

BACWA Collection System Committee Updates

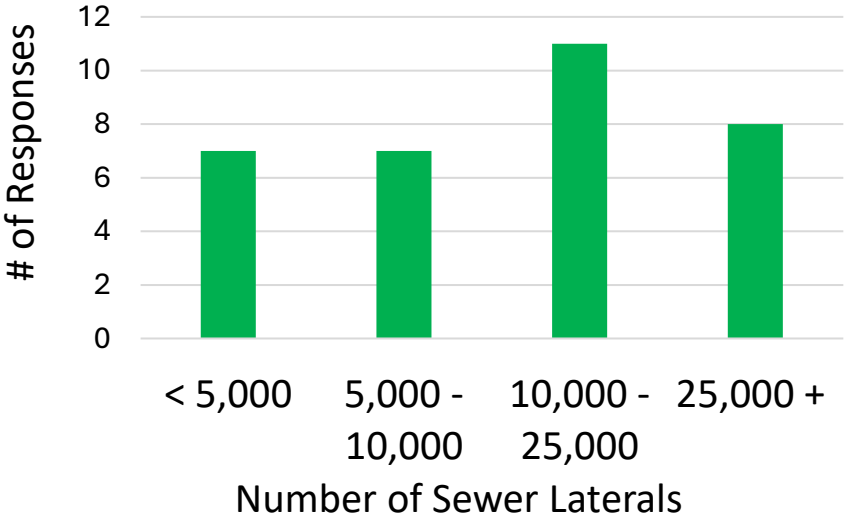
May 9, 2024



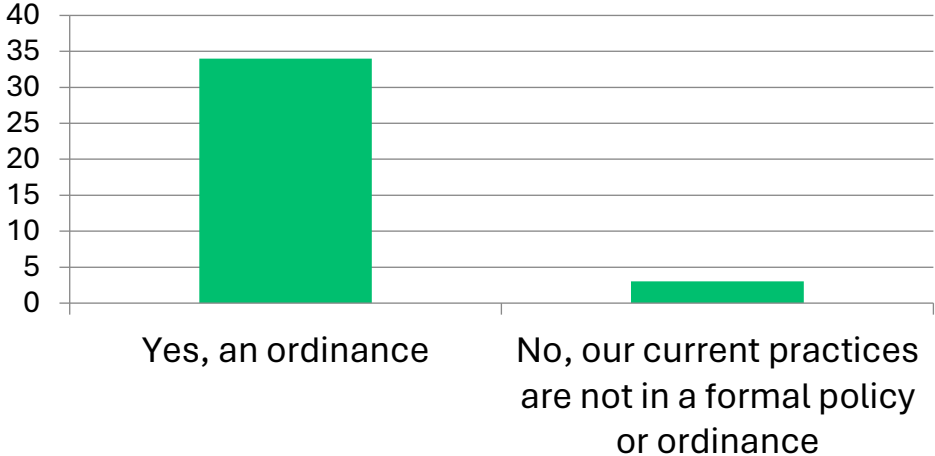
B A C W A
B A Y A R E A
C L E A N W A T E R
A G E N C I E S

Responses to BACWA Collection System Committee Survey on Sewer Lateral Ordinances

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



7. Does your agency have an ordinance or other formal policy in effect that clearly defines ownership and responsibility for laterals?



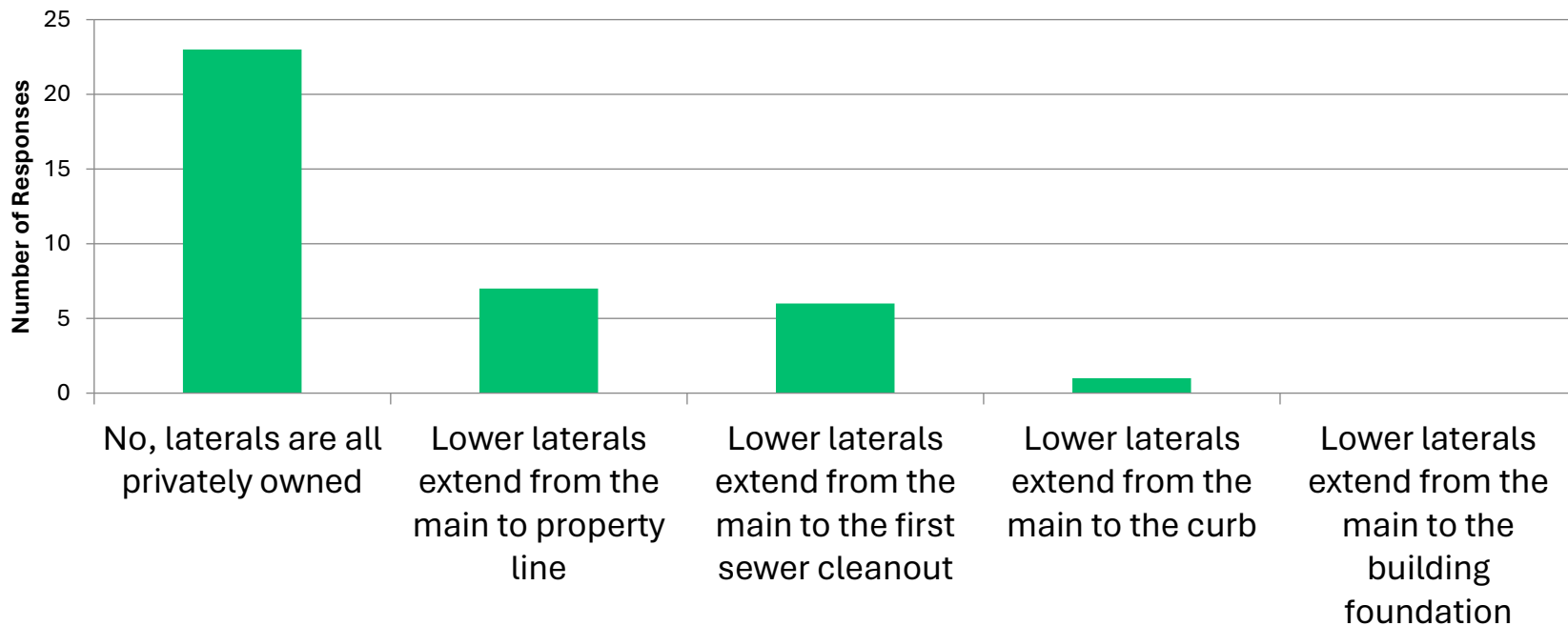
8. If available, please share a link to your agency's **ordinance or policy** that defines ownership and responsibility for lateral maintenance, repair, and replacement.

28 Responses – See Excel Spreadsheet Linked in Chat

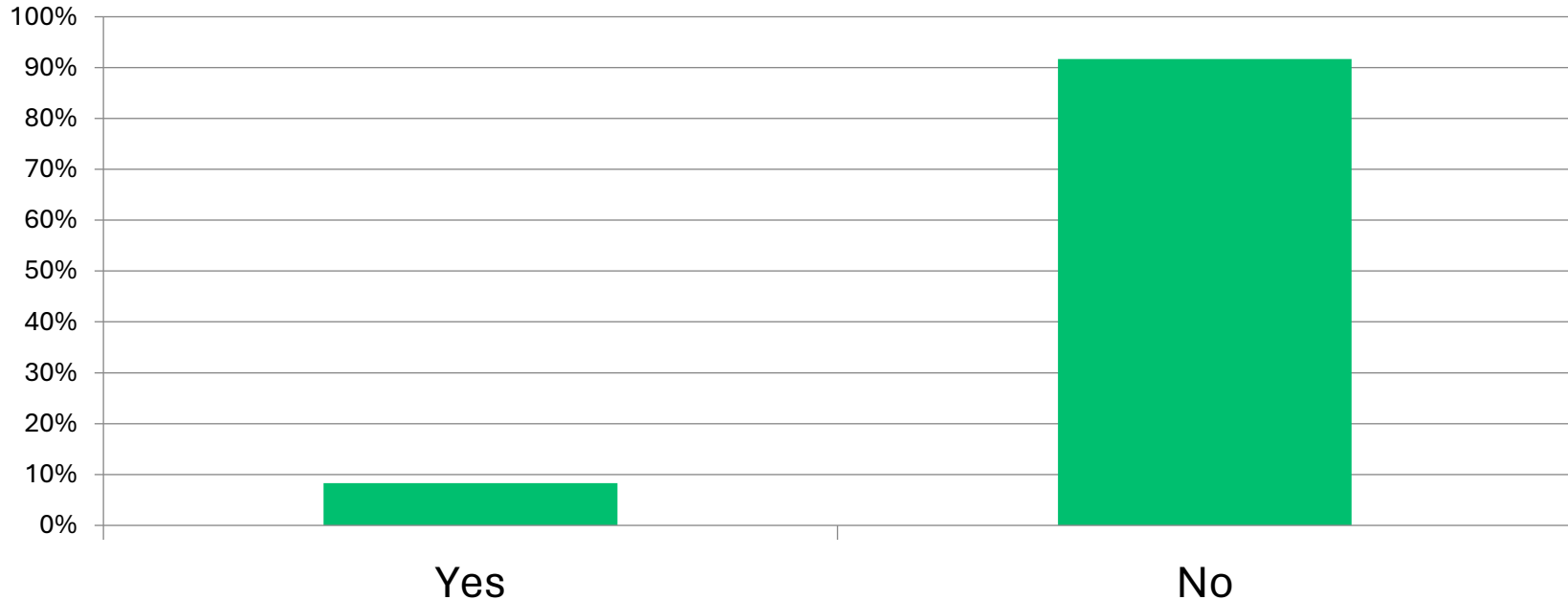
9. If available, please share a link to your **Board or Council action** that approved the ordinance and/or other policies regarding sewer laterals.

9 Responses – See Excel Spreadsheet Linked in Chat

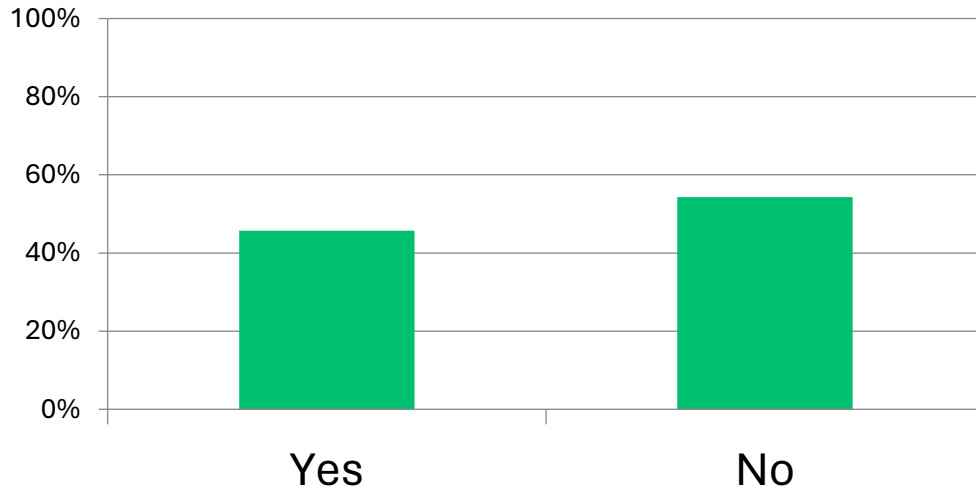
10. Does your agency own and operate lower laterals? If so, how are they defined?



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



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



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

14 Responses –

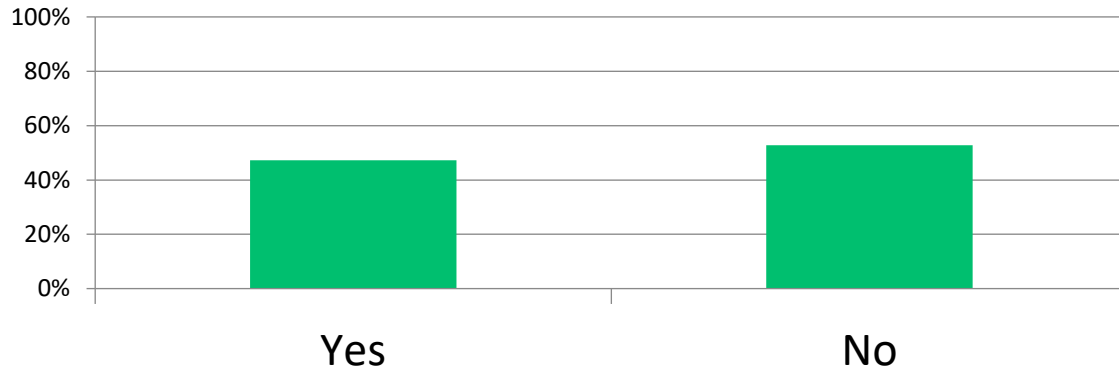
6 – From Main to Property Line

3 – From Main to Cleanout

4 – Entire Lower Lateral or Not Specified

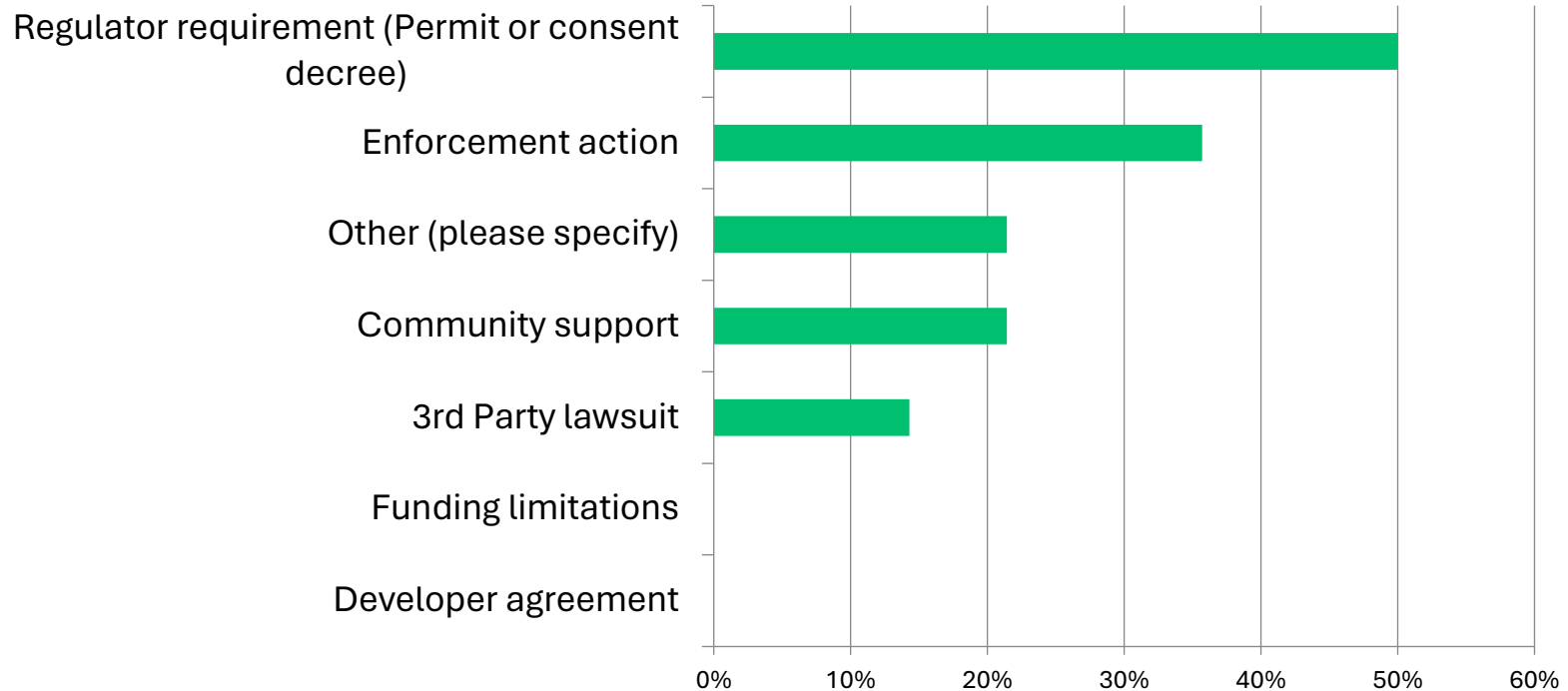
1 – The part within the construction trench

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?

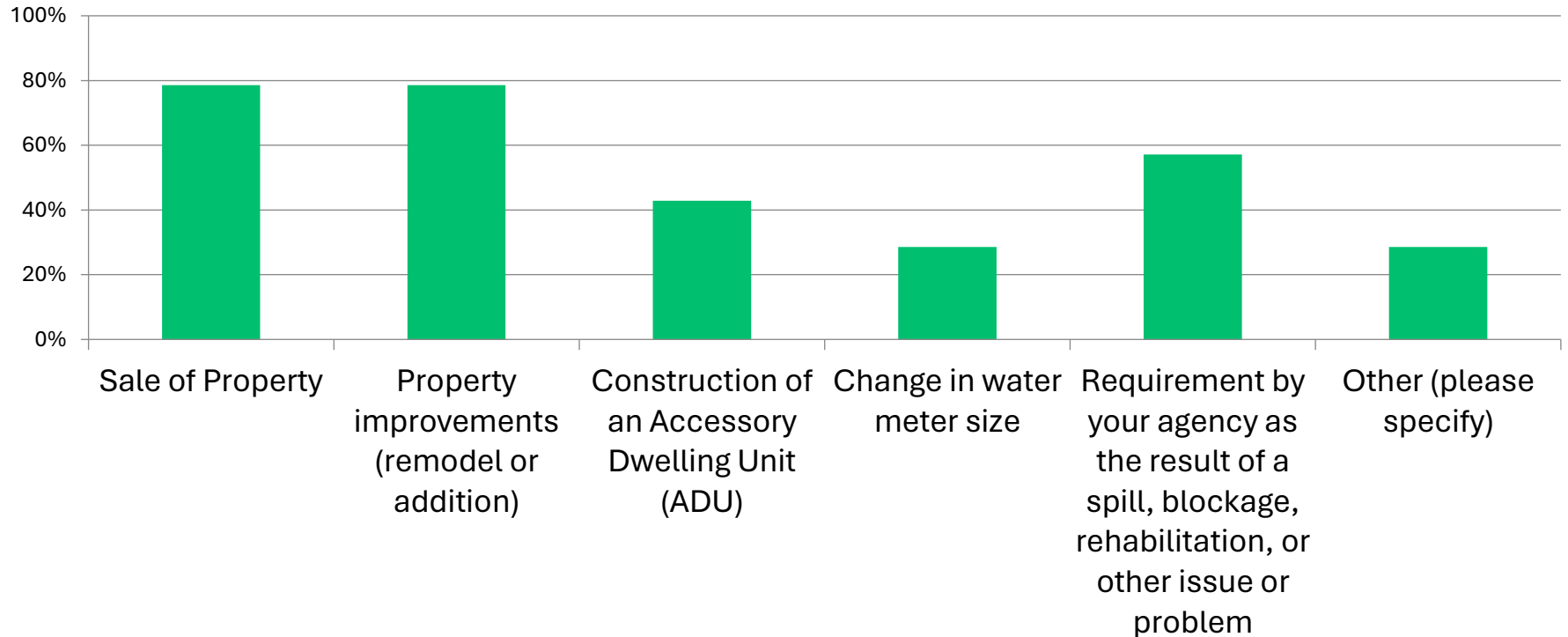


*5 East Bay Agencies
+ 12 others*

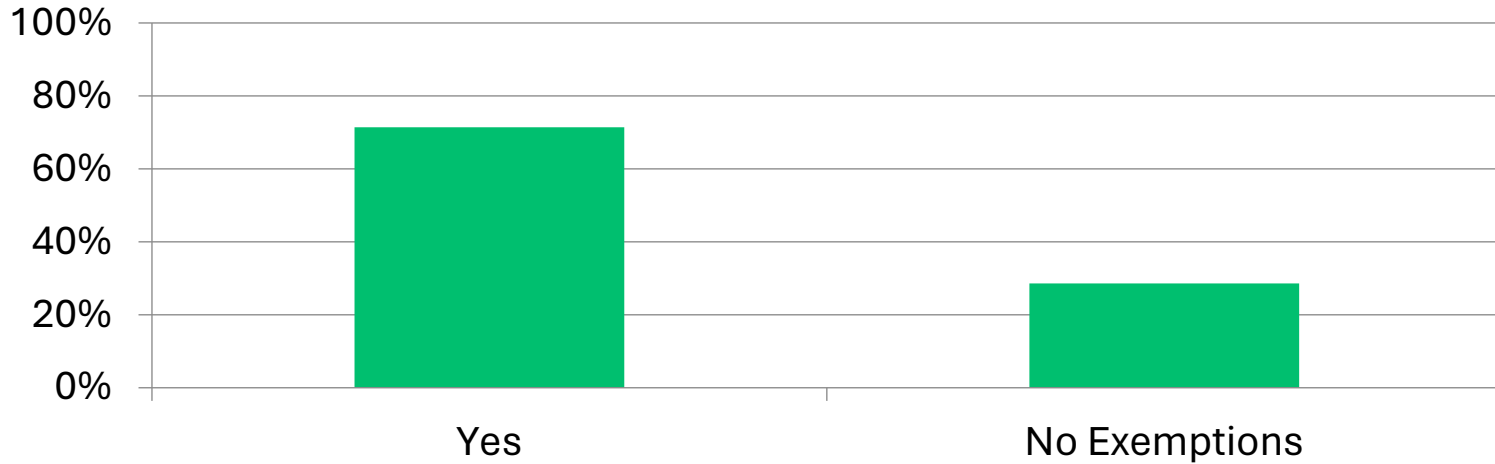
15. What drove your current policy approach? (Select all that apply)



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



17. Are there any exemptions to these inspection triggers?



Compliance Certificates Vary in Length:

Replacement – 20 Years
Inspection – 7 Years

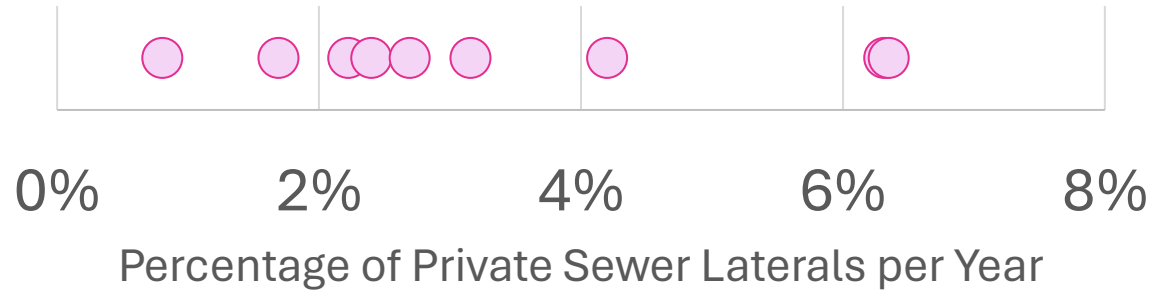
Replacement or
Inspection – 20 years

Replacement – 25 years
Inspection – 10 years

Replacement or
Inspection – 10 years

Replacement
Only

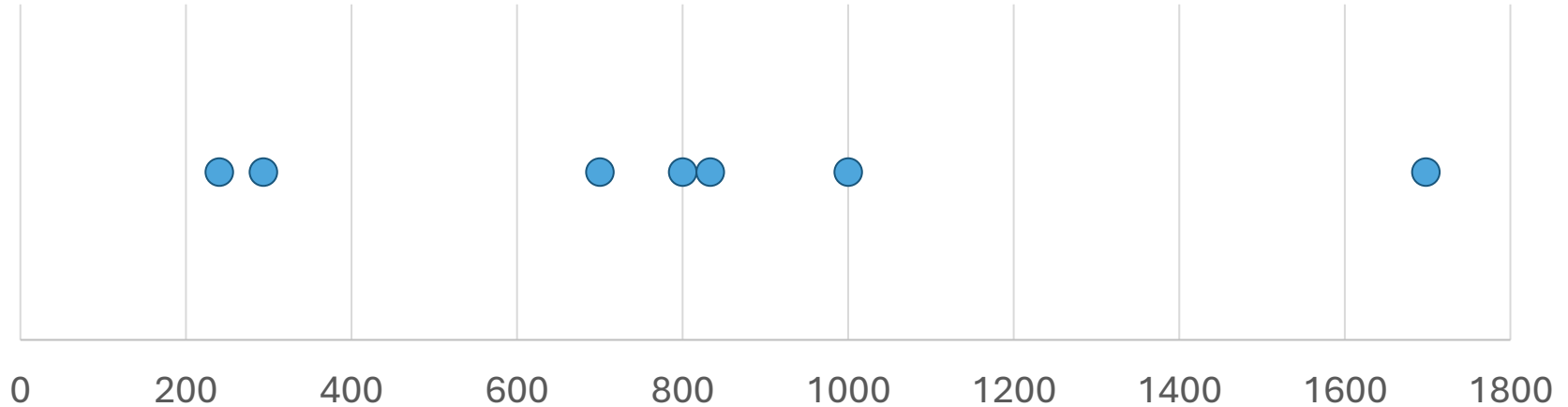
18. Approximately how many private sewer laterals are **inspected or tested** per year as part of your program?



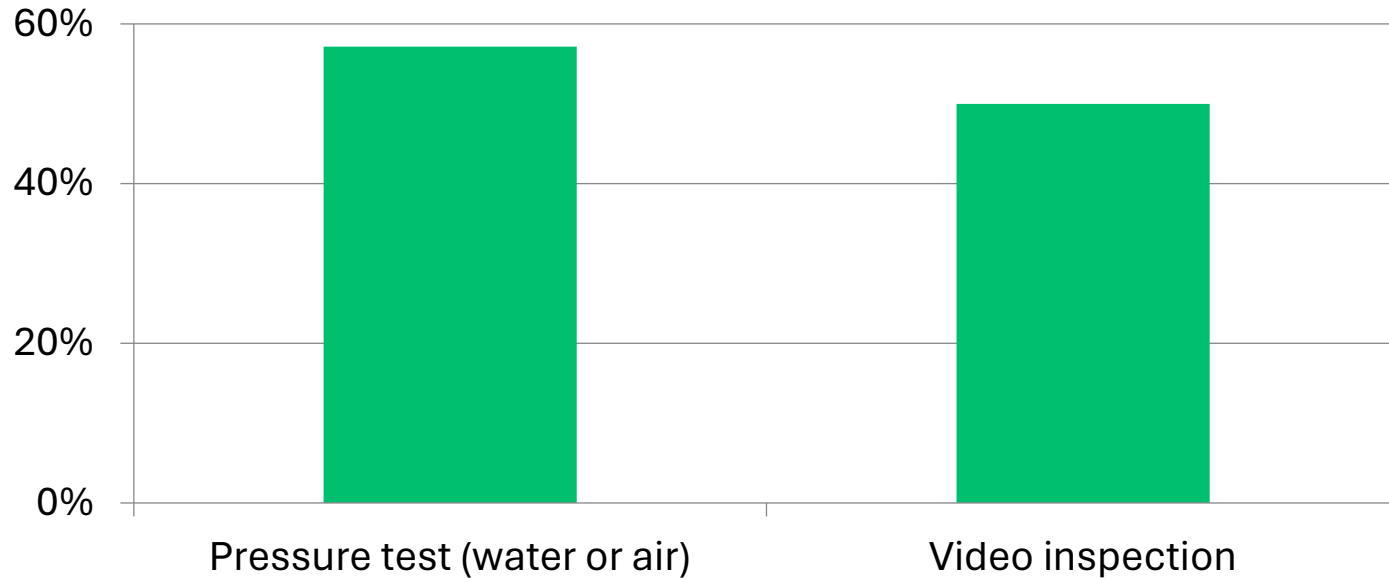
Median of 9 agencies = 3% per year

19. Approximately how much staff time is designated to the private sewer lateral inspection and replacement program?

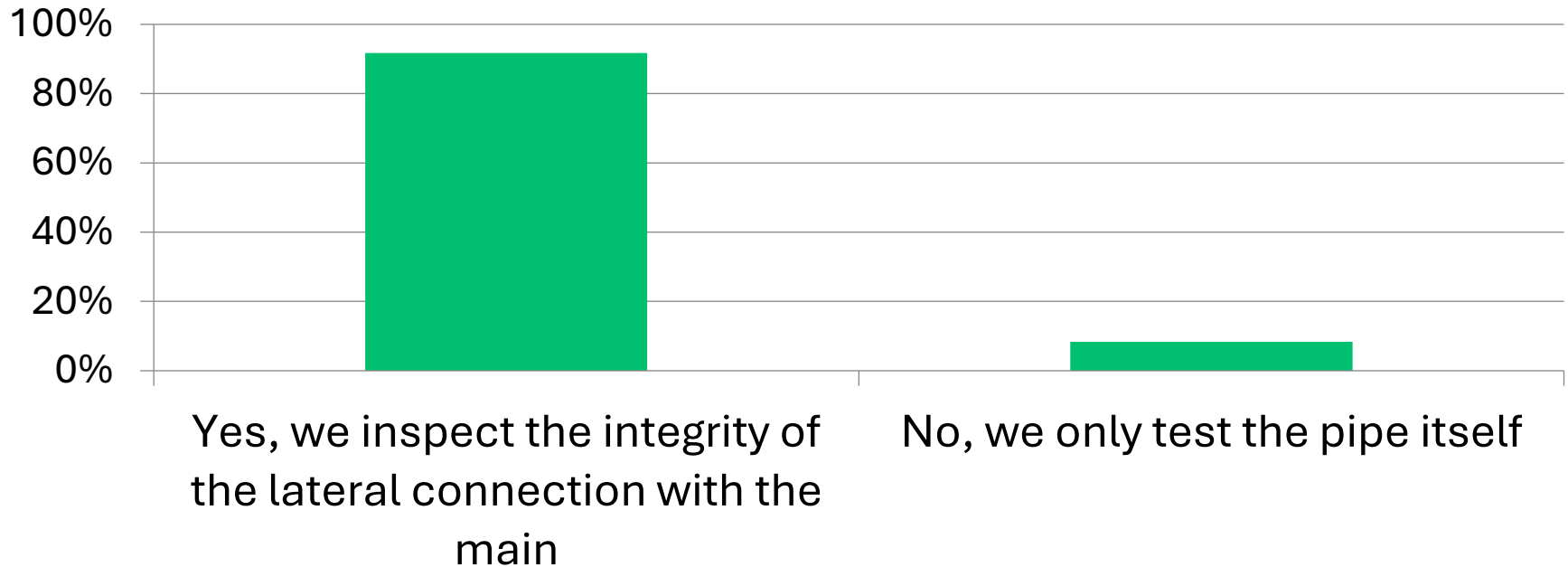
Converted Units: # Laterals Inspected per FTE



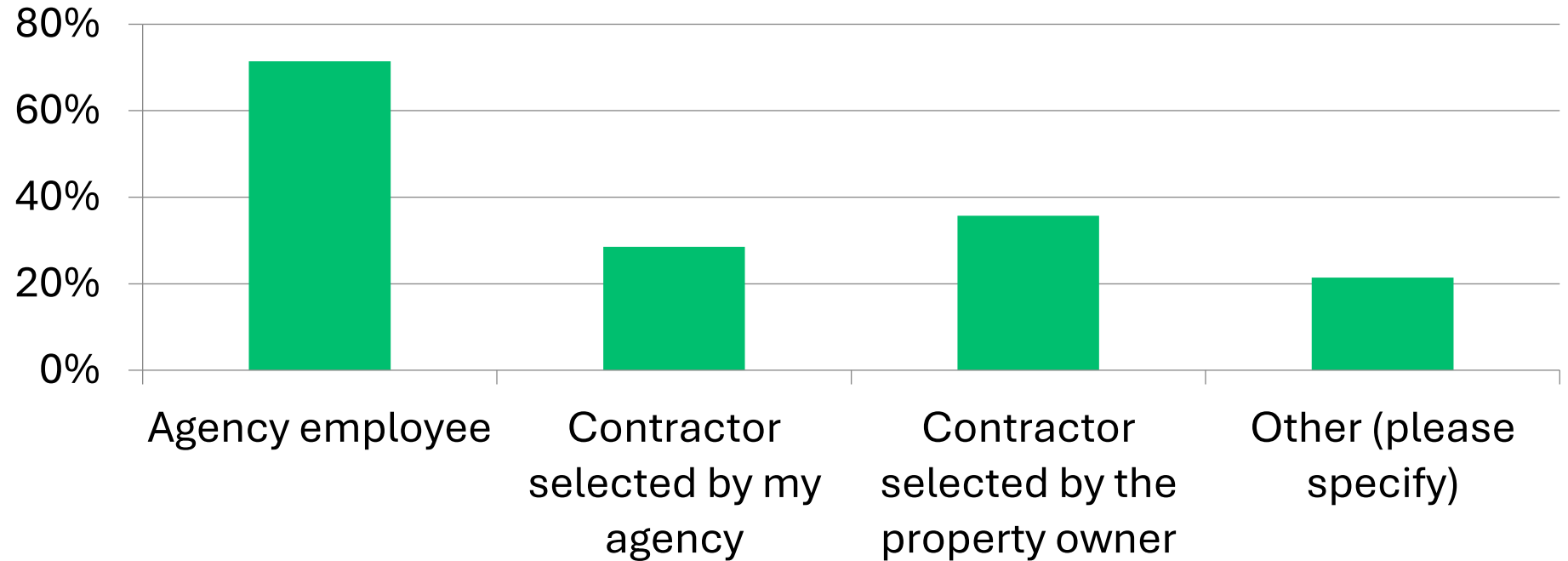
20. What type of inspection or testing method is required?



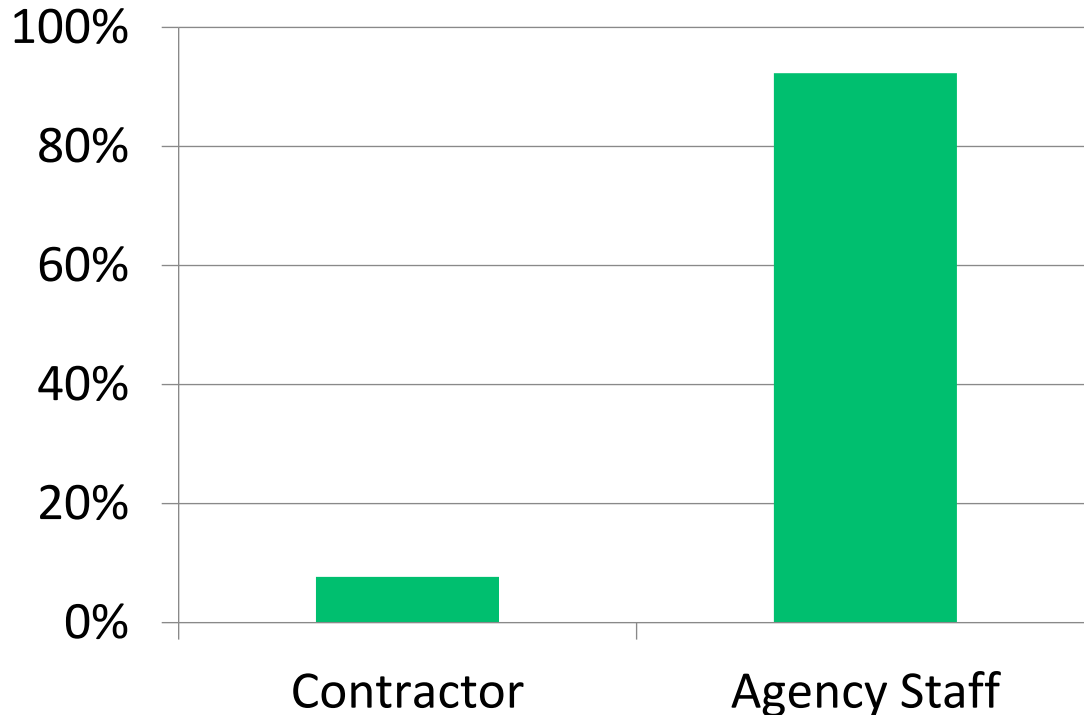
21. Do you inspect the connection between the private sewer lateral connection and the main ?



22. Who performs inspections of private sewer laterals? (Select all that apply)



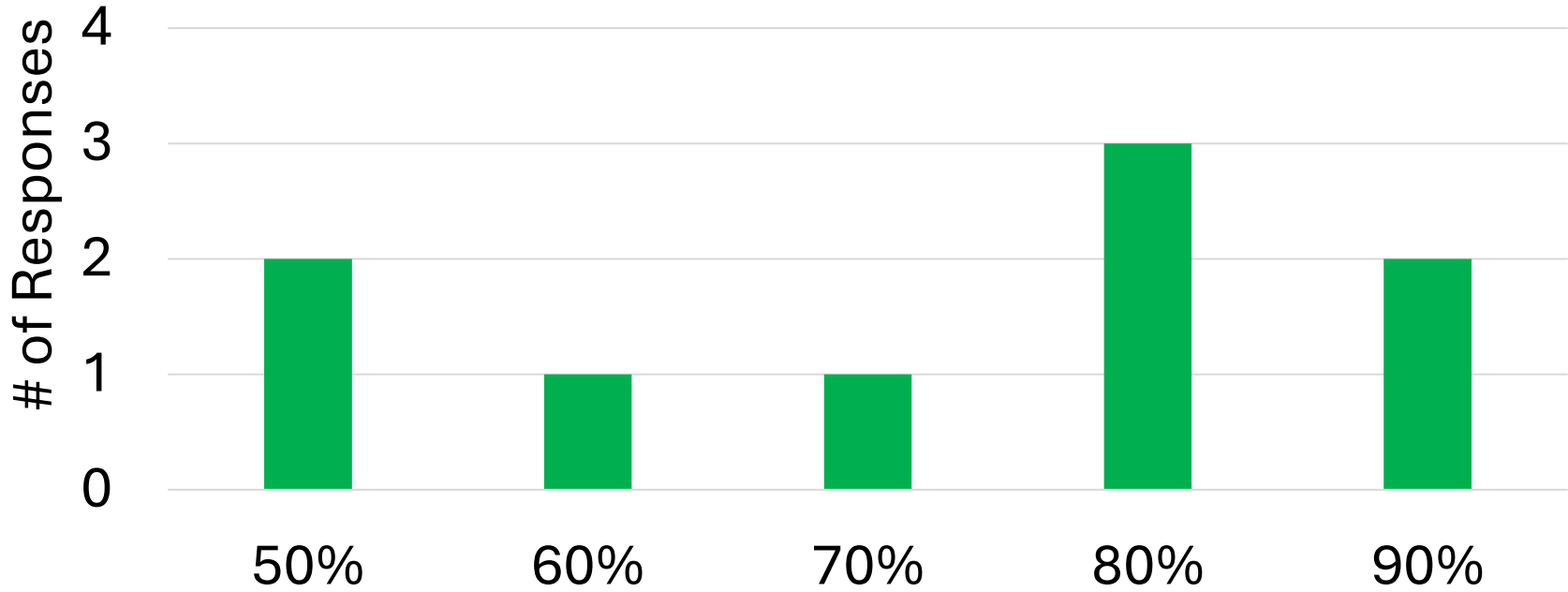
23. Who is responsible for determining whether the inspection result is a PASS?



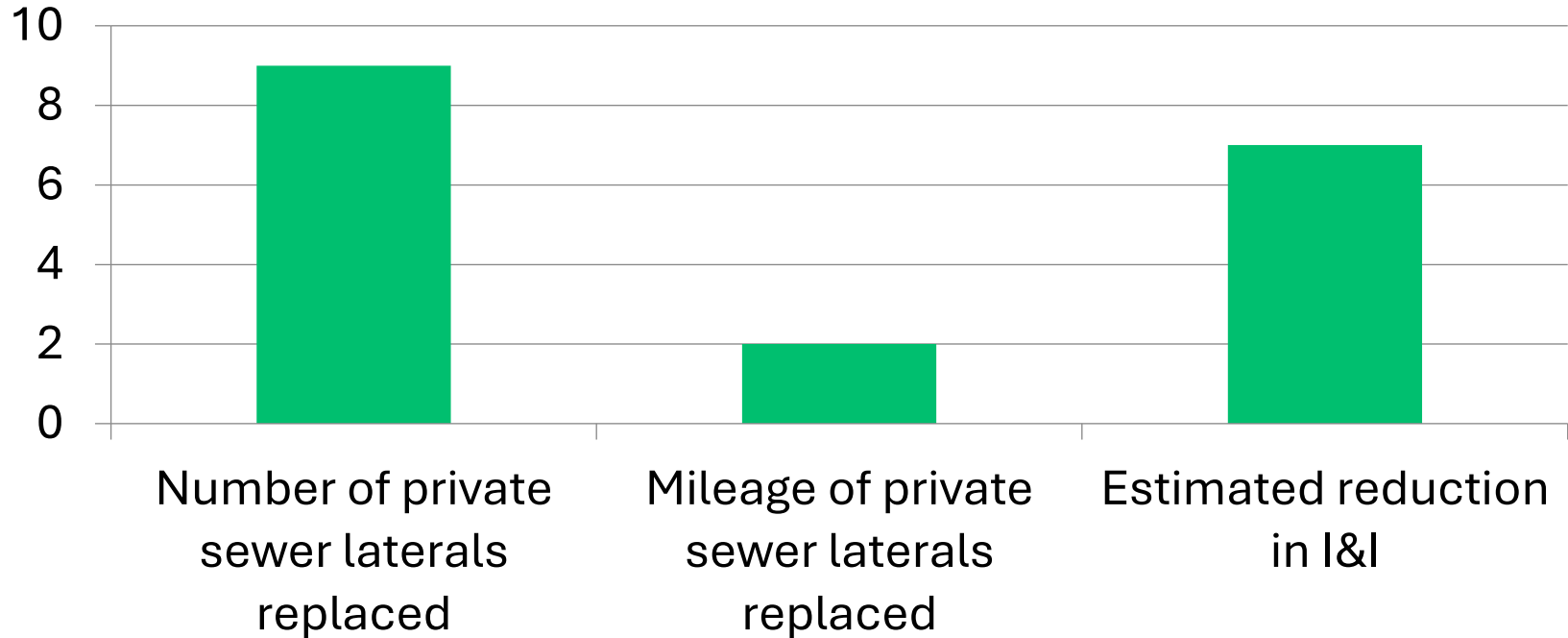
Job Titles of Agency Staff

- Collection worker 3 or above
- Collections Program Coordinator
- Construction Inspector, Senior
- District Manager
- Operations Manager
- EBMUD Inspector (x2)
- Inspector (x3)
- Manager
- Public works inspector, or Assistant Engineer
- Technicians and Sewer Supervisor

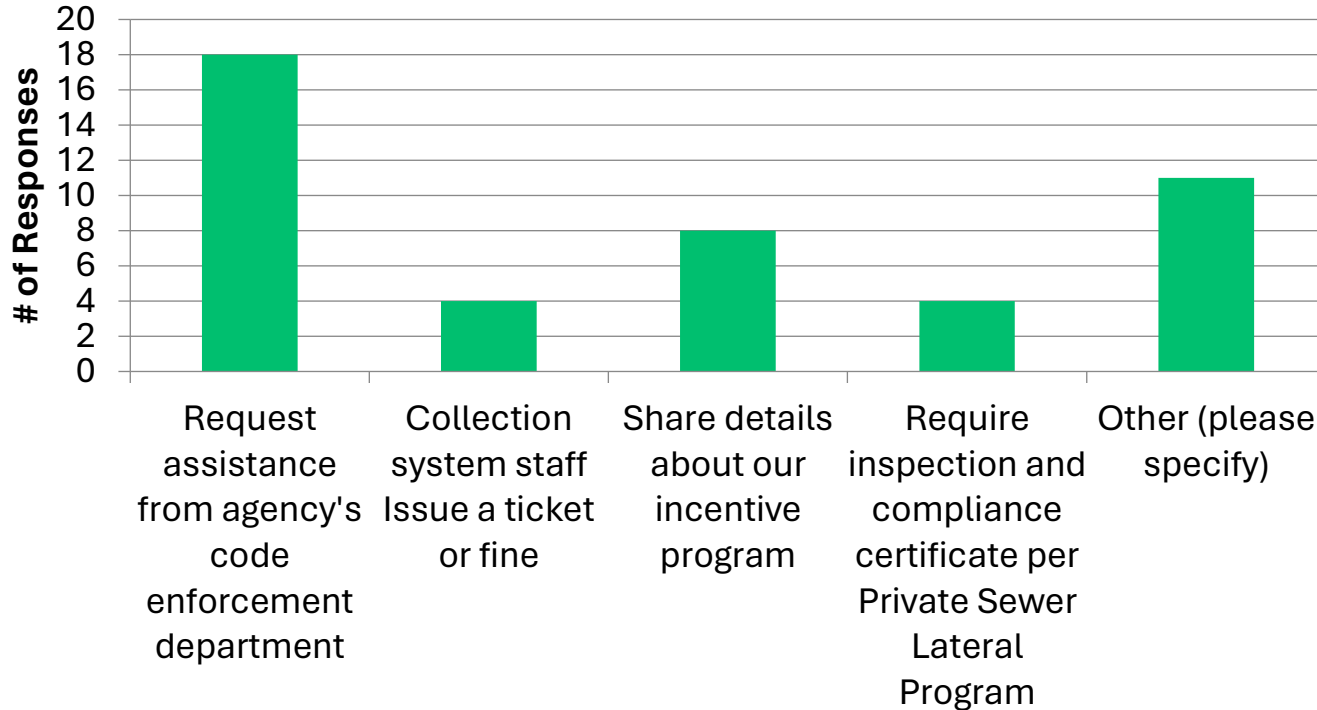
24. About how often do private sewer lateral inspections result in replacement?



25. How do you define program success? (Select all that apply)



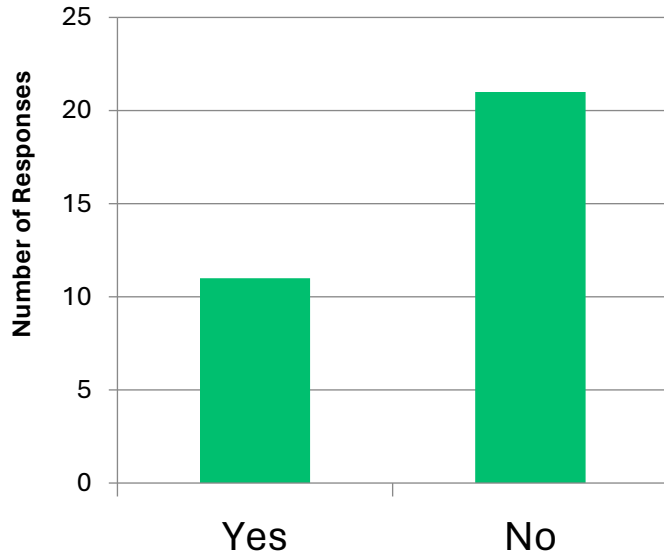
26. What does your team do when there is a known problem with a private sewer lateral, such as recurring spills or a major defect? (Check all that apply)



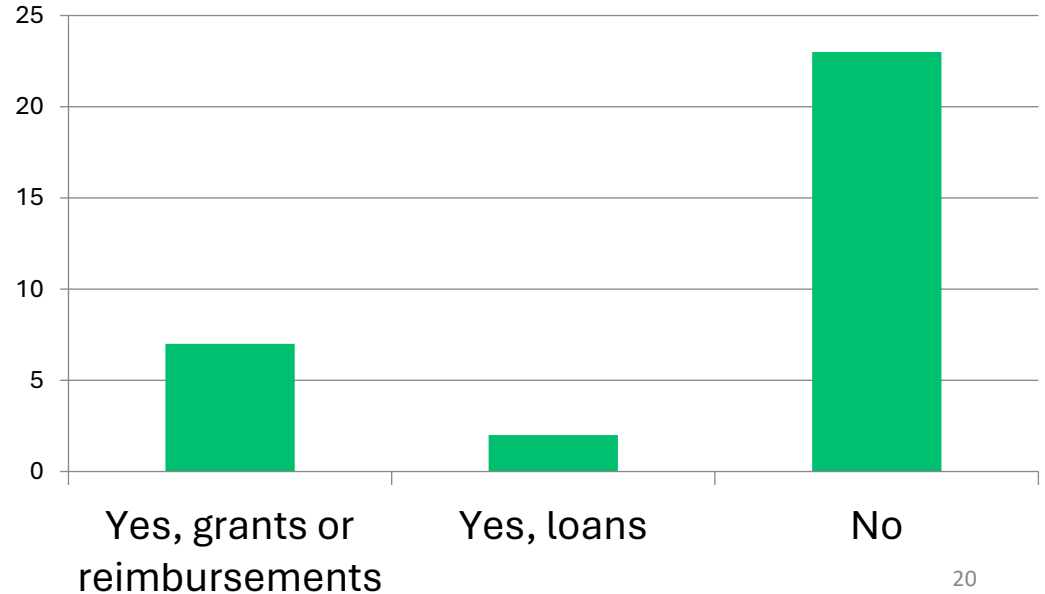
“Other” Responses:

- One-time courtesy call to clean; camera and identify problem, then refer to our program.
- Issue notice to abate code violation/health risk.
- Mobilize Collections Staff to identify the source. Work with Homeowner to rectify the issue.
- Send owner a Notice of Violation or Repair, which requires corrective action
- Our fire department handles Hazmat issues, we get them involved.
- Notify property owners (2)
- Recommend owner to hire a plumber to investigate.
- Send a letter placing the home on a "Main Line Only" List. We will only check the main if they call. To get off the list they need a permit and the lateral needs to be replaced
- Request assistance from agency's Source Control department

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



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



Examples of website content

Cash for Sewers

Sewer Lateral Replacement Program

When you have a home with an old sewer system, life can get very expensive and inconvenient, and your home can decrease in value. SASM and its Member Agencies want to help qualifying homeowners access financial assistance to make much needed home improvements. The Sewer Lateral Replacement Program offers a grant program to help qualifying homeowners offset sewer lateral costs.

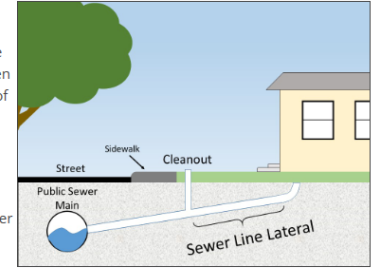


SEWER GRANT

Get help with the cost of repairing or replacing your sewer lateral

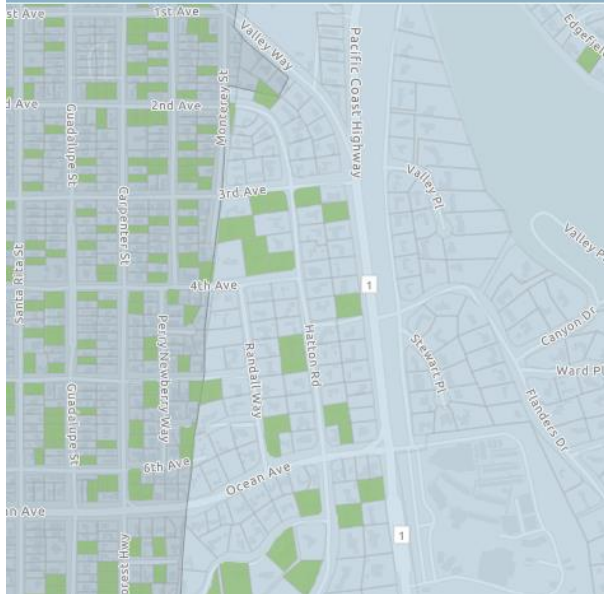
WHAT IS THE SEWER REPLACEMENT OR REPAIR GRANT PROGRAM?

The Sewer Replacement or Repair Grant Program (Sewer Grant) is designed to assist homeowners with a portion of the cost of fixing or replacing the sanitary sewer line lateral (building sewer) between an approved property line cleanout and the face of the building. Funding may also be used to add or replace a cleanout in conjunction with a lateral repair or replacement.

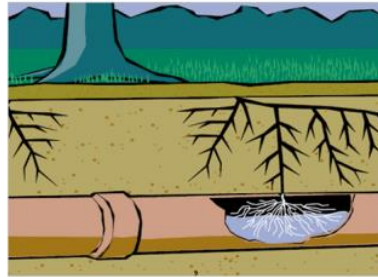


This program only applies to a sanitary sewer line lateral, which is the pipeline that carries wastewater from the building to the property line. Property owners are responsible for all costs relating to their sewer line lateral, including installation, connection, maintenance, repair, reconstruction, alteration, abandonment, or removal to prevent inflow and infiltration.

Parcel Lookup and Private Sewer Lateral Inspection Certificate



Sewer Problems?



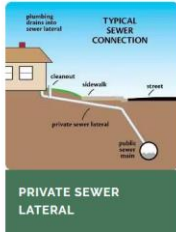
Private Sewer Lateral (PSL) Replacement Loan Program

PSL Loan Application Form 12-2022.pdf

The Private Sewer Lateral (PSL) Replacement Loan Program is designed to encourage property owners to protect and preserve the environment by offering a **no-interest** deferred payment loan of up to \$10,000 to replace PSLs. The PSL loans are offered on a "first-come, first-served" basis to the extent of available funding. Repayment of the loans will be over a period not to exceed ten (10) years, have no pre-payment penalty, and will be collected through the annual property tax bills issued by the County.

The following requirements are necessary to apply for the PSL Loan Program:

1. PSL must be associated with property served by the Stege Sanitary District.



Attention: Pacifica Residents

City of Pacifica Sewer Lateral Replacement Program:
Notice of Availability of Free Inspections and Grant Funding for Sewer Lateral Replacement

Got a backup

Call us first

Private Sewer Lateral Survey – Summary & Conclusions

- About 1/3 of agencies own and operate **lower laterals**
 - For those that don't, about ¼ will replace the lower lateral if they are doing construction in the street.
- About ½ of surveyed agencies have a **PSL inspection and repair program**
 - Only about 20% of total PSLs in Bay Area are covered by these programs
 - About 3% of PSLs per year are being inspected in those regions that have a program. The programs are resource-intensive.
 - Lateral inspections usually trigger replacement
- Grant and loans also remain a popular options for agencies