



SEWER LATERAL REPAIR / REPLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Updated 09/14/2021

The City of Pinole adopted an ordinance on November 20, 2012, specific to sewer laterals. The purpose of City of Pinole's ordinance (Sanitary Sewer Lateral Ordinance) is (a) to provide for operation and maintenance of the City's sewer system in a reliable and serviceable condition; (b) to eliminate or minimize sanitary sewer overflows by eliminating or minimizing stoppages and reducing sources of inflow and infiltration into the City's sewer system; (c) to comply with applicable legal requirements pertaining to the City's sewer system; (d) to protect the public health and safety by establishing and providing a mechanism for enforcing performance standards for private sewer laterals that connect or are connected to a Public Sewer main; and (e) to comply with the goal of the City's Sewer System Management Plan which was adopted at the request of the State Water Resource Control Board, and to maintain all parts of the sewer system and reduce and prevent sanitary sewer overflows.

If a property is to be sold, before an offer is made the ordinance requires the current property owner to obtain a video inspection of the lateral by a properly CA licensed contractor (A-General engineering contractor, C-36 Plumbing contractor, C-34 Pipeline contractor, or C-42 Sanitary system contractor).

Other triggers for inspection include:

- The application for a certificate of occupancy for a new building.
- The installation of additional plumbing facilities based on the number of fixtures, which (in the City's judgment) produce a major increase in sewage flow from the building.
- A change in the use of the building (for example, from residential to commercial or vice versa).
- Within 180 days of the transfer of a building in a probate or testamentary proceeding.
- A Notice of Required Inspection by the City of Pinole.

Once the video inspection is completed, the video, an application and the review fee must be provided to the City of Pinole as follows:

1. [Permit application](#).
 - a. Complete the application. If handwriting, please be sure the writing is legible..
2. Method of payment for the \$85.00 fee – utilize the [credit card authorization form](#).
3. Submit the inspection video, application and fee to sewer@ci.pinole.ca.us.

Once the application is made for review, all items are processed in order of receipt. The City of Pinole will either 1) Issue a deficiency notice conveying what needs to be repaired / replaced; OR 2) Issue a Certificate of Compliance which is good for ten years.

IF THE PROPERTY OWNER CHOOSES TO REPLACE THE LATERAL FROM THE HOUSE TO THE MAIN – NO PRE – INSPECTION VIDEO IS REQUIRED.

To obtain the permit for a complete main replacement, the following is required:

1. A properly CA licensed contractor (A-General engineering contractor, C-36 Plumbing contractor, C-34 Pipeline contractor, or C-42 Sanitary system contractor). Must complete the [encroachment permit application](#).
2. Provide a general liability policy as described in the application packet listing the City of Pinole as an additional insured.
3. Provide the CA MUTCD approved traffic control plan.
4. Method of payment for the \$318.00 fee – utilize the [credit card authorization form](#).
5. Submit all items to sewer@ci.pinole.ca.us.

Once all applications are received, they will be processed in order of receipt. Permits are then emailed to the applicant with instructions on how to schedule their inspection.

REQUIRED INSPECTIONS FOR LATERAL REPLACEMENTS:

Inspection Item 4107 – Sewer Test – PW (a 4 pound air test or a static water test must be provided (typically a 5 foot head).

Inspection Item 4104 – Street Asphalt (to verify street restoration of public right-of-way post replacement)

Inspection Item 4101 – Approach / Sidewalk (to verify restoration of public right-of-way involving sidewalk or driveway approaches post replacement)

IF THE SEWER LATERAL REQUIRES REPAIRS THAT ARE LOCATED BACK OF SIDEWALK AND ARE NOT IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY:

All repairs on private property are required to have permits as required by the 2019 CA Plumbing Code and are issued by Community Development. For the application process [please click here](#).