefalu, at (608) 243-5894 or ececalu@cityofmadison.com.


James M. Wolfe, P.E., City Engineer

To request interpretation, translation or a disability-related accommodation at no cost to you, contact the Engineering Division, (608) 266-4751, or email engineer@cityofmadison.com.

Para solicitar interpretación, traducción o una adaptación especial relacionada con alguna discapacidad sin costo alguno para usted, comuníquese al (608) 266-4751 o al correo engineer@cityofmadison.com.

如需免費提供口譯、筆譯或殘疾相關的便利服務，請聯系 (608) 266-4751 或 engineer@cityofmadison.com.

Koj muaj txoj cai tau txais kev txhais lus, kev pes lus los sis kev pab cuam txhawm rau kev tsis taus uas tsis muaj nqi rau koj: Xav paub ntxiv tiv tauj rau (608) 266-4751 los sis engineer@cityofmadison.com.

JMW:EAC

Cc by email:

Alder Tag Evers, District 13
Eric Cefalu, City Engineering

Greg Fries, City Engineering
Nicholas Jaeckels, City Engineering

Mark Moder, City Engineering

Attached:

15985_Plumbing Conversion Policy & Rates