

# Sewer Lateral Replacement Process

## Step 1

Complete an application and submit it to the Public Works Department. The application must include documentation indicating failure of your sewer lateral, and be completed and signed by the deeded owner of the property.

## Step 2

A contractor selected by the City visits the site to do a TV camera inspection of the sewer lateral and the connection to the City's sewer mainline. Location marks are placed on the ground with paint to indicate where the private lateral exits the house foundation and joins the public sewer main.

## Step 3

If your sewer lateral qualifies for the program the City's project manager may schedule a site visit to discuss specific construction issues with you. For example; concrete removal and replacement, landscaping, trees, shrubs, fences, etc. If your sewer lateral doesn't qualify you will receive a phone call and a follow up letter explaining why your sewer lateral was not chosen for replacement.

## Step 4

Property owners must sign the sewer lateral replacement agreement form and any public utility easements needed. These require the use of a Notary Public which can be provided by the City of Albany Public Works Department at no charge.

## Step 5

The project manager will meet on site with a group of licensed contractors to discuss the construction requirements and the specifics of your particular project. The City will award the project to the lowest qualified bidder.

## Step 6

The City uses two basic methods of pipe installation for this particular program: 'Open Trench' installations and 'Pipe Burst' installations. Open trench installations are typically dug with a small excavator and the new pipe is laid within the trench and then backfilled. Pipe burst installations are constructed by 'bursting' a new pipe through

**A bursting head ready to install a new pipe through the old one.**



the old pipe.

## Step 7

After the contractor has completed construction of the project, arrangements will be made for a return visit to TV the new sewer lateral before payment is made. The video is necessary to ensure the pipe was not damaged during the installation process. We also look to make sure that all joints are secure and there is proper grade for drainage within the new lateral (no low areas).

## Step 8

The new sewer lateral comes with a standard one-year warranty against defects in workmanship, and any settling that may occur from the trench

## Typical Sewer Lateral Replacement Program Questions

### **What is the property owner required to pay?**

Subsequent to the application process there will be no additional cost to the owner if it is determined the owner qualifies for replacement of his/her sewer lateral. Contractor fees associated with replacement of the sewer lateral, including permit fees, will be paid by the City.

### **Will the City of Albany reimburse my plumbing bills related to my damaged sewer lateral?**

No. The City will only pay for expenses incurred by the City which have been authorized by the project manager after the application has been received.

### **How long does this process usually take?**

The process from application to the final TV inspection varies. Factors that affect the schedule include prioritization of emergency sewer lateral replacements, obtaining easements, gaining access from neighbors, and contractor availability.

### **My sewer lateral crosses my neighbor's property. Can it be replaced?**

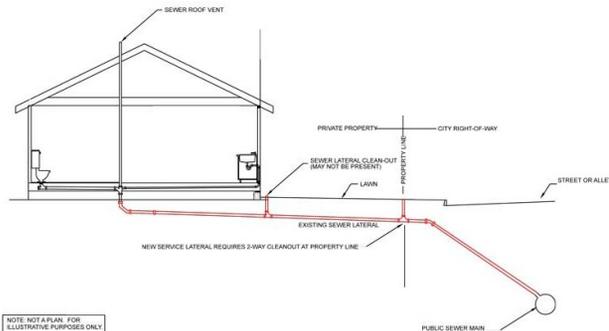
Yes. However the Oregon Plumbing Specialty Code requires a private utility easement be established prior to the installation of the new sewer lateral. We can help you with that.

## Sewer Lateral Replacement Program

In 1999, the Albany City Council approved an ordinance that allows a one-time replacement for qualifying sewer service laterals on private property. The primary purpose for the approval of this program is to reduce the amount of groundwater entering the sanitary sewer system. The infiltration of groundwater into the sanitary sewer system increases the costs of pumping and treating wastewater, reduces system capacity, and can lead to sewer overflows.

### What is a Sewer Lateral?

A 'sewer lateral' is the segment of sewer drain line that extends from just outside your house foundation to the connection with the City's public sewer mainline. Leaking or broken sewer laterals that allow groundwater, roots, and dirt into the system are typical problems for cities with older sewer systems. It's important to keep your lateral in proper working order, and functioning as it was intended. If the lateral qualifies for replacement, any rain drain downspouts that are currently draining to the sewer lateral will be disconnected. If your roof drains are currently connected to your sewer drain system, you may also be a candidate for the Rain Drain Disconnection Program (RDDP).



**For More Information:**  
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# Sewer Lateral Replacement Program (SLRP)

