



# City of Long Beach

## Protecting Our Waters



### City Council Taking a Proactive Approach to Protect City Waters

The City of Long Beach is currently undergoing a series of preventative measures to protect our waters and save taxpayer money.

On January 22, 2014, the City Council adopted comprehensive legislation that is designed to protect and safeguard our waters and natural resources for future generations. To further promote the restoration of our waters, the City plans to retain the services of a company that will provide inspection and repair services directly to property owners.

#### What are sewer laterals?

A sewer lateral is an underground pipe that connects a residence or business to sewer mains, carrying sewage to the sewer treatment plant.



#### Features of the Private Sewer Lateral Inspection & Repair Program

- This is an *optional* program for property owners. Over the summer, all property owners who maintain active sewer accounts will receive correspondence that will permit them to opt-in, or opt-out, of the Program. All other terms and conditions will be provided at that time.
- The primary benefits of the Program are as follows:
  - Program enrollees receive inspections and repair work for no cost other than the program service fee.
  - “Trenchless” technology (i.e. no digging) for nearly all repair work that is performed. In cases where repair work is required, the vendor (in most cases) will insert sleeves through existing pipes within the house, preserving lawns, pavement, property, and money. In the event “trenchless” technology cannot be used, the vendor still performs the repair at no extra cost.
  - Program enrollees can have the peace of mind of knowing that, should their sewer lateral malfunction or found to be damaged, they can avoid the approximate \$5,000-\$15,000 cost of repair. Those who are not enrolled in the Program are liable for the repair costs, which homeowners’ insurance does not cover.
  - Enrollees will be helping Long Beach to prevent the harmful effects of damaged sewer laterals, including:
    1. **Exfiltration**- Damaged sewer laterals cause wastewater to leach into the ground, eventually emerging in and polluting Reynolds Channel. In addition, the nitrogen in the wastewater weakens the coastal marshlands that help protect communities from severe flooding during major storms.
    2. **Infiltration**- Damaged sewer laterals also permit runoff water to enter into the City’s sewer system, which results in unnecessary treatments costs for all property owners.
- Service Plan. The fee schedule for enrollment in the Program is as follows
  - **Year 1:** \$8.33/month, or \$99.99/year (\$24.99 per quarterly bill)
  - **Year 2:** \$9.00/month, or \$108/year (\$27 per quarterly bill)
  - **Year 3:** \$9.50/month, or \$114/year (\$28.50 per quarterly bill)
  - **Year 4:** \$9.99/month, or \$119.88/year (\$29.99 per quarterly bill)
  - **Year 5 and beyond:** Same as Year

  
 LONG BEACH CITY COUNCIL  
 Scott J. Mandel, President      Fran Adelson, Vice President  
 Anthony Eramo                      Eileen J. Goggin      Len Torres  
 CITY MANAGER  
 Jack Schnirman

*Please check the city’s website at [www.longbeachny.gov](http://www.longbeachny.gov) for updates.*