

Dear LGVSD Customer,

Thank you for contacting the District in response to our request for comments regarding the proposed Lateral Inspection Ordinance. As a District, it is imperative that we provide the best service for our customers and ensure we do so in an environmentally conscious and cost-effective manner, meeting the requirements of California Regional Water Quality Control Board.

Due to the volume of comments we are receiving, I cannot respond to you individually but would like to address some of the recurring questions many of you have expressed.

**Q: What is the reason for creating a Lateral Inspection Ordinance?**

**A:** There are (2) primary reasons for the Lateral Inspection Ordinance, **1)** The California Regional Water Quality Control Board who regulates wastewater treatment agencies, is requiring not only LGVSD but other wastewater agencies throughout the state, to address Inflow and Infiltration (I&I) in the Collection System (Sanitary Sewers). There are approximately (7) Marin County Wastewater Agencies with Lateral Inspection Ordinances already in place. **2)** LGVSD has an average dry weather flow of approximately 2.2 Million Gallons Per Day. During a wet weather event the treatment plant can experience flows of over 20 Million Gallons per Day, which dramatically increases operational costs due to chemical usage and electrical demand for pumping. These high winter flows are attributable to excessive I&I, much of which comes from private property sewer laterals.

**Q: What is a PACP inspection going to cost and where can I find a list of Certified Inspectors?**

**A:** The average inspection is approximately \$200 - \$300 and the District will be creating a list of Approved PACP Contractors that will be available on the Districts' website after the Ordinance is formally adopted. We do anticipate that the District will charge an application and review fee for administration time which has yet to be determined but it is anticipated to be approximately equal to the cost of the inspection itself.

**Q: Why is the home remodel valuation trigger so low (\$15K+)?**

**A:** Unlike other agencies with Lateral Inspection Ordinances already in place, LGVSD is not requiring laterals to pass a pressure test and be replaced immediately. Most ordinances require replacement prior to close of escrow of a home sale or within 90 days for all other triggers, with the average cost being in the \$6,000 to \$7,500 range, plus District fees.

The intent of LGVSD is to identify as many potential failing laterals as possible in order to reduce I&I more expeditiously, which will reduce the cumulative cost of treating unnecessary high winter flows. Since these operational costs are a burden all customers carry, LGVSD sees an aggressive reduction of I&I as in the best interest of everyone. While the proposed remodel trigger is lower than the remodel trigger in other Districts, LGVSD sees the much more lenient proposed time frame for lateral replacement (2 years) if required, in conjunction with the available financing program, as substantial acknowledgement of the challenge a lateral replacement could be for some customers. For comparison, other Districts require lateral replacement within 90 days or close of escrow of an identified replacement.