

City of East Point

**Sewer System Evaluation Survey (SSES)
Community Meetings**

Resource Information Guide



The city of
EAST POINT
Georgia

City of East Point Capital Improvement Program
Herbert Humphrey, P.E. Director of Government Operations

Glossary of Engineering and Construction Terms

Basin – a designated sewer area where all the waste water flows to one point (pump station); each basin has its own pump station.

Capital Improvement – Any structural improvement that extends the life and increases the value and capacity of an area.

Channel - A channel or ditch constructed to convey surface water; also includes reconstructed natural channels.

Collection System – Generic term for any system of pipes or sewer lines used to convey wastewater to a treatment facility.

Consent Order - A legal document signed by US EPA and an individual, business, or other entity, committing that entity to take corrective action or refrain from an activity. The Consent Order describes the actions to be taken, and can be enforced in court.

Construction manager – a person responsible for managing the execution and completion of construction in a designated area or for a designated project.

Cleanout – a small opening that allows access for clog removal or remote camera inspection.

Culvert - Pipe or concrete box structure which drains open channels, swales, or ditches under a roadway or embankment typically with no catch basins or manholes along its length.

Easement – a formal contractual right granted to a municipality to use a part of land which is owned by another person for a specific purpose; easements can be temporary but more commonly are permanent.

Excavation – Digging and removing earth material from the ground which results in a change in site elevation.

Illicit discharges - Discharges of non-storm water to the storm drainage system. Examples are discharges from internal floor drains, appliances, industrial processes, sinks, and toilets that are connected to the nearby storm drainage system. These discharges should be going to the sanitary sewer system, a holding tank, an on-site process water treatment system, or a septic system.

Infiltration/Inflow (I/I) - Clean storm and/or groundwater that enters the sewer system through cracked pipes, leaky manholes, or improperly connected storm drains, down spouts and sump pumps. Most inflow comes from storm water and most infiltration

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comes from groundwater. I/I affects the size of conveyance and treatment systems and, ultimately, the rate businesses and residents pay to operate and maintain them.

Invert - Elevation to the inside bottom of the pipe.

Lateral – Segment of pipe which connects a home or building to a sewer main, which is usually located beneath a street or easement.

Leak – a crack in a pipe that allows groundwater and foreign debris into sewers.

Lower Lateral – Portion of a lateral (usually from the property line or edge of easement to the sewer main) that the sewerage agency is responsible for maintaining.

Manhole – a hole in the roadway with a cover that allows a person access to the underground piping for inspection and repairs. Also known as a maintenance access point, maintenance hole and sewer access hole.

Notice of Entry – Formal notification to a property owner/current resident of the City's intent to enter upon their property for a specific purpose.

Notice to Proceed (NTP) -- Official written notice to mobilize (e.g. locating equipment to area) for construction. NTP is issued after a signed contract and after the pre-construction meeting. The actual construction work usually starts two to six weeks later.

Outfall -The point where runoff discharges from a sewer pipe, ditch, or other conveyance to a receiving body of water.

Parcel: An area of land, usually with some implication for land ownership or land use.

Potable water -- water of a quality suitable for drinking and free from impurities that may cause disease or harmful physiological effects.

Program Manager – the person who oversees and manages the entire operation of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Public Involvement Manager – serves as the public information contact for external stakeholders; ensures that the public is well-informed about projects impacting their community.

Public Right-of-Way (ROW) – land owned by a public entity (e.g. City of East Point).

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Private Lateral – Privately owned lateral.

Private Lateral Sewage Discharge (PLSD) – Sewage discharges that are caused by blockages or other problems within privately owned laterals or collection systems which are tributary to the reporting Enrollee's sanitary sewer system. Reports of these events are submitted by Enrollees on a voluntary basis but are not their responsibility. This type of sewage discharge is the responsibility of the private lateral or collection system owner.

Sanitary sewer -- type of underground carriage system for transporting sewage from houses or industry to treatment or disposal. In some areas, sanitary sewers are separate sewer systems specifically for the carrying of domestic and industrial wastewater, and are operated separately and independently of storm drains, which carry the runoff of rain and other water which wash into city streets. Sanitary lines generally consist of laterals (services to a particular unit), mains, and manholes (or other various forms of traps).

Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) – Any overflow, spill, release, discharge or diversion of untreated or partially treated wastewater from a sanitary sewer system. SSOs include:

- i. Overflows or releases of untreated or partially treated wastewater that reach waters of the United States;
- ii. Overflows or releases of untreated or partially treated wastewater that do not reach waters of the United States ; and
- iii. Wastewater backups into buildings and on private property that are caused by blockages or flow conditions within the publicly owned portion of a sanitary sewer system.

Sanitary Sewer System – Any system of pipes, pump stations, sewer lines, or other conveyances, upstream of a wastewater treatment plant headworks and which is comprised of more than one mile of pipes and sewer lines, used to collect and convey wastewater to a publicly owned treatment facility.

Service Lateral – Underground power supply line.

Sewer Lateral -- an underground pipe that transports waste from the home/business to the sewer. It is usually owned by the sewer utility, must be maintained by the owner and may only be serviced by utility approved contractors.

Sewer Service Lateral - Sewer line that runs from your house to the public sewer main.

Sewer main – a mechanism that makes service connections from individual residences.

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Sewer system -- an underground system of pipes used to carry off sewage and surface water runoff.

Spill – Generic term referring to any sewage discharge (i.e., SSO or private lateral sewage discharge) resulting from a failure in a sanitary sewer system or privately owned lateral or collection system.

Temporary Construction Easement – generally used to facilitate construction of a project and either terminates at the end of construction or at the end of a specific use period. For example, a 25-foot-wide permanent easement may not provide ample space for construction. An additional 15 feet may be needed for the actual construction and would be acquired as a temporary construction easement.

Upper Lateral – Portion of a lateral (usually from the building foundation to the property line or edge of easement) that the private property owner is responsible for maintaining. This term only applies if overall lateral maintenance responsibility is shared with the sewerage agency.

Wastewater - water that has been used in homes, industries, and businesses that is not for reuse; Also known as sewage.



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

Q. What is a Notice of Right of Entry (NOE)?

A. A Notice of Right of Entry is a formal notification to a property owner/current resident of the City's intent to enter upon their property to perform work within the City easement. The Notice details what the City plans to do and the rights of the parties involved.

Q. Why do I need to sign the Notice of Right of Entry (NOE)?

A. Your signature acknowledges your receipt of the Notice and where applicable, grants right to the City to step outside of the easement with reasonable caution and care. Otherwise, you are not releasing any claim by signing the NOE document but simply confirming your receipt of the notice and understanding of the work to be performed.

Q. What is an Easement?

A. An easement is the legal right of someone to use a portion of your property for a specific purpose. In the case of a sewer easement, that means the right to access, service, and make emergency repairs to a wastewater pipe that runs within or near your property. If you have a manhole in your backyard, you can bet you have a sewer line running under it. If neighbors have a manhole but you don't, you may still have a pipe that carries wastewater under your property.

Q. Who owns and maintains the Easement?

A. The Property Owner continues to own the land and has only given up defined rights on the portion of land used for the easement. Maintenance of the property within the easement is the responsibility of the Property Owner.

Q. What is the size and location of the Easement?

A. The easement is typically twenty feet wide (ten feet on either side of the sanitary sewer), however, the size may vary.

Q. How do I know if there are any easements on my property?

A. Check the title information to your property for specifics. Most easements are recorded and should have been identified by your title company when you bought your home.

Q. Who can enter my property?

A. The City, if it has an easement, may go onto the easement at any time. The City may, on occasion, have a Contractor present to perform specific tasks relating to the City's operations. The City will make an effort to notify you prior to entry, however, in the case of an emergency may need to enter without prior notification.

Q. Can I make improvements within the Easement?

A. Easements are typically granted to the City with the understanding that the property owner may make improvements to the surface such as fences, asphalt paving, trees, irrigation and lighting systems or similar improvements.

Q. What does this mean to me?

A. Do not place planters or any other objects on manhole covers. Fences and gates are not to be constructed over manhole covers. No permanent structures are to be erected within the easement location. Keep the location of the easement clear of debris and material, especially around manhole access points. Planting of trees within the easement is not permitted.

Q. What is an encroachment on an easement?

A. An encroachment is a physical intrusion in an area of the easement contrary to the agreement. The City may require that any unauthorized encroachments be removed at the property owner's expense.

Q. What happens if there are structures or improvements on an easement?

A. If maintenance is required within the City easement, encroachments (i.e., trees, fences, etc.) may be subject to removal by the City. In some circumstances, the property owner may be faced with all costs of removal and any associated damages resulting from unauthorized structures or improvements on land subject to an easement.



Keep the location of the easement clear of debris and material, especially around manhole access points.

Q. What is a manhole?

A. A manhole is a hole (usually with a flush cover) through which a person can gain access to an underground structure. Collection crews prefer to access sewer lines through manholes in the street whenever possible. This is more convenient for them and less disruptive to customers with easements. Sometimes though, it is necessary to access sewer lines on private property either to carry out routine maintenance or to perform an emergency repair or replacement.

Q. What is the purpose of manhole lids?

A. The manholes circular metal lid usually located in the middle (sometimes to the side) of the roadway are for access to the sanitary sewer pipe. Only authorized City personnel can remove the manhole cover. Unauthorized entry into manholes is extremely dangerous and strictly prohibited.

Q. If I notice missing, damaged or noisy manhole lids (loose fitting) what do I do?

A. Please report it to the City immediately at (404) 270 -7162.

Q. What do you mean by sanitary sewer system?

A. Sanitary sewer systems are the collection of pipes, pumps and lift stations, manholes, service lines, and other infrastructure throughout the City designed to handle and safely transport used water, body wastes, and toilet paper as sewage to a treatment plant.

Q. What causes a sanitary sewer to backup?

A. Most sewer backups happen because the line is plugged with an obstruction. However, backups can be caused by several factors including the condition of the sanitary sewer system itself, natural phenomena such as earth movement, heavy rainfall, and the incorrect usage of the system by the public.

Some common backup causes are:

- Solids / debris – Typical solids that buildup in the pipes and cause backups are dirt, hair, bones, tampons, paper towels, kitty litter, diapers, broken dishware, garbage, concrete, and debris.
- Fat/Oil/Grease - When fat, oil or grease is discharged into a sewer system they will solidify and, after a while, can build up and plug drain lines in your building or complex.
- Tree Root infiltration – Tree roots can cause backups. Roots can infiltrate the pipe system and block the wastewater flow.
- Water inflow/infiltration – Rainwater entering the public sewer line can cause system problems and overflows. If the sanitary sewers only transported wastewater, backups would only occur when obstructions were present in sewer pipes.
- Structural defects in pipes and manholes – Significant sags, bellies in the line, cracks, holes, protruding laterals, misaligned pipe, offset and open joints and collapsing pipe material are all possible causes of backups.

Q. What kinds of problems do fat, oil and grease cause?

A. Sewer capacity constraints are frequently caused by improper materials, including fats, oils, and greases being introduced into the sewer system by residents and businesses.

Q. How big is the grease problem?

A. Approximately 50–70 percent of all sanitary sewer system overflows are caused by the accumulations of fats, oils and greases discharged to it from the preparation and serving of food.

Q. Where does the fat, oil and grease come from?

A. Many sources. In the food industry, "grease" often refers to fats and oils derived from animal and vegetable sources. These include meats, nuts, cereals, beans and waxes.



Capital Improvement Program



The Capital Improvement Program (CIP)

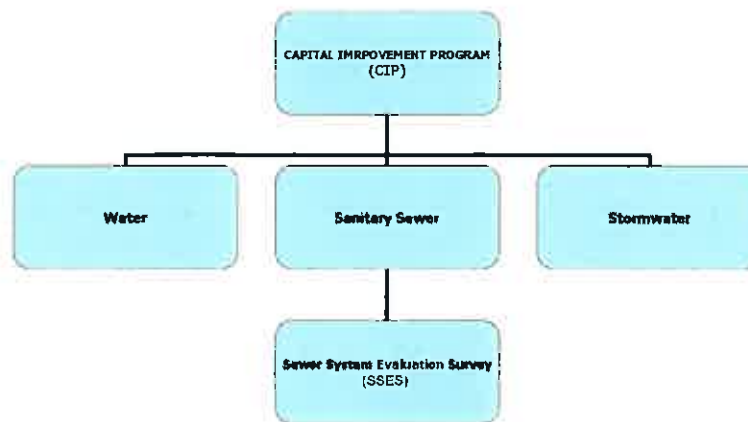
The City Council and Mayor approved the Capital Improvement Program on October 18, 2004. It is a program established to enhance the quality of life for those who live, work and visit East Point. Capital Improvements are classified as major public expenditures, usually physical in nature.

Purpose

- ▶ Ensure timely repair and replacement of aging infrastructure
- ▶ Identify the most economical means of financing capital improvements
- ▶ Control unanticipated, poorly planned, or unnecessary capital expenditures
- ▶ Provide a level of certainty for residents, businesses and developers regarding the location and timing of public investments

Funding

The CIP program is funded by a special revenue bond. CIP funding encompasses water, storm water and wastewater (sanitary sewer) projects only.



Past Projects



Bonnybrook



Semmes Street



Leith Avenue



Carmel Drive