



April 28, 2021

PRESIDENT

Alice Gallagher

TRUSTEES

Heidi Rudolph

James Tyrrell

Nicole Chen

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James Horvath

MANAGER

Ingrid Velkme

DIRECTORS

Grace Turi

Pat Schramm

Martin Scott

Matthew Supert

Brian Budds

Ellen Baer

Aleks Briedis

Michael Kelly

Dear Resident,

The Village is installing a new 8” watermain on Rose Avenue (Oak to Maple) and Grove Avenue (Chestnut to Maple). The water main install will accompany a concrete reconstruction for the same area of Rose Avenue and Grove Avenue (Chestnut to Ogden). The concrete reconstruction limits are subject to the budget and it is possible the scope could be affected by bid pricing. The installation of the new water main is part of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) loan program. The project is scheduled for 2021, however it is possible that it could be delayed until 2022 if IEPA loan funds are not available.

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.

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.

Partial lead service lines occur when a portion of an existing lead water service is replaced or repaired. PLSLRs are known to increase the exposure to lead in your drinking water once they are completed, and for a period of time after. Increased lead exposure can cause health effects if the lead enters the bloodstream and causes an elevated blood lead level. Increased lead exposure is especially dangerous for children and pregnant mothers.

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.

Please fill out the attached Water Service Line Connection Form, signifying which option you are choosing. Please return this form to Village Hall and the Department of Municipal Services by June 1, 2021.

### **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. The Water Department will provide

water quality testing before and after the partial lead water service replacement occurs. A guide to proper flushing procedures will be provided prior to the start of work.

Village staff is hosting a resident meeting for any resident with a lead water service on May 19, 2021 at 6:00 PM to answer any questions on this topic. The meeting will take place virtually via Zoom. The meeting Zoom meeting information will be available on the day of the meeting at <https://wsprings.com/calendar>. If you cannot attend the meeting, please contact staff below for more information. The meeting recording will also be shared at the project web page, [www.wsprings.com/rosegrove](http://www.wsprings.com/rosegrove). A follow-up letter will be sent to all residents within the project area in May. That letter will include general construction information and details on a project resident meeting.

Sincerely,



Matthew Supert  
Director of Municipal Services  
[msupert@wsprings.com](mailto:msupert@wsprings.com)  
708.246.1800 ext. 205

Casey Biernacki  
Deputy Village Manager  
[cbiernacki@wsprings.com](mailto:cbiernacki@wsprings.com)  
708.246.1800 ext. 123

Erin Duffy  
Water Plant Superintendent  
[eduffy@wsprings.com](mailto:eduffy@wsprings.com)  
708.246.1800 ext. 214



**Water Service Line Work Selection Form**

**Project: Rose and Grove Avenue Water Main Replacement Project**

PRESIDENT

Alice Gallagher

Village of Western Springs  
Department of Municipal Services  
740 Hillgrove Avenue  
Western Springs, Illinois 60558

TRUSTEES

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I \_\_\_\_\_ (print name) have been informed by the Village of Western Springs, on May \_\_\_\_, 2021, of my options for replacing my water service line at my residence located at \_\_\_\_\_ (address.)

I have been given the option of replacing my lead service line at my own cost. I am choosing to:

CLERK

James Horvath

\_\_\_\_\_ I will replace my own service line with a contractor hired by me (permit and contractor's license required – please contact the Community Development Department at 708-246-1800). Please include your e-mail address to allow for future coordination \_\_\_\_\_

MANAGER

Ingrid Velkme

\_\_\_\_\_ Opt not to have my service line replaced.

DIRECTORS

Grace Turi

Pat Schramm

Martin Scott

Matthew Supert

Brian Budds

Ellen Baer

Aleks Briedis

Michael Kelly

\_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner Signature

Property Owner Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and return to [cbiernacki@wsprings.com](mailto:cbiernacki@wsprings.com) or to Village Hall, to the Department of Municipal Services, by June 1, 2021.