

STAFF REPORT



CITY OF OCEANSIDE

DATE: February 19, 2014

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Water Utilities Department

SUBJECT: **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 29, ARTICLE II OF THE OCEANSIDE MUNICIPAL CODE TO REFLECT CLARIFICATIONS TO MAINTENANCE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRIVATE SEWER CONNECTIONS**

SYNOPSIS

Staff and the Utilities Commission recommend that the City Council introduce an ordinance amending Chapter 29, Article II of the Oceanside Municipal Code to reflect clarifications to maintenance responsibility for private sewer connections.

BACKGROUND

The City maintains the sewer collection system including sewer mains, pump stations, and force mains. The connection to the City's main from a home or business is the responsibility of the private property owner to install and maintain. The recommended ordinance amendment clarifies that property owners are also responsible for the replacement of the sewer lateral serving their private property and permitting for the repair if the work encroaches upon a public right-of-way.

ANALYSIS

Sewer laterals are those connections which convey sewage from private homes or businesses to the City's sewer main. Sewer laterals exist only to serve the private business or home and therefore their care and maintenance are the responsibility of the private property owner. With age, sewer laterals can break due to settling or root intrusion, which can necessitate that the entire sewer lateral be replaced from the connection from the home to the City's sewer main. One of the newer techniques for repairing sewer laterals is using a "cured-in-place pipe" (CIPP) method whereby a polyester or fiberglass cloth is pulled into the damaged pipe and inverted using water or air pressure. This technique is being more widely used because it eliminates the disruptive digging of the lateral to make the repair.

This method does present some risk for the City. There are instances when the installer may need to conduct the work by entering through a sewer manhole on the City's sewer main or, the repair made by the CIPP method may leave a piece of liner

protruding into the sewer main so as to cause debris to catch on the lateral, increasing the risk for damage to the City's main and increasing the risk of sewer blockages, overflows, and private property damage.

The recommended clarifications to the ordinance do not alter who presently has responsibility for maintenance; however, they do require that repairs or replacement work which encroach on a public right-of-way be permitted. The permitting requirement would trigger an inspection of the sewer connection by in-house staff to verify that the work has been made in such a manner to not pose a risk for the sewer utility.

FISCAL IMPACT

Does not apply.

CITY ATTORNEY'S ANALYSIS

The referenced documents have been reviewed by the City Attorney's office and approved as to form.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Does not apply.

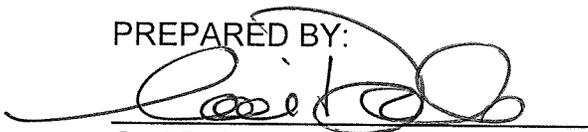
COMMISSION OR COMMITTEE REPORT

The Utilities Commission approved staff's recommendation at its regularly scheduled meeting on January 21, 2014.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff and the Utilities Commission recommend that the City Council introduce an ordinance amending Chapter 29, Article II of the Oceanside Municipal Code to reflect clarifications to maintenance responsibility for private sewer connections.

PREPARED BY:



Cari Dale
Water Utilities Director

SUBMITTED BY:



Steve Jepsen
City Manager

REVIEWED BY:

Michelle Skaggs Lawrence, Deputy City Manager

George Buell, Development Services Director

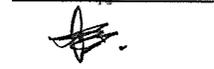



Exhibit A: Ordinance

1 hereby declares that it would have adopted this Ordinance and each section, sentence, clause or
2 phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more section, subsections, sentences,
3 clauses or phrases be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

4 SECTION 3. The City Clerk of the City of Oceanside is hereby directed to publish this
5 ordinance, or the title hereof as a summary, pursuant to state statute, once within fifteen (15)
6 days after its passage in the San Diego Union Tribune North County edition, a newspaper of
7 general circulation published in the City of Oceanside.

8 SECTION 4. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force on the thirtieth (30th) day
9 from and after its final passage.

10 INTRODUCED at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Oceanside held
11 on the ____ day of _____, 2014, and, thereafter,

12 PASSED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Oceanside, California
13 this ____ day of _____, 2014, by the following vote:

14
15 AYES:
16 NAYS:
17 ABSENT:
18 ABSTAIN:

19 _____
MAYOR, CITY OF OCEANSIDE

20 ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

21 _____
22 CITY CLERK

21 
22 CITY ATTORNEY

23 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF OCEANSIDE AMENDING CHAPTER 29 OF THE OCEANSIDE CITY
24 CODE BY AMENDING ARTICLE II, SEWER CONNECTIONS
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