



## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEMS

**To:** Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Walter Denton, City Administrator  
Dennis Sullivan, Director of Engineering & Public Works  
**Date:** November 5, 2007  
**Subject:** RESOLUTION – Sewer Lateral Program

**List of committees that have reviewed:** Public Works

**Background:** The program would operate basically as follows. The homeowner will complete an application titled “EMERGENCY SEWER LATERAL REPAIR APPLICATION”. If the sewer lateral line crosses over into a neighbor’s yard, the neighbor may be required to sign an application giving consent for access to their property. With the application, the homeowner will submit a “**PLUMBER CERTIFICATION**”, certifying the need for a sewer lateral repair, by the Sewer Lateral Repair Application. The application along with supporting documentation can be mailed, faxed or e-mailed to the Public Works Operations Group. The following actions will take place once the application is received. The Sewer Division will contact the certifying contractor’s plumber. If the amount bid to make the repair is deemed reasonable and the plumbing contractor is on the Repair List of Contractors, the contractor will be given permission to proceed with the repair. The Director of Public Works may in his discretion seek additional bids for such repair in the event the bid is deemed unreasonable. If the certifying contractor is not a qualified repair list contractor, the Director will solicit at least three (3) bids from qualified “Repair List” contractors to perform the repair. The Applicant will be notified by the contractor who has been authorized to perform the repairs. The licensed contractor will make the contracted repairs. After the repairs have been made, the contractor will submit his invoice to the Department of Public Works, Sewer Division. Inspections will be performed by all relevant agencies permitting work. Upon approval of the final inspection of the repairs and the receipt of all required documentation, the City will pay the contractor.

The historical cost of lateral repair in the Metro area is any where from \$2,500 to \$4,500 dependent upon other utilities present and the path of the lateral from the meter to the home.

**Legal Considerations, if any:** None.

**Budget Impact:** If referendum vote is yes by majority, then there will be a fenced revenue fund created to account for revenue collected and that revenue would be saved for disbursement on claims filed for lateral repair.

**Staff Recommendation:** Staff recommends Council pass a resolution supporting the inclusion of a question on the creation of a sewer lateral repair program on a referendum vote to be held in conjunction with the February 2008 primary vote in St. Clair County.