

EVAN C. GOYKE

City Attorney

MARY L. SCHANNING

ROBIN A. PEDERSON

NAOMI E. SANDERS

JULIE P. WILSON

Deputy City Attorneys



Milwaukee City Hall Suite 800 • 200 East Wells Street • Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-3551
Telephone: 414.286.2601 • TDD: 414.286.2025 • Fax: 414.286.8550

KATHRYN Z. BLOCK
THOMAS D. MILLER
PETER J. BLOCK
PATRICK J. MCCLAIN
ANDREA J. FOWLER
JOANNA FRACZEK
HANNAH R. JAHN
MEIGHAN M. ANGER
ALEXANDER R. CARSON
GREGORY P. KRUSE
ALEX T. MUELLER
ALEXANDER D. COSSI
KATHERINE A. HEADLEY
SHEILA THOBANI
STACY J. MILLER
JORDAN M. SCHETTLE
THERESA A. MONTAG
ALEXANDER E. FOUNDOS
TRAVIS J. GRESHAM
KYLE W. BAILEY
JOSEPH M. DOBBS
WILLIAM K. HOTCHKISS
CLINT B. MUCHE
TYLER M. HELSEL
ZACHARY A. HATFIELD
MEGHAN C. MCCABE
CYNTHIA HARRIS ORTEGA
OLUWASEUN CHRIS IBITOYE
KEVIN P. TODT
NATHANIEL E. ADAMSON
MATTEO REGINATO
JOSHUA B. CRONIN
Assistant City Attorneys

August 26, 2025

To the Honorable Common Council
of the City of Milwaukee
City Hall Room 205

RE: C.I. File No. 1029-2024-2121
Communications from Attorney Pamela McAvoy on behalf of
MATTEO SOLLENA

Dear Council Members:

Matteo Sollena through his attorney Pamela McAvoy, alleges on January 24, 2024, he experienced issues with his sewer line as the result of installation of a City light pole that moved a big rock and allegedly caused damage to his sewer pipes at his property located at 7324 W. Capitol Drive. Mr. Sollena is seeking \$16,881 for invoices/repairs to his sanitary sewer lateral.

We have investigated this matter with Infrastructure Services Division. Our investigation reveals that this notice of claim was filed on December 2, 2024, regarding damages that occurred January 24, 2024. Wis. Stat. § 893.80(1d)(a) requires that a notice of circumstances of the claim be serviced within 120 days after the happening of the event given rise to the claim. This service of notice is untimely.

Our investigation determined that on January 25, 2024, City of Milwaukee Street Lighting was dispatched to remove a concrete pole at the request of the owner due to possible sewer issues. The light pole was removed. On August 29, 2024. Repairs were completed by Mr. Sollena's private plumbing contractor. It was confirmed that the light pole was 5 ft. south of the claimant's sewer lateral and a large rock was the cause of the broken sewer lateral.



To the Honorable Common Council
of the City of Milwaukee
August 26, 2025
Page Two

Additional maintenance records indicated the light pole was set prior to 2020. The sewer lateral measured 7.5 feet deep while our light pole sat 6 feet deep.

Because the statutory timeframe for service of notice is untimely, and there is no evidence that the city is liable for damages claimed, we recommend that the claim be denied.

Very truly yours,



EVAN C. GOYKE
City Attorney



NAOMI E. SANDERS
Deputy City Attorney

ECG/NES/MTG/cdr

Enclosures

1029-2024-2121/