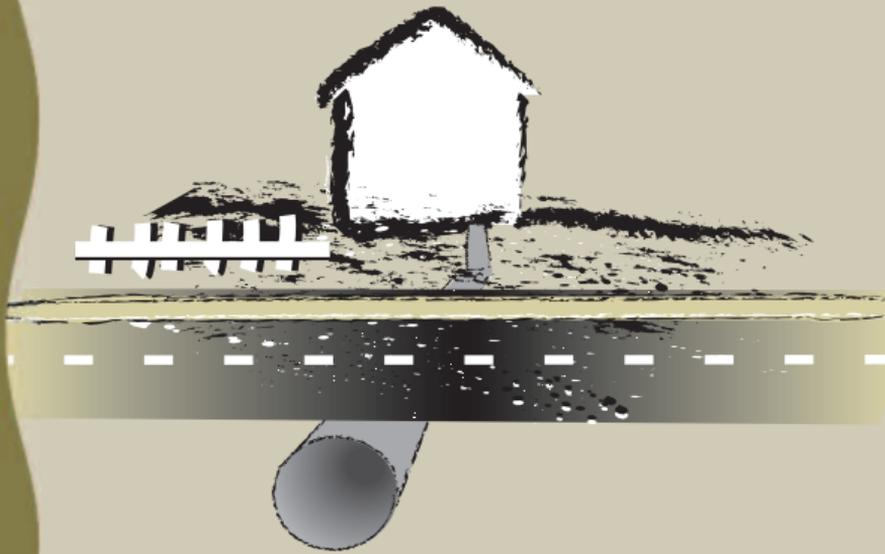


Sewer Work in the Public Right-of-Way (ROW)

Connections or Repair Work



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND

working for clean rivers

Sewer Connection and Repair Work in the Public Right-of-Way

Sewer construction or repair work past private property lines requires a Right-of-Way (ROW) sewer permit from the City of Portland. This guide will provide you and your contractor with the following information:

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When a ROW Sewer Permit is Required

Anytime sewer work extends beyond the private property line (includes sidewalk, curb, and street), a ROW sewer permit is required. The following is a summary of work that requires this type of permit:

- Repairs to existing private sewer laterals under sidewalks
- Repairs to existing private sewer lines under streets (not city-owned)
- All connections to public sewer mains and sewer service laterals
- Relocations of existing sewer service laterals (from curb line to the main)
- Connections to existing sewer service laterals extended to private property
- Construction and/or extension of sewer service laterals to private property for future use
- Repair of existing private sewer lines in the ROW

Who to Contact Before Conducting Sewer Connection or Repair Work

It is mandatory to dial 811 or call **1-800-332-2344** for utility locates at least 48 hours (two business days) before work begins. To apply for a sewer connection or repair permit, contact the Bureau of Development Services (BDS) Trade Dept. **503-823-7363**, Development Services Center, at 1900 SW 4th Avenue.

The Development Services Center is open Tuesday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

All permittees are required to determine depth and location of existing sewer services in the area before conducting sewer work. You must also perform a thorough inspection of the existing private sewer line and verify that it is clear of obstructions before repair or connection. There are many unknowns when performing sewer work and pipe locations and site conditions may not always be obvious. The city recommends that you verify existing sewer services in the area by calling Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) Development Review at **503-823-7761** before construction. A BES technician will access all available sewer information for the site and can offer you technical assistance before the work is conducted. Depending on the scope of work, additional city building permit requirements and fees may apply. Development Services Center staff can clarify this when you apply for the permit.

Some of Portland's sewer mains are very old and may require special construction methods to establish a new connection. The city can construct sewer taps and tee installations. Contractors may schedule the work with Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) Maintenance Operations a minimum of one working day in advance. For locations east of the Willamette River, call **503-823-1780**. For locations west of the Willamette River,

call **503-823-1744**. If no one is available at these phone numbers, please call the PBOT Communications Center at **503-823-1700**. You can call to schedule taps Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Written approval must be obtained from BES and PBOT before using trenchless repair methods (i.e. boring, tunneling, sliplining, cured-in-place-pipe, etc.) in the public ROW. Before beginning a trenchless installation, notify PBOT at **503-823-7002**, positively locate all utilities, and make a positive connection to the existing branch at the curb.

Rules and Requirements for New Sewer Construction or Repair of Existing Sewers

Sewer repairs and connections must be made in accordance with the city's Standard Construction Specifications (including current Special Provisions), the *BES Sewer and Drainage Facilities Design Manual*, and City Code. **It is imperative that all sewer contractors working in the City of Portland review the *Portland Standard Construction Specifications Manual* as referenced in this brochure.** (See the "Resources Available" section to obtain a hard copy or access the information online.)

BES must pre-approve deviation from any standards. City Code, Chapter 17.32 "Sewer Regulations," requires BES authorization under the Public Works

Permit process before any construction or alteration of a public sewer is allowed. This process is detailed in the *BES Sewer and Drainage Facilities Design Manual*, Chapter 2 – Project Delivery, Permitting, and General Procedures, Section 2.5, pages 2-6 to 2-10.

Oregon Law also requires that sewer work follow rules adopted by the Oregon Utility Notification Center (rules pertain to OAR 952-001-0010 through 0090). If you have questions or want to obtain a copy of the OAR rules, call the center at **503-232-1987**.

Bond and Insurance Requirements for Work in the ROW

The legal property owner or the hired contractor can obtain City of Portland sewer connection permits. However, those who perform the sewer repair and connection work in the public ROW must be insured, licensed, and bonded with the State of Oregon and the City of Portland. You can get general liability insurance and City of Portland street opening bond requirements at the Trade Permits counter at the Development Services Center, located at 1900 SW 4th, or by calling **503-823-7142**.

Accepted Pipe Materials and Construction Methods

Sewer connections must be made according to both the *Sewer and Drainage Facilities Design Manual* (reference Table 4.1, Page 4-3), and the city's Standard Construction Specifications (including

associated Special Provisions). Also, approved pipe material may differ from the minimum standards accepted by Plumbing Code for private property. **ABS PIPE IS NOT APPROVED FOR USE IN THE PUBLIC ROW.** (see chart below ▼)

Allowed Pipe Materials and Minimum Pipe Sizes for New Connections to Public Sewers in the Public ROW:

1 and 2 Family Dwellings

Commercial, Industrial and Multi-Family

<i>Material</i>	<i>Min. Size</i>	<i>Sewer Type</i>	<i>Min. Size</i>	<i>Sewer Type</i>
Concrete	6"	Sanitary/Storm	6"	Sanitary/Storm
Ductile Iron	4"	Sanitary/Storm	6"	Sanitary/Storm
PVC	4"	Sanitary/Storm	6"	Sanitary/Storm
HDPE	4"	Sanitary/Storm	6"	Sanitary/Storm

HDPE = High Density Polyethylene

PVC = Polyvinylchloride

Important Rules for Sewer Repair and Connection

- **SPOT REPAIRS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE PUBLIC ROW.** Any repair or connection to a new system in the public ROW (property line to curb) requires the repaired or replacement pipe to be of the same material and extend to face of the curb.
- When making a new connection to a public main line or lateral, the sewer line must be perpendicular (90°) in the public ROW. Angles are only allowed by exception and must be pre-approved by BES.
- Taps to a public main line must be 3 feet apart (outside diameter to outside diameter) and connections must allow the sewer flow to merge with the existing flow of the main. The minimum depth for deep connection risers is 15 feet and must be pre-approved by BES.
- The maximum slope in the public ROW (without special engineering and approvals) is one foot to one foot.
- Contractors who tap clay sewer main lines must receive pre-approval from PBOT Maintenance Operations. See the "Who do I contact before conducting sewer connection or repair work" section for more information.
- Taps to manholes must be 1 foot apart (outside diameter to outside diameter) and must allow flow to merge with

the existing flow at the invert. The minimum depth for an allowed inside drop connection is 15 feet and must be pre-approved by BES.

- Connection of unlike pipe materials must be made with an approved flexible coupling with stainless steel shear bands. The use of a donut for sewer connections is not allowed.
- The maximum allowed lateral diameter must be at least one-half the diameter of the main line; however, BES allows a 6-inch lateral to connect with an 8-inch or 10-inch sewer. When it is necessary to connect a 6-inch to an 8-inch pipe, a manufactured tee may be installed into the existing sewer main.
- Private tax lots must have independent gravity connections to the public sewer. BES requires that all pre-existing shared connections, or "party sewers", require disconnection. When separating party sewer connections, the property with direct frontage to the sewer main may retain the original connection.
- When private sewer pump systems are allowed on private property, the flow entering the public ROW pipe must be gravity-flow. Pump systems require review and approval by both BDS Plumbing and BES Development review staff, before installation.

City Inspection Process for Sewer Work in the ROW

Call **503-823-7002** to schedule ROW inspections. Please provide a 4-hour notice.

The city requires 24-hour notice for manhole taps. Contact your ROW inspector to troubleshoot any problems, or to clarify construction requirements.

For inspection on private property, call **503-823-7000** before 7:30 a.m. on the day of the inspection, to request an appointment. **All pipes must be inspected before backfilled.**

Resources Available



working on a lateral in the right-of-way

City of Portland Standard Construction Specifications manual is available for purchase at the Development Services Center, or online at: www.portlandonline.com/transportation/index.cfm?c=40032

BES Sewer and Drainage Facilities Design manual is available for purchase at the Development Services Center, or online at: www.portlandonline.com/bes/index.cfm?c=43271

Go to www.portlandonline.com/bes/ and search for "sewer line" for more information.

Bureau of Development Services
Brochure #7 –
Broken Sewer and Drain Lines
www.portlandonline.com/bds/index.cfm?c=45053

Environmental Services
1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 1000
Portland Oregon, 97204

Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Dean Marriott, Director

The City of Portland will make reasonable
accommodation for people with disabilities.

Call 503-823-7740 with such requests.

TTY 503-823-6868

Oregon Relay Service 1-800-735-2900