

VILLAGE *of* WESTERN SPRINGS



740 HILLGROVE AVENUE | WESTERN SPRINGS, IL 60558-1478 | [www.wsprings.com](http://www.wsprings.com)

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PRESIDENT

Alice Gallagher

January 16, 2019

TRUSTEES

Sheila Hansen

Edward Tymick

Berry Allen

Heidi Rudolph

William Siffermann

James Tyrrell

Dear Resident,

The Village is installing a new 8” watermain on Clausen Avenue (41<sup>st</sup> - Ogden) in 2019, in conjunction with a concrete reconstruction of the roadway. The installation of the new water main is part of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) loan program.

CLERK

Bridget Fitzgerald

You are receiving this letter as you may have an existing lead water service currently connected to the existing 4” watermain. If you are unsure of the material composition of your service line, please visit [www.wsprings.com/water](http://www.wsprings.com/water) and click on the “Lead in Drinking Water” tab on the left side for further instructions. If you are unable to complete the test on your own or are still unsure of the composition of your service line, please feel free to contact Erin Duffy for additional assistance, utilizing the contact information below.

MANAGER

Ingrid Velkme

DIRECTORS

Tracy Alden

Grace Turi

Pat Schramm

Martin Scott

Matthew Supert

Patrick Kenny

Brian Budds

Ellen Baer

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The replacement of the water main will include the replacement of a portion of your water service, from the new 8” water main to the buffalo box (b-box) in the Village parkway. The b-box is the circular metal structure, located between the sidewalk and the curb, that allows the Village access to your water supply if a shut-off to your home is needed.

The Municipal Code states that the water service line is owned by the homeowner and it is the responsibility of the property owner to maintain, repair, and/or replace the entire length of the service line from the meter to the supply main (**Municipal Code 8-5-7**). Since the Village is replacing the water main, your water service from the new main to the b-box will be replaced at no cost to the resident. Replacing only this portion of the water service will result in a partial lead service line replacement.

A partial lead service line replacement occurs when a portion of a lead water service is repaired or replaced. Currently, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the Village of Western Springs allow for partial lead service line replacement.

However, the IDPH recommends that water services are completely replaced to reduce lead exposure.

The Village has prepared two options for you to choose from. If properly followed, each option will result in reducing lead exposure to the safe limits set by the IEPA. The Village is unable to financially assist in the replacement of the remainder of the water service per **Section 1 of Article VIII of the Illinois Constitution**, which states Public funds, property or credit shall be used only for public purpose and prohibits the use of public funds for an exclusively private improvement on private property.

The Village needs a response from each property owner, in writing, signifying which option they are choosing. Please provide this response by March 1, 2019.

**Option 1: Full Service Line Replacement – Resident's Contractor**

This option allows you to utilize a contractor of your choosing to complete the installation of a new water service, from the b-box to your home. Your contractor will still be responsible for applying for a construction permit and posting a performance bond or other security to ensure proper restoration of street (i.e., street patch) or right-of-way restoration. If you hire a contractor, the Village agrees to pay for or waive the costs identified in the below box that are normally part of the building permit process:

<b>Waiver of Water Main Tap On Fee</b>	\$1,000
<b>Waiver of Street Opening Fee</b>	\$150
<b>Wavier of Site Restoration Fee</b>	\$800

Residents are required to adhere to all construction requirements outlined during the building permit process. Each property owner is responsible for all costs associated with this option and for restoration on private property.

**Option 2: Keep the Partial Lead Service Line**

This option allows the resident to keep the partial lead service line, from the b-box to your home, understanding that there may be an increase in lead exposure for a period of time after construction. Included in this letter is a pamphlet outlining instructions on how to safely maintain the partial lead service line. The Water Department will provide water quality testing before and after the partial lead water service replacement occurs.

Village staff is hosting a resident meeting on February 12, 2019 at 6:30PM to answer any questions on this topic. The meeting will take place in the Board Room at Village Hall. If you cannot attend the meeting, staff is available to meet, talk, or e-mail using the contact information below.

Sincerely,

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