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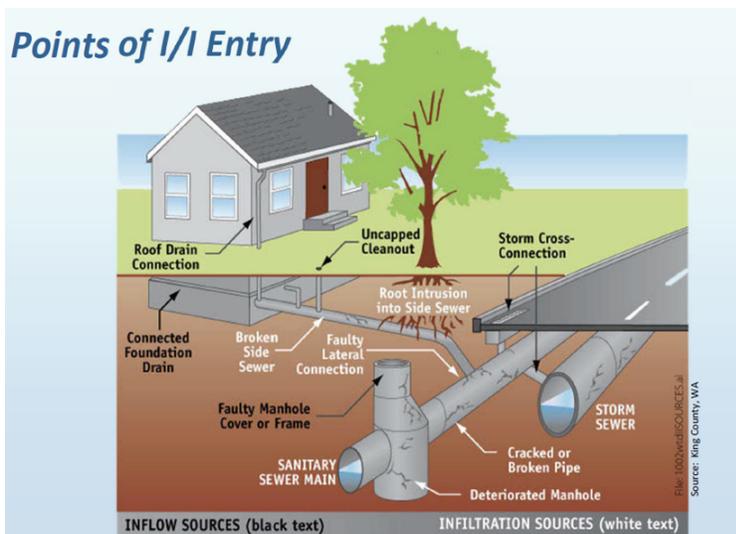
July 19, 2019

Dear Customer,

Like many similar agencies, LGVSD is developing a sewer lateral ordinance in order to reduce the chance of wet weather related sewer spills and improve efficiency of the District’s Wastewater Treatment Plant. We want your feedback as we develop the ordinance, so please read on!

Just like a roof, foundation, electrical panel, or furnace, which are part of a house’s ‘infrastructure,’ all residential dwellings (houses, condominiums, apartment complexes, etc.) have a sewer lateral pipeline that conveys wastewater generated at the residential property to the sewer main pipeline in the street, which eventually leads to the District’s wastewater treatment plant.

Sewer lateral age and/or tree root disruption can cause cracks in the pipe that allow groundwater and rainwater seepage into the system (infiltration). Infiltration leads to unnecessarily high flows in the sewer main network that can increase the potential for spills. This ‘extra water’ also requires the treatment plant to treat higher flows, which increases costs for electrical power and chemicals. Illegal connections (such as sump pump discharges or gutter downspouts) also contribute to elevated flows and the associated risks and costs. These types of inputs to the system are referred to as ‘inflow.’ Cracks in old sewer mains in the streets are also a source of inappropriate inputs to the sewer system, which is why the District is regularly upgrading and replacing sewer mains in numerous city streets. Combined, inflow and infiltration are abbreviated as I&I.



In order to incrementally address excess flows from private sewer laterals, the District is developing a sewer lateral ordinance that requires an evaluation of each residential property’s lateral for condition and potential illegal connections. Many other agencies have implemented ordinances for the same purpose. The proposed ordinance addresses events which would trigger inspections, lateral replacement requirements, and mitigation of illegal connections, along with timing for the various inspections and mitigation activities, and fines for non-compliance.

The following table describes some fundamental aspects of sewer lateral inspections and replacement that the ordinance will address.



If an owner must replace their lateral, we want to remind you that LGVSD has a lateral replacement loan program to help finance the work. Homeowners would be eligible for a low interest loan (2%) for an amount up to \$10,000. More information on the requirements and the application process can be found at our website, <http://www.lgvsd.org/doing-business/sewer-lateral-assistance/>

LGVSD would greatly value your feedback regarding the proposed ordinance. Please provide your written/emailed input by **August 21, 2019** to LGVSD at 300 Smith Ranch Rd., San Rafael CA 94903 or gpease@lgvsd.org. If you'd like to attend the LGVSD Board meeting where the draft ordinance language will be considered, please monitor the District's website for the meeting announcement. This issue is tentatively scheduled for a Board meeting in September.

LGVSD is developing this ordinance because doing so will ultimately help keep your wastewater rates as low as possible, help protect the environment, and is consistent with the District's infrastructure and environmental stewardship philosophy.

Sincerely,

Greg Pease

Greg Pease
 Collection System/Safety Manager
 Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District