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April 8, 2025

The Honorable Common Council
of the City of Milwaukee
Room 205 - City Hall

RE: Communications from DIANE WILSON-GREER
C.I. File No. 1029-2024-1597

Dear Sir or Madam:

Ms. Wilson-Greer alleges that sewer back up occurring in April 2024 at her residence at 3936 West Galena Street resulted from damage to her sewer lateral. She claims that the lateral was damaged as a result of City contractors working in the area. She has submitted a damage claim in the amount of \$15,135.00.

Our investigation into this matter involved both Infrastructure Services Division and Milwaukee Water Works. Infrastructure Services records reveal that on April 17, 2024, Sewer Maintenance responded to a call regarding backwater at 3936 W. Galena Street. The crew checked the main sewer and found it to be in good working condition. They advised Ms. Wilson-Greer to hire a licensed plumber for possible sewer lateral issues. They also provided that MJ Construction completed a sewer main relay in the area on December 19, 2022. On March 4, 2024, post construction examination of the sewer showed that the lateral from 3936 W. Galena Street was connected to the main sewer. No damages to the lateral were noted.

Milwaukee Water Works (MWW) investigation into this matter revealed that on November 24, 2021, MWW contracted with Five Star Energy to perform a Lead Service Replacement (LSLR) at the subject property, and on October 4, 2022, MWW contracted with Five Star Energy to perform a LSLR on the private side of the lateral.



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No damages were noted or documented by any City employees or inspectors regarding the performance of any of these contracts.

It is our view the since the City cannot ascertain the cause of claimant's sewer failure, the City is not liable for the related charges. Therefore, we recommend that this claim be denied.

Very truly yours,



EVAN C. GOYKE
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ECG/NES/PK/cdr

Enclosures

1029-2024-1597/297105