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BACWA Private Sewer Lateral Survey 2024

This Private Sewer Lateral Survey is for sanitary sewer agencies in the San Francisco Bay Area. It is an updated version of a previous survey conducted by BACWA in 2016. The results will be shared with the BACWA Collection Systems Committee and others to aid in the development of lateral ordinances and O&M practices.

Per the Reissued Sanitary Sewer Systems General Order (Order 2022-0103-DWQ), a Private Sewer lateral is a “the privately-owned lateral that transports sewage from private property(ies) into a sanitary sewer system.”

* 1. Agency

2. Agency Contact Name

3. Role or Title at Agency

* 4. Email Address

You will be emailed a copy of your results when the survey is complete.

5. Waste Discharge Identification Number (WDID, used for CIWQS reporting)

BACWA is requested this ID so can easily add relevant information from your Annual Report submitted to CIWQS. If your agency operates multiple Sanitary Sewer Systems, please make a note here.

6. Approximately how many private sewer laterals are connected to your system?

OWNERSHIP AND OPERATIONS RESPONSIBILITY

7. Does your agency have an ordinance or other formal policy in effect that clearly defines ownership and responsibility for lateral maintenance, repair, and replacement?

- Yes**, an ordinance
- Yes**, a formal policy
- No**, our current practices are not in a formal policy or ordinance



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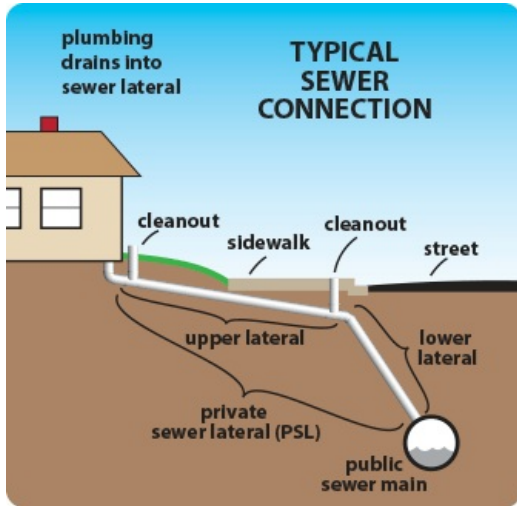
8. If available, please share a **link** to your agency's **ordinance or policy** that defines ownership and responsibility for lateral maintenance, repair, and replacement.

9. If available, please share a **link** to your **Board or Council action** that approved the ordinance and/or other policies regarding sewer laterals.



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Source: [East Bay Regional Private Sewer Lateral Program](#)

10. Does your agency own and operate **lower laterals**? If so, how are they defined?

- No, laterals are all privately owned
- Lower laterals extend from the main to property line
- Lower laterals extend from the main to the first sewer cleanout
- Lower laterals extend from the main to the curb
- Lower laterals extend from the main to the building foundation
- Other (please specify)

11. Does your agency assist with operations of **upper** sewer laterals, such as conducting inspections, cleaning, maintenance, or repair?

Yes

No

12. Does your agency replace lower laterals when you are replacing the main or performing other utility work in the street?

Yes

No



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13. How much of the lower lateral is replaced when your agency is performing the replacement?

If you have a formal policy on this situation, please provide a link.

INSPECTIONS

14. Does your agency have an ordinance or policy (such as a Point-of-Sale policy) requiring a property owner to **inspect** their existing private sewer lateral?

Yes

No



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15. What drove your current policy approach? (Select all that apply)

- Community support
- Regulator requirement (permit or consent decree from Regional Water Board or USEPA)
- Enforcement action
- Developer agreement
- 3rd Party lawsuit
- Funding limitations
- Other (please specify)

16. What triggers inspection or testing of the private sewer lateral? (Select all that apply)

- Sale of Property
- Property improvements (remodel or addition)
- Construction of an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU)
- Change in water meter size
- Requirement by your agency as the result of a spill, rehabilitation, or other issue or problem
- Other (please specify)

17. Are there any exemptions to these inspection triggers (for example, the [East Bay Regional Private Sewer Lateral Program](#) has 7-year & 20-year certificates)?

No Exemptions

Yes (please briefly describe or upload a link to your exemption requirements, if available online)

18. Approximately how many private sewer laterals are inspected or tested per year as part of your program?

19. Approximately how much staff time (number of FTEs) and/or resources (budget or contract amount) are designated to the private sewer lateral inspection and replacement program?

20. What type of inspection or testing method is required? (Select all acceptable methods)

Pressure test (water or air)

Video inspection

Other (please specify)

21. Do you inspect the connection between the private sewer lateral connection and the main ?

Yes, we inspect the integrity of the lateral connection with the main

No, we only test the pipe itself

26. Does your agency have a private sewer lateral incentive or outreach program?

- No
- Yes. Please provide a link to information on your website that describes your private sewer lateral incentive or outreach program.

27. Do you offer your customers any financial incentives to repair or replace their private sewer laterals?

- No
- Yes, grants or reimbursements
- Yes, loans

28. Do you have any other comments to share?