



UTILITY SERVICE REPAIR ASSESSMENT POLICY

The City Council (the “Council”) of the City of Anoka, Minnesota (the “City”) has chosen, by policy, to take steps to help protect the health and safety of its’ property owners by providing optional assessment of water or sanitary sewer service line repair costs. This policy may be amended, as necessary, in the future.

I. Background

All water and sanitary sewer service lines are privately owned from the main to the structure it serves. In the case of a break, blockage or any other issues requiring maintenance, the property owner is responsible for the cost of repairs of their service lines. For health and safety reasons, it is recommended that upon a certain set of criteria, the City may assist the property owner with financing the cost of repair of service lines through an assessment against the property. Historically, property owners who have experienced water or sewer line repairs have been asked to repair service lines on their own as soon as practical.

II. Policy

1. It shall be the policy of the City of Anoka to work with the property owner to contract with a private vendor to provide prompt repair of a water or sanitary sewer line which has been verified by the City. The property owner enters into a contract with a qualified service provider and as such, is responsible for costs of the repair or any damages to their property for the repair of the service lines.

To ensure the protection of health and safety, the City will pay the contractor directly for expenses of the repair. If the property owner chooses to repair the water or sanitary sewer line without City assistance, those costs will not be assessable.

2. The City of Anoka will only pay for the repair costs and assess the cost against the property if the repair is pre-approved by the City and one of the following conditions are also met:
 - a. Poses a public safety risk (i.e.; icing a sidewalk/roadway)
 - b. Damaging public property (ie.; causing roadway to collapse)
 - c. Poses a public health concern.
 - d. Hardship demonstrated
 - e. Cost of service repair is under \$10,000
3. The City’s action in undertaking or executing this policy does not constitute and shall not be interpreted as an admission of liability or fault, and there are no covenants, promises, undertakings or understandings, either expressed or implied, by the City other than those stated.
4. Property owners who request this assistance will be required to sign an assessment agreement prior to work being performed for the water or sanitary sewer service line repair. This Agreement will allow the City to pay the contractor directly for the cost of the repair and assess that cost to the property, up to a maximum of \$10,000.

5. It is recognized that this policy may not be applied indiscriminately and variations are permitted when the Public Services Director and Finance Director agree to a deviation.

Policy History

Initially Adopted: 04.20.2015