

Vang, Mai (CI-StPaul)

From: Lou Ann Norquist <lanorquist1@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 25, 2020 3:00 PM
To: Assessments (CI-StPaul)
Subject: File# SWRP2004, Assessment# 203003 for 507 Arcade Street

Dear City Council,

This is in regard to the Public Works Program for the Replacement of the Sewer Line on my property which is 507 Arcade Street.

I signed off on the estimate of \$6500 because the repair (not replacement) work needed to be done. Considering the circumstances, I'm wondering if this amount can be reduced in any way. If not, I'm grateful that the city is willing to spread the payments over 20 years.

This is my story. I'll try to be brief. Last Spring, laundry water started backing up in my bathtub. The washer and bathtub are on opposite sides of the same wall. 2 highly advertised plumbing companies came out, but said they could not fit their equipment in the crawl space beneath my bathroom. A third plumber, who was recommended came out. He was able to set his equipment at the top of the basement stairs and pull the cables down through the main drain. That required an assistant, so it cost \$300 to find out there was a break in the line.

My sewer line (installed in 1929 as far as I can tell) is a long one. From the back of my house, it goes out into my back yard, then cuts across my yard at an angle. It then goes into my next door neighbor's yard, takes a right hand turn and continues through their side yard and front yard and then enters the city sewer system in Maple Street.

My neighbors have a huge Maple tree near this sewer line path, so we all thought that was the cause of the problem. The break however was quite a ways from the tree and near my neighbors retaining wall. Their property (288 Maple) is about 3 or 4 feet lower than my lot. A few owners back (288 Maple) there was a renter who worked for Budget Towing. He parked his truck in the side yard even though I asked him not to as I knew the sewer line was in that area. Because the break was caused by downward pressure, I feel like that was probably the cause of the damage.

My current neighbors (homeowners) are great. They have been patient and understanding but they are left with two large slightly crooked clean-out valves in their yard. Their entire yard was dug up for the repair. When it rained a couple of days after the repair, the crew needed to be called back to do some back filling and tamping. I huge hole had opened up near the retaining wall and it was in danger of toppling.

If a price reduction is not possible, perhaps for your next virtual meeting, you could all be wearing matching t-shirts printed by my company, Screen Pro LLC. Please disregard if shameless promotions are not allowed.

Kind regards,

Lou Ann Norquist

651-238-2607