



City of Santa Barbara's Sewer Lateral Inspection Program

Private Sewer Lateral Responsibility

The City of Santa Barbara's Wastewater Collection System is considered one of the most organized, clean, and technologically advanced sewers systems in the State of California. It is managed by the Water Resources Division, under the Public Works Department, and was recently awarded the CWEA's Best Collection System of the Year 2019 in the Medium Category (250-500 miles) at the State level. The commitment of the community and the City has made this possible through decades of hard work. The City aspires to provide its constituents with all the tools necessary to be capable of offering the best wastewater collection service possible, and a significant part to achieve it is through the Sewer Lateral Inspection Program (SLIP), where the City is aiming to someday, have every Private Sewer Lateral in the City adequately maintained.

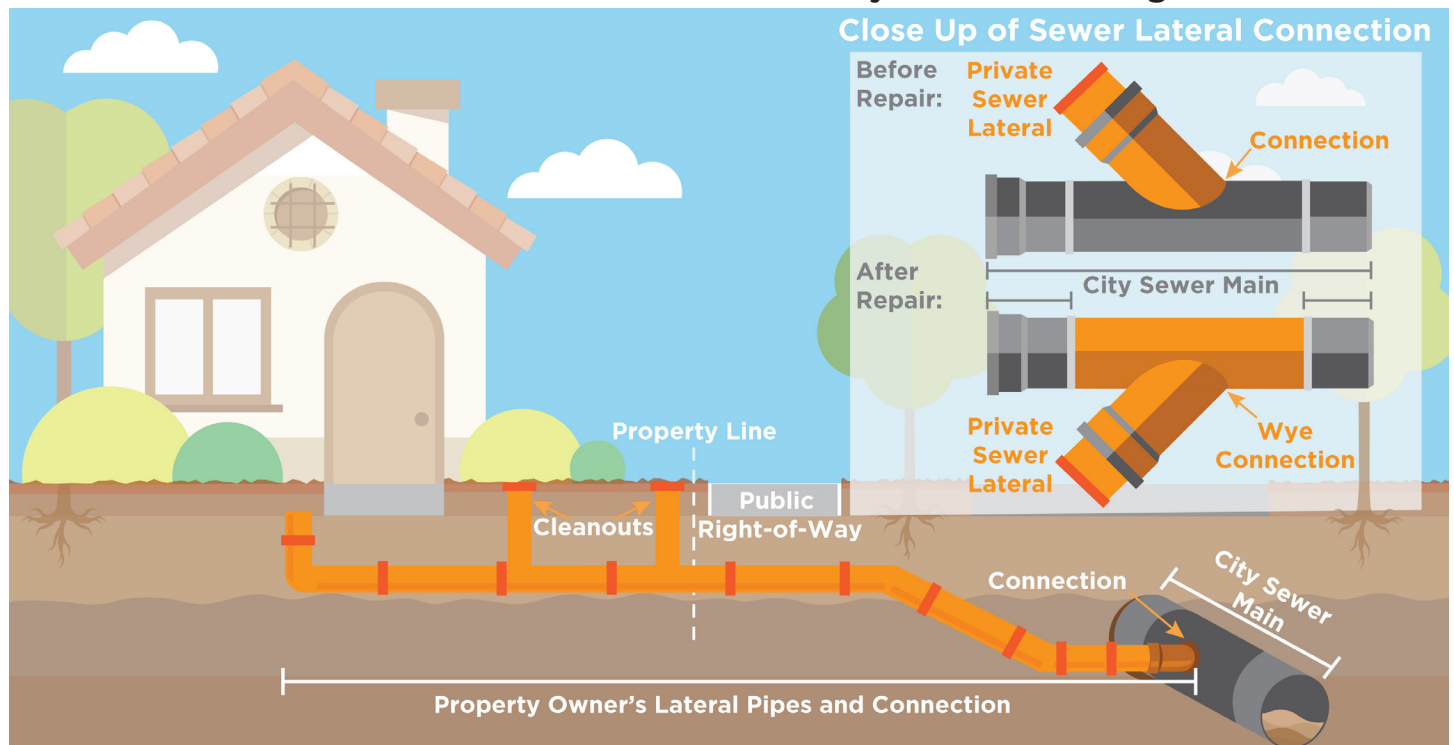
What is a Private Sewer Lateral?

A Private Sewer Lateral is the privately owned pipe that connects the sanitary drains in the home or business to the City's sewer main line, with the connection point typically located in the street. Without proper maintenance, both the private property's and the City's infrastructure are at risk of costly and environmental damages. Catching and fixing problems early, through inspection and repair, is usually more economical for you and the City rather than having to address problems after a sewer lateral fails.

Did You Know that a Property Owner is Responsible for Properly Maintaining its Private Sewer Lateral?

Residential properties in Santa Barbara and the City's Sewer System is 60-years old on average, which means that the sewer lateral in your property is most likely approaching the end of its useful life. By not properly maintaining your sewer lateral, you are putting yours and the City's assets at risk. A sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) or a private lateral sanitary discharge (PLSD), are pretty unpleasant and expensive accidents, most of the time is caused by a poorly maintained sewer lateral.

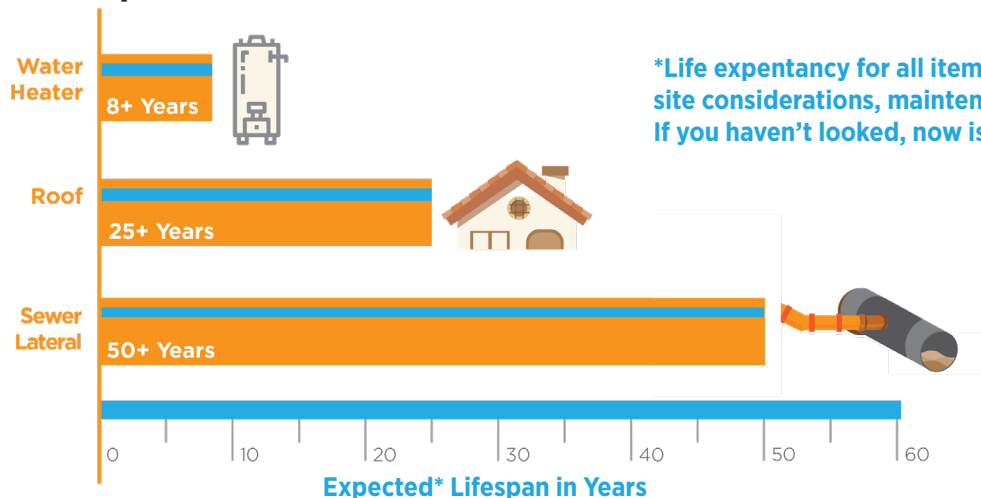
Private Sewer Lateral Connection to City Sewer Main Diagram



The definition of ownership and responsibility of a Private Sewer Lateral is detailed in the Santa Barbara Municipal Code Section 14.44.160 (<http://qcode.us/codes/santabarbara>).

The SLIP Process:

Lifespan of a Sewer Lateral and Other Essential Items



1. INSPECT

The City conducts routine inspections on its sewer mains using a CCTV camera system. Using the data and video obtained through these routine inspections, the City is able to identify private sewer lines that might need repair. By receiving a letter, City has determined that you are a property owner with a sewer lateral that requires inspection. The first step in the process is to select a plumbing contractor to inspect your sewer lateral from the building to the connection to the City main. Once completed, you or your plumbing contractor will submit the Inspection Video and Inspection Form (available on www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/SLIPForms) to the SLIP Team.

Where to submit the Inspection Video and Form?

1. Public Works Front Counter at 630 Garden St
2. Directly to the SLIP Staff at 520 E Yanonali St
3. Online using www.GoForwardLateral.com



2. CITY REVIEW

City staff will review the lateral inspection video and Inspection Form within 10 working days of receipt. If no repairs are identified through this review, the City will issue a Certificate of Compliance (COC) and no further action is needed at that time. If repairs are identified through this review, the City will issue a Notice of Repair Letter, detailing the necessary repairs required to be issued a COC.



3. REPAIR

Property owners are required by Santa Barbara Municipal Code to complete the repair of the sewer lateral. All repairs must be permitted and be completed by a licensed contractor.

The City encourages you to request multiple quotes so you can compare scope and price of the work. Your plumber should obtain the required permits, make the repairs, and provide proof. For *City SLIP Initiated Residential Cases*, the City waives some fees associated with the repair work.



4. SUBMIT

Evidence of repair such as an invoice or post repair video documenting the repair must be provided to the SLIP Team. Once received, a Certificate of Compliance (COC) will be mailed to you so that you have documentation and can rest assured that your lateral is in satisfactory condition.

Where to submit the evidence of repair?

1. Public Works Permit Counter at 630 Garden St
2. Directly to the SLIP Staff at 520 E Yanonali St
3. PO Box 1990, Santa Barbara, CA 93102

Please visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/SLIP for:

- List of certified plumbing
- Further information about SLIP
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Contact: Available hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. M-Th and every other Friday.

SLIP Team E-mail: SLIP@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

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Alejandro Vela, Water Resources Technician (English/Spanish)

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Please, visit www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov/SLIPEvents to register at any of our offered events, or to schedule an appointment with our SLIP Team staff.