

LINBROOK ROAD UPDATE

Monday, October 8, 2018

Additional cleaning of the area continued with MDC staff washing down streets and cleaning out catch basins. MDC staff and its contractor installed check valves (similar in operation to backwater valves) at 9 properties today. The specific plumbing set up and fixtures/appliances in the basement determine whether check valves or backwater valves are appropriate, but both accomplish the same goal – to prevent sewer water from flowing back into a property through subsurface fixtures. An additional dumpster was delivered for ServPro to use as basement cleanup continues. MDC staff continued to address individual customer concerns in the field, and began issuing car wash vouchers to residents whose cars were affected by the backup. MDC's local contractors completed several appointments for replacement of hot water heaters, boilers, gas furnaces and restoration of electrical service.

As work continues, MDC plans to provide a comprehensive update and plan of action to all homeowners by close of business tomorrow.

MDC and its Contractor will be continuing inspection the remaining sections of lined pipe to evaluate and confirm the integrity of each section. The inspection will be ongoing for a least a week, due to the fact that inspections of some areas will require additional bypass pumping to reduce existing high flows in certain sections of pipe. These high flows, if not bypassed, would interfere with the ability of cameras to accurately record the condition of the liner.

MDC is also working with each homeowner to evaluate the appropriateness of installing a backwater valve at their property. A backwater valve (sometimes called a backflow preventer or sewer backup valve) is a valve installed on a sewer line that is designed to allow water or sewage to flow only one way (out of the house). If there is a sewer system backup, and a backwater valve is in place, sewage will not be able to flow back into the house. For new homes that have fixtures (showers, tubs, toilets) located lower than the street level, it is a requirement of The National Plumbing Code to have a backwater valve installed. MDC is continuing to contact residents to perform an evaluation at each property and determine if it is appropriate to install backwater valve (at no cost to the homeowner). The first round of these installations is scheduled for Monday, October 8, 2018. We ask for the homeowners' cooperation as we work to complete this process as quickly as possible.

Moving forward, the contractor will be investigating an alternative lining product to replace a total of 300 feet of pipe liner, which includes all of the section (manhole to manhole) where the 60 feet of failed liner was located. MDC will not accept the same product that was used to line this pipe; instead, has directed the contractor to find a proven alternative. The new proposed lining product performance will be rigorously reviewed and tested by the MDC before installation is approved.

MDC's local contractors are continuing to work on necessary replacement of hot water heaters, boilers, gas furnaces and restoration of electrical service. The goal remains making the properties habitable and getting families back in their homes as soon as possible. Four families remain displaced tonight. The Contractor's insurance adjusters are on site and working with the affected homeowners on continued restoration efforts. MDC claims staff will continue to monitor the process.

Further updates will be provided as soon as they become available, which is expected to be tomorrow afternoon.