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April 1, 2025

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

RE: Communications from Diamond Public Adjuster, LLC on behalf of Gary Baker/Joyette Speirs

C.I. File No. 1029-2025-262

Dear Sir or Madam:

Claimants allege that the City of Milwaukee is responsible for property damages and charges they incurred in regard sewer backup at their property at 8350 West Derby Place on December 31, 2024. 35th Street.

Our investigation into this matter revealed that Sewer Maintenance responded to a backwater complaint at 8350 West Derby Place on December 31, 2024. At that time, a clogged eight-inch sanitary sewer was discovered and immediately opened by a Jet Vac cleaning crew, relieving the backwaters at the location.

On January 2, 2025, the sewer was CCTV examined. Due to the amount of excessive grease in the pipe, additional cleaning and degreasing measures were done to ensure a free-flowing sewer.

On January 6, 2025, the sewer was CCTV examined and found to be in good condition and functioning properly. The clog was due to heavy grease and tissue in the main sewer line. This sewer is on a regular three-year cleaning schedule and was last cleaned in October of 2023.

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** LISA A. GILMORE 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 JUSTIN J. DREIKOSEN Assistant City Attorneys



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It is the view of Sewer Maintenance that the City was not negligent regarding the sewer backup at the subject location on December 31, 2024. In addition, they feel they acted responsibly by providing additional cleaning and degreasing measures to the main sewer. Accordingly, we feel that the City is not liable in this case, and we recommend that this claim for \$42,332.17 be denied.

Very truly yours,

EVAN C. GOYKE

City Attorney

NAOMI E. SANDERS Deputy City Attorney

ECG/NES/PK/cdr

1029-2025-262/297049