

PSA - Attention City Residents!

As you are aware, the City of Lackawanna has very old infrastructure, which includes water lines and sewer lines. These lines are constantly in need of repair, which can be very expensive. When the line that extends from the main service line to the residence, known as laterals, break or collapse, it often results in a sink hole forming in the lawn or the street directly in front of a residence.

Unfortunately, what many people don't realize is that the homeowner, **not the utility or city**, is responsible for that repair. Homeowners are responsible for the lateral that extends from the main service line in the street to the residence and also for any associated repair costs to the respective lawn, right-of-way or street. These repairs may cost several thousands of dollars and homeowners are responsible for that bill. Too many get caught off-guard and simply don't have the funds.

As part of this public service announcement, provided herein are some options that homeowners have at their disposal to help deal with this worsening and expensive problem:

Option #1: Locally, the Lackawanna Housing Development Corporation, known as the LHDC, offers a program to assist qualified **low and moderate income** owner occupied homeowners with a plan to pay for 80% of the repair, with the homeowner responsible for 20%.

This program is referred to as the "Home Improvement Program," with additional guidelines and information available by contacting Mr. Phil Lowrey, Executive Director of the LHDC at 823-5124. The LHDC, located at 640 Ridge Road, is closed on Friday.

Option #2: Choose an infrastructure insurance plan, whereas a homeowner pays a low monthly premium that would cover the costs associated with these types of repairs. Interested homeowners may contact one of the two insurance companies listed below or self-research a company that can handle your needs and budget. **You may google "service line insurance warranties" for additional options.**

American Water Resources*
80 Orville Drive
Suite 100
Bohemia, NY 11716
1-877-532-5268
AWRofNY.com

NLC Service Line Warranty Program*
Utility service Partners
11 Grand View Circle
Canonsburg, PA 15317
1-866-974-4801
partnerships@utilitysp.net

Option #3: Pay the bill in full in the event this situation occurs.

***It should be understood that the City of Lackawanna is not endorsing nor encouraging any one of the options listed herein. The City of Lackawanna is not endorsing nor recommending any of the companies listed herein, but rather providing a guide to help you through the process should you elect to choose any of the above listed options. Any decision made is the full responsibility of the homeowner.**