Dear Property Owner,

The City of Larkspur has tentatively scheduled your street for repaving. After pavement restoration is completed, the City will impose a prohibition of excavation to prolong the life of the pavement.

You are responsible for the condition of the portion of your sewer lateral underneath the public road. While the City may allow for excavation on prohibited streets, the work will be subject to additional street paving requirements which could add thousands of dollars to your cost for a sewer lateral repair.

Ross Valley Sanitary District (District) is encouraging you to have your sewer lateral tested or replaced in advance of pavement restoration, if it hasn’t been recently replaced. A sewer lateral replacement will qualify your property for a 20-year private sewer lateral compliance certificate and correct defects such as infiltration and inflow of storm water, roots, offset joints, cracks, or breaks, which could cause sewage to overflow onto your property or the surrounding environment.

If you plan on selling your house, conducting a major remodel, or adding a bathroom, you will be required at that time to have your sewer lateral tested. If your sewer lateral does not pass the test, repair work will be required. Even if you do not foresee selling or remodeling your house in the next 5-10 years, you may want to consider replacing your lateral now.

In recognition of the impact poorly maintained sewer laterals have on the environment and the sanitary sewer system, the District has set aside targeted grant funds to support homeowners replacing their sewer lateral in advance of pavement restoration. Depending on verification by District staff of where your lateral connects to the public sewer main, you may be eligible for total grant funding up to $2,500. These funds are limited and offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you do not want to replace your entire lateral, you may want to consider replacing the portion of your sewer lateral in the paved roadway. Doing this before your street is repaved will eliminate considerable costs from any future repair work. However, partial replacements will not qualify for grant funding.

If you have any questions about these grants funds or would like more information on our lateral programs, please contact us at 415-259-2949 or email us at info@rvsd.org. Always contact the City of Larkspur in advance of any excavation in the public right of way.

Sincerely,

ROSS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT