

## **Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul)**

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**From:** Ekobena, Richard (CI-StPaul)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 26, 2018 4:29 PM  
**To:** Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul)  
**Cc:** Vang, Mai (CI-StPaul); Cahanes, Pat (CI-StPaul); Martin, Lisa (CI-StPaul)  
**Subject:** Re: 198 Stevens St W

Hi Marcia,

I will like to inform you that a city sewer crew today dye tested the hole on the street on top of the 198 Stevens sewer pipe and were able to confirm beyond any doubt that the pipe was defective and in need of repair.

The dye test consists of pouring a colored type liquid (dye) into the hole on the street and watching to see if the dye appears inside the city sewer. The only way the dye can travel and be seen inside the city sewer is by entering through a break in the 198 Stevens pipe and traveling through it to get to inside the city pipe.

We usually do not like to dye test because it requires pouring a considerable amount of liquid in the hole which can create quite a mess. We had to do so in this case to eliminate any doubts arising from the videos.

Richard Ekobena

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**From:** Ekobena, Richard (CI-StPaul)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 22, 2018 3:24:20 PM  
**To:** Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul)  
**Cc:** Vang, Mai (CI-StPaul); Cahanes, Pat (CI-StPaul); Martin, Lisa (CI-StPaul)  
**Subject:** RE: 198 Stevens St W

Hi Marcia,

Sewer Utility staff reviewed the 198 West Stevens Street private sewer pipe video and concluded that the connection point of the private pipe to the city mainline pipe is broken (defective) and in need of repair. The location of this broken connection point happens to be directly underneath where the hole developed on the street surface above (see image of hole below).

Sewer staff also observed that the operator of the private video equipment had a tough time getting his camera through the broken connection point, an indication that the private pipe and the city mainline pipe are no longer aligned or are separated at their connection point.

When a private sewer pipe shears away from a city mainline pipe, the result is typically a small opening that allows soil around the private pipe to escape into the sewer system. As more and more soil escapes from above the private sewer pipe, a void is created which leads to the street ultimately caving in as shown in the image below.

Although it is sometimes not so obvious when seen on still pictures, I have attached images of the defective connection as seen from the city video and the property owner video.



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**From:** Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul)  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 21, 2018 3:29 PM  
**To:** Ekobena, Richard (CI-StPaul); Martin, Lisa (CI-StPaul)  
**Cc:** Vang, Mai (CI-StPaul); Cahanes, Pat (CI-StPaul)  
**Subject:** RE: 198 Stevens St W

Richard,

I think we have some procedural issues on this one. What is under appeal to the Council is the DSI Summary (Nuisance) Abatement Order written to enforce your letter. In these cases, evidence is submitted to me, the Legislative Hearing Officer, and I disseminate it to staff seeking input. In retrospect, it would have been good to have you at the hearing, in addition to Lisa Martin. In any event, can you facilitate the review of this video by Sewers and can someone get back to me with an assessment/findings? If we need to conduct another hearing to talk through the situation with the property owner, we can definitely set that up. If a simple report from Sewers will do the trick, that's ok, too. I simply need to come to a recommendation to the City Council on whether the City should correct this problem and assess the property owner for the costs connected to that. Please call me if I can clarify or help in any way. Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you, Marcia

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**From:** Ekobena, Richard (CI-StPaul)  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 21, 2018 3:01 PM  
**To:** Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul) <marcia.moermond@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Martin, Lisa (CI-StPaul) <lisa.martin@ci.stpaul.mn.us>  
**Cc:** Vang, Mai (CI-StPaul) <mai.vang@ci.stpaul.mn.us>; Cahanes, Pat (CI-StPaul) <pat.cahanes@ci.stpaul.mn.us>  
**Subject:** RE: 198 Stevens St W

I see the video link below, but has the video been submitted to Sewers for review?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0BoMZ6xt3Rc&feature=youtu.be>

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**From:** Moermond, Marcia (CI-StPaul)  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 21, 2018 1:31 PM  
**To:** Ekobena, Richard (CI-StPaul); Martin, Lisa (CI-StPaul)  
**Cc:** Vang, Mai (CI-StPaul)  
**Subject:** 198 Stevens St W

Richard and Lisa,

Wondering what the current status is on this case and whether the submitted appeal, receipt and video have been reviewed. Please advise, Marcia

Information regarding appeals case:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0BoMZ6xt3Rc&feature=youtu.be>