

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF GULFPORT, FLORIDA, ESTABLISHING A PRIVATE SEWER LATERAL REPLACEMENT REBATE PROGRAM; DECLARING A PRIMARY PUBLIC PURPOSE IN THE EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC FUNDS TO BENEFIT PRIVATE INTERESTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the responsibility for maintaining private sewer laterals is on the owner of the property it serves; and

WHEREAS, collapsing and leaky private sewer laterals contribute to the inflow and infiltration problem that ground water has on the city's sanitary sewer system; and

WHEREAS, the city would like to encourage the timely replacement of private sewer laterals; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Sewer Lateral Replacement Rebate Program will provide funding assistance to single family residential owner occupied properties for their private sewer lateral replacement; and

WHEREAS, the Sewer Lateral Replacement Rebate Program was approved by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection within Consent Order OGC No. 17-0028 as a P2 Project; and

WHEREAS, the \$127,500.00 being provided to fund the Program is derived from the Utility Enterprise Fund through the use of system user fees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GULFPORT, FLORIDA:

Section 1. The City Council hereby establishes a Sewer Lateral Replacement Rebate Program in the amount of \$127,500.00 using funds from the Utility Enterprise Fund and authorizes the City Manager to implement a program which provides guidelines as follows:

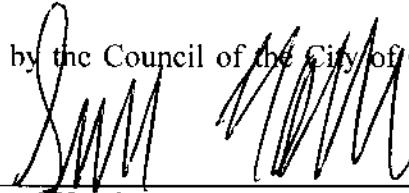
- The property must be within the City of Gulfport.
- Only property owners of single family residential owner occupied homes connected to the city's sanitary sewer system qualify.
- The sewer lateral replacement must be permitted through the Community Development Department.
- The lateral replacement must be at the address listed on the permit.
- The program only applies to those laterals which are replaced in their entirety from the residential structure to the city main; spot repairs and partial repairs are not included in this program.
- Verification of installation and an inspection and approval of completed work by the city is required.
- The reimbursement will be 50% of the lateral replacement cost up to \$3,500.00.

- The allocated \$127,500.00 is available on a first come, first serve basis until the funds are expended.
- The property owner must submit a lateral replacement rebate application within 45 day of verification of installation and an inspection and approval of completed work by the city.
- The property owner must submit, with the rebate application, a dated, detailed sales receipt for proof of purchase. The purchase price of the sewer lateral must be clearly itemized on an invoice.
- Reimbursement for the sewer lateral replacement may take four (4) to six (6) weeks from the date the rebate application is filed.
- Reimbursement funds will only be released to the property owner.
- The rebate program is only in effect when funds are allocated for that purpose within a given budget year.

Section 2. The City Council hereby declares a primary public purpose in the expenditure of public funds to benefit private interests as failing sewer laterals contribute excess sewage to the public sanitary sewer systems and potentially cause or contribute to the failure or overloading of the City's (public) system. The inflow and infiltration from laterals can cause sewer backups into our community's buildings resulting in damage to surrounding properties, community health risks and environmental degradation.

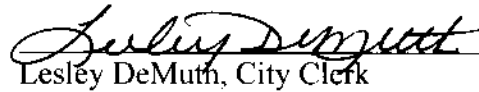
Section 3. This resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 3rd day of April, 2018 by the Council of the City of Gulfport, Florida.



Samuel Henderson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Lesley DeMuth, City Clerk