## **GRANT F. LANGLEY**

City Attorney

RUDOLPH M. KONRAD LINDA ULISS BURKE VINCENT D. MOSCHELLA Deputy City Attorneys



December 14, 2009

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

Re: Communication from LMR OF MILWAUKEE, LLC

C.I. File No.: 09-L-93

**Dear Council Members:** 

Enclosed please find a proposed resolution. We ask that it be introduced and referred to the Committee on Judiciary & Legislation, with the following recommendation.

Claimant, LMR of Milwaukee, LLC, c/o Brett Mazzone, 1121 North Waverly Place, Apt. No. 901, Milwaukee, WI 53202 alleges through Society Insurance, by its representative, Kevin Crouse, P.O. Box 127, Ixonia, WI 53036, as subrogee that on August 18, 2009, a Department of Public Works crew was cleaning a City sewer and it backed up into their insured's property. They claim damages in the amount of \$9,459.29.

Our investigation reveals that on August 18, 2009 the Infrastructure Services Division (ISD) was using an 8-inch Wayne ball to clean the sanitary sewer in the 6800 block of West Oklahoma Avenue. Due to excessive calcium in the sewer, the ball got stuck and there was a sewer back up into the insured's property. After the ball was dislodged, the sewer was restored to proper working order. Subsequently, the ISD televised the sewer, removed calcium and will in the future clean this sewer with a sewer jet. The ISD indicated that they had no notice that the Wayne ball had encountered a restriction until after there was a back-up in the insured's basement. Once the ISD received notice, it acted promptly to take corrective action. The City was not negligent in this matter. Therefore, we recommend that this claim be denied.

Very truly yours,

GRANT F. LANGLEY City Attorney

JAN A. SMOKOWICZ Assistant City Attorney

JAS:ms Enclosure 1029-2009-2356:152968 **THOMAS O. GARTNER BRUCE D. SCHRIMPF** SUSAN D. BICKERT STUART S. MUKAMAL **THOMAS J. BEAMISH MAURITA F. HOUREN** JOHN J. HEINEN **DAVID J. STANOSZ SUSAN E. LAPPEN** JAN A. SMOKOWICZ PATRICIA A. FRICKER **HEIDI WICK SPOERL KURT A. BEHLING GREGG C. HAGOPIAN ELLEN H. TANGEN MELANIE R. SWANK** JAY A. UNORA **DONALD L. SCHRIEFER EDWARD M. EHRLICH LEONARD A. TOKUS** MIRIAM R. HORWITZ **MARYNELL REGAN** G. O'SULLIVAN-CROWLEY **KATHRYN Z. BLOCK MEGAN T. CRUMP ELOISA DE LEÓN ADAM B. STEPHENS KEVIN P. SULLIVAN BETH CONRADSON CLEARY THOMAS D. MILLER** HEIDI E. GALVÁN **JARELY M. RUIZ ROBIN A. PEDERSON DANIELLE M. BERGNER** Assistant City Attorneys