



# Private Sewer Lateral Cost Sharing Program

**Department of Public Works**

*Presentation to:*

*Sugarloaf Homeowner's Association*

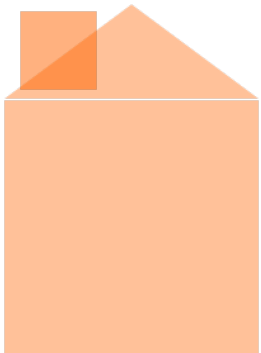
*January 24, 2012*



# Presentation Outline



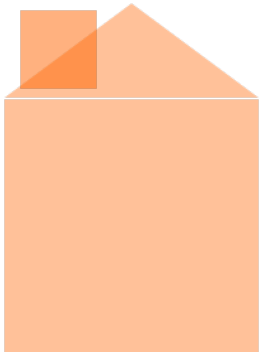
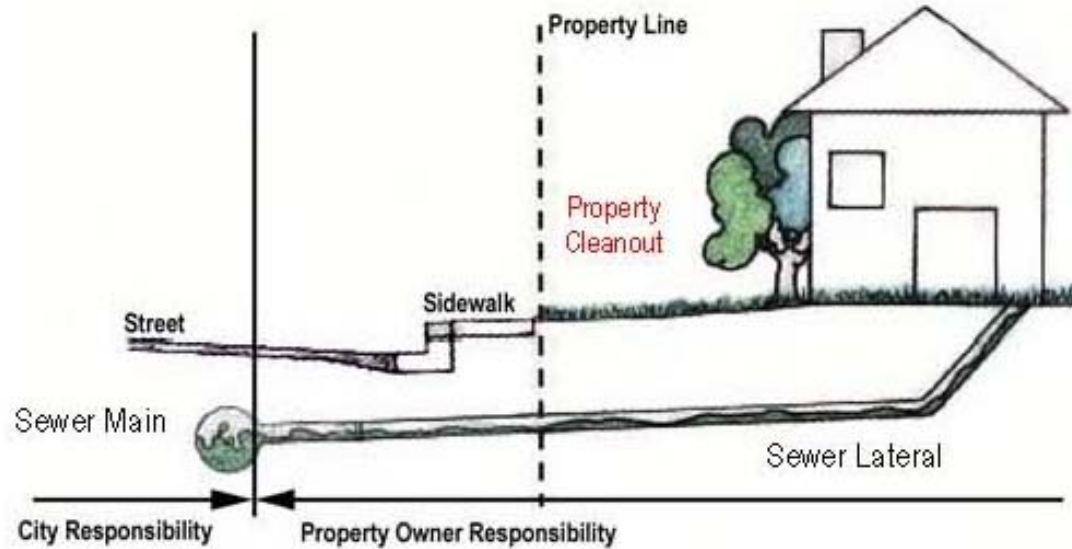
- What is a private sewer lateral?
- Examples of damaged pipes
- Previous form of assistance
- New form of assistance
- How the Program works
- Grants and loans for repairs
- Program budget



# Overview



- What is a private sewer lateral?



# Causes of Damage



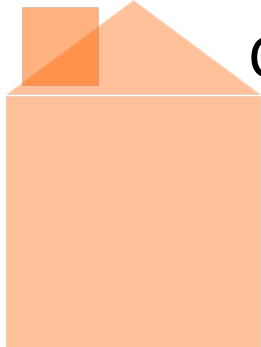
## Examples of Structural Problems:



Cracked Pipes



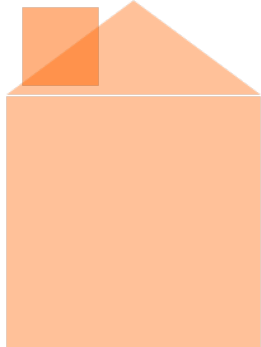
Off-Set Joints



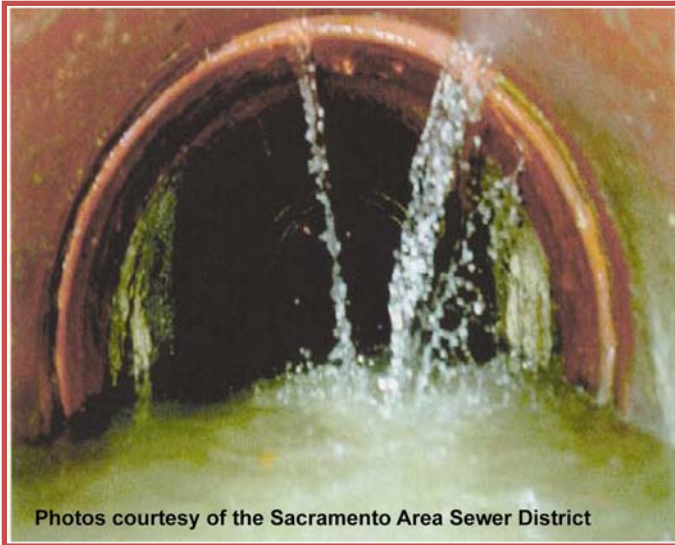
# Causes of Damage *Continued*



Structural Problems can lead to **Root Intrusion**

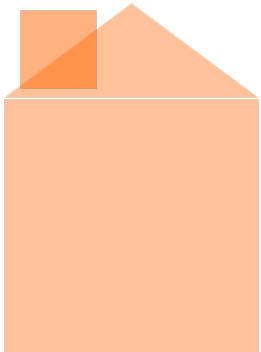


# Result of Defective Laterals



Infiltration

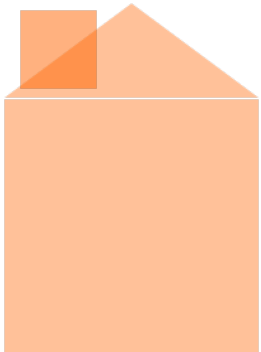
Example of a  
Community Impact:  
Overflowing manholes  
flooding your streets



# Previous Assistance



- Maintained private laterals for only those people with a lateral running through front yard to main in the public right of way (i.e., street).
- No assistance was available at all for property owners with side or backyard easement laterals.
- Did not maintain “upper laterals” for any property.



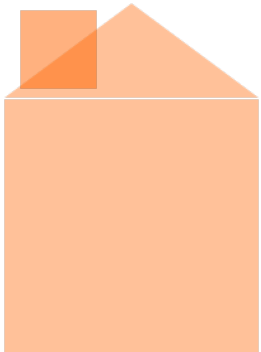
# Previous Assistance



Why is policy being changed?

- Existing policy results in a rate-payer inequity
- Inconsistent with Prop 218 requirements

New program helps *all*  
homeowners who pay sewer fees regardless of  
where their lateral is located.





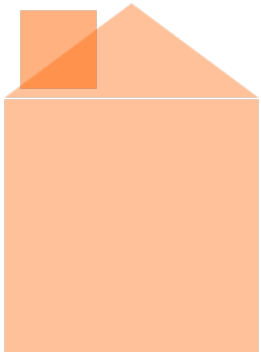
# Program Overview:

## *New Form of Assistance*



We'll give you:

- **A FREE** private lateral sewer inspection (value of \$250!)
- **A FREE** assessment of your private sewer line
- **50% GRANTS** (maximums apply) for repairs for all property owners regardless of income or property type
- **LOW INTEREST LOANS** (maximums apply) for owner-occupied single family homes
- A list of **PREQUALIFIED CONTRACTORS** who can perform the work for pre-determined prices



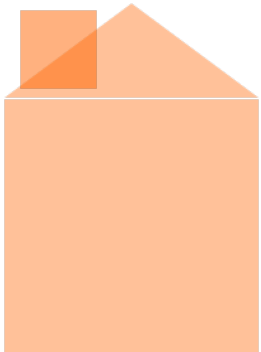
# Program Overview

## *Continued*

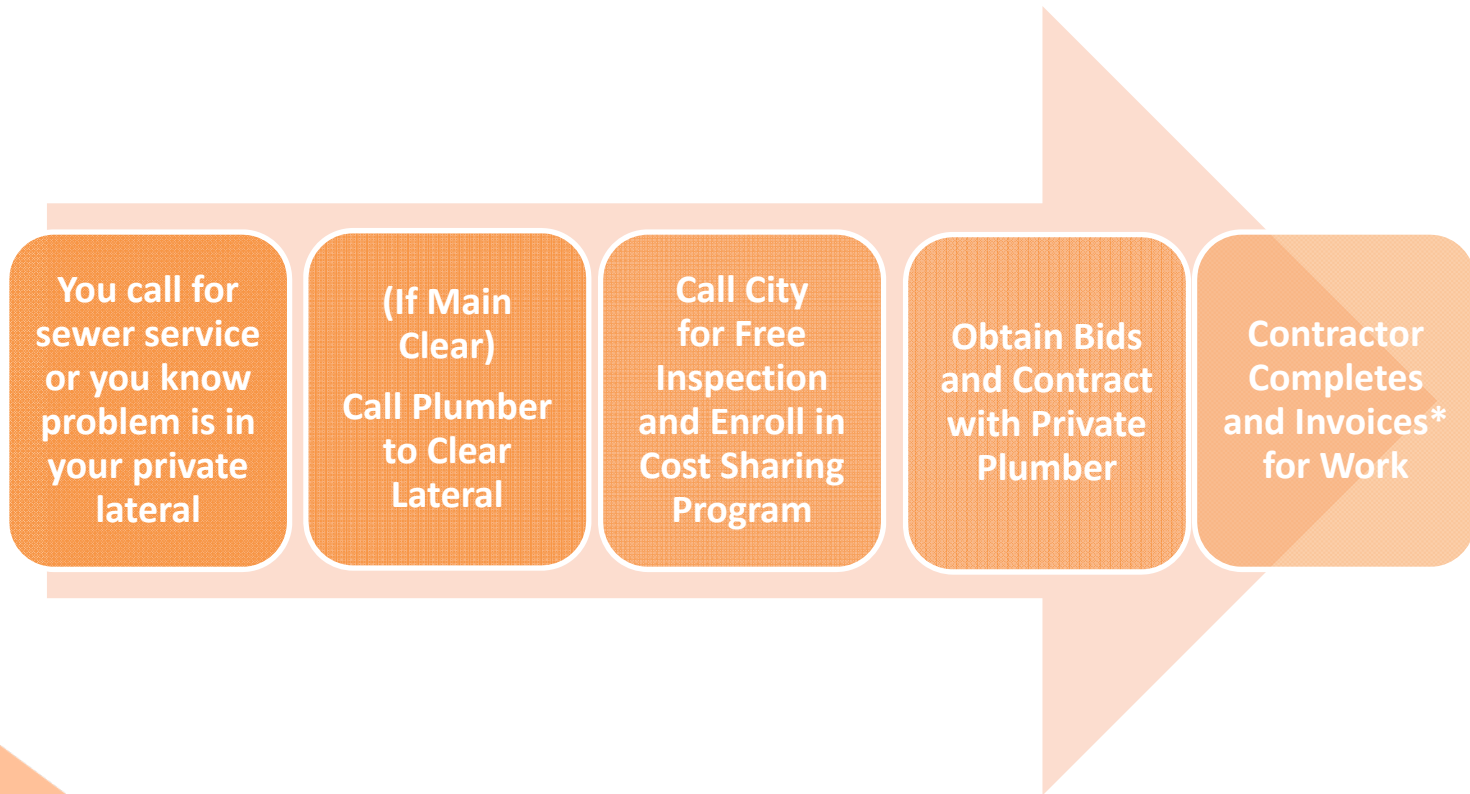


If you have a defective lateral, you will receive the following:

- A letter that identifies defects, estimated linear footage of your pipe, estimated depth, and other relevant scope of work to share with contractor
- A copy of the televised footage
- A list of prequalified contractors
- Financial assistance information



# How It Will Work



You call for sewer service or you know problem is in your private lateral

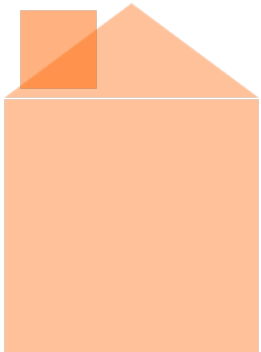
(If Main Clear)  
Call Plumber to Clear Lateral

Call City for Free Inspection and Enroll in Cost Sharing Program

Obtain Bids and Contract with Private Plumber

Contractor Completes and Invoices\* for Work

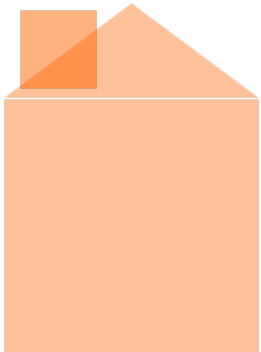
\*Payable in 30 days. City share provided within same time.



# Hiring a Contractor



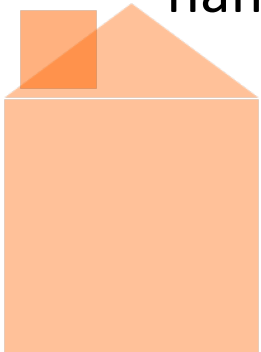
- We encourage you to
  - A.) seek quotes from at least two contractors
  - B.) share copy of the summary letter with each contractor
- Your chosen contractor will apply for appropriate permits so work can be inspected.
- Households receiving assistance will send invoice to us and we will reimburse per agreement within two weeks.



# Estimated Cost



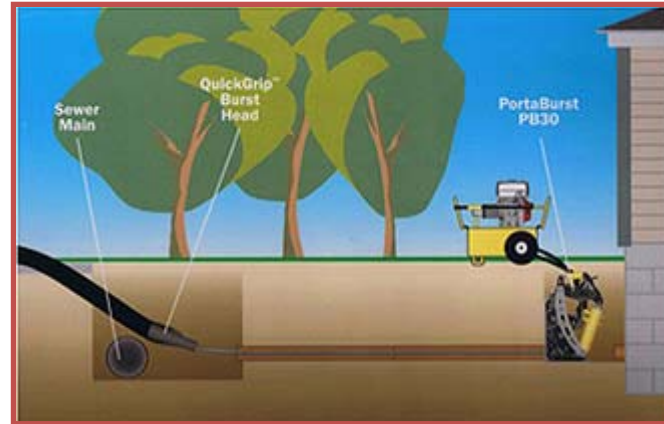
- Estimated cost can range between \$1,500 and \$6,000. Very dependent upon length of repair and depth of pipe.
- Confirm project cost by receiving quotes from at least two contractors.
- Home owners with defective laterals will be given our prequalified contractor list which will have contractor names, contact numbers and a quote summary.



# To Trench or Not To Trench?

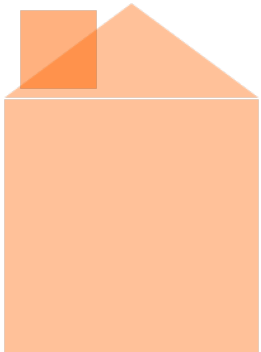


Photo of a trench repair



**EXAMPLE** of a trenchless repair

Work with your contractor to determine the best method for your circumstances.

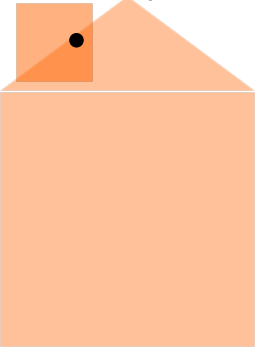


# Financial Assistance – *Grant Funding*



**Grants available for all homeowners  
regardless of income or property type**

- If the combined income of all working adults in your household is *less than* \$81,573, you qualify for a 50 percent reimbursement grant up to \$5,000 or half of the invoice total (whichever is less).
- If your household income is *more than* \$81,573, and/or if the property is a rental or commercial property, you qualify for a 50 percent reimbursement grant up to \$2,000 or half of the invoice total (whichever is less).



This program, in part, is made possible by the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Board has mandated that the City of San Mateo improve the health of its sewer system, and is therefore helping the City provide property owners with grants and low interest loans to inspect and repair private sewer laterals.

# Financial Assistance - *Low Interest Loans*

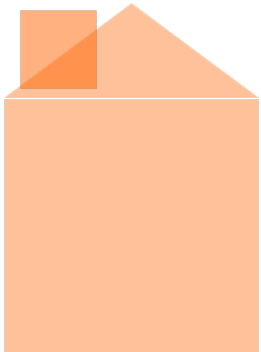


- All single family homeowners who live in their home also qualify for a very low interest loan (1.5%) regardless of income level. Loan maximum is \$6,000.
- Must be paid in full by December 2014.
- No prepay penalty.

For example:

Monthly bill for \$3,000 loan at 1.5% interest rate

Payback in Years	1 year	2 years	3 years
Monthly payment	\$252.04	\$126.96	\$85.27



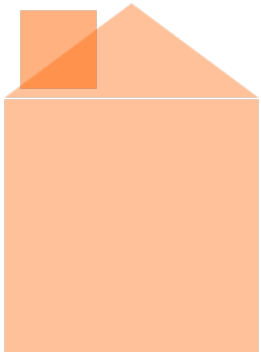


# Program Funding



- Partially funded through Cease & Desist Order fines (\$150,000 loans; \$380,000 grants)
- Partially funded by sewer fees (\$370,000 in 11/12)
- Funds are available on a first-come-first-serve-basis.
- The findings from your free sewer inspection are only good for one year.

**Take advantage of this opportunity!**



# Questions?



Log on to [www.cityofsanmateo.org/privatesewerlaterals](http://www.cityofsanmateo.org/privatesewerlaterals)

Call Sheri Costa-Batis at 650.522.7334.

