

CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

ORDINANCE NO. 5255

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 13 OF THE GRAND JUNCTION MUNICIPAL CODE (GJMC) REGARDING REPAIR, MAINTENANCE OF SERVICE PIPES IN THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

Recitals:

On January 15, 2021, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) which further strengthens the protections against lead in drinking water. The LCRR specified a deadline of October 16, 2024, for water systems to comply with the revised requirements which included completion of an initial service line inventory.

On August 14, 2023, the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission adopted the updated requirements of the LCRR into the Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulations at 5 C.C.R. 1002-11, as may be amended from time to time (Regulation 11).

On October 8, 2024, the EPA published the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) which require drinking water systems to identify and replace lead service lines within 10 years starting in 2027. The LCRI also requires more rigorous testing of drinking water and lowers the action threshold to 10 parts per billion to protect people from lead exposure in water.

The Colorado Water Quality Control Commission plans to begin a stakeholder effort in Spring 2025 to discuss adoption of the LCRI into Regulation 11.

On September 24, 1967, Grand Junction Ordinance No. 1269 amending Section 31-24 of the GJMC to provide for the use of copper pipe for service lines. At that time the City did not explicitly prohibit lead or galvanized pipe material or require that existing lead or galvanized service lines be replaced with copper lines.

In October 2024, the City completed a service line inventory and identified 365 lead and galvanized service lines requiring replacement. Of those, 219 of the service lines are privately owned.

Section 13.08.320 of the GJMC requires that the owner, lessee or agent maintain the service pipes from the meter to the building.

The EPA strongly discourages partial replacements of service lines because they can increase lead levels in tap water.

Replacing both municipally owned and privately owned service lines presents a benefit to the municipal water system by avoiding the cost of potential future corrosion control studies, treatment, and water quality monitoring programs.

The City Council having duly considered the matter does find that proactive implementation of a lead and galvanized service line replacement program including full replacements of both municipally owned and privately owned service lines and funding the lead and galvanized service line replacement program through the Water Enterprise Fund is appropriate and will further public health, safety and welfare.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION in consideration of and adoption of the foregoing Recitals that Chapter 13.08.320 of the GJMC shall be amended as follows with additions shown in ALL CAPS and deletions shown in ~~strikethrough~~:

§ 13.08.320 Repair, maintenance of service pipes

The owner, lessee or agent shall maintain the service pipes from the curb stop if the meter is at the curb, or from the meter if the meter is located between the property line and the curb. It shall be the owner's duty to keep such pipes in good repair and protected from freezing, and the owner shall be responsible for all damages resulting from leaks or breaks in such service pipes.

WHEN REQUIRED TO PROPERLY MANAGE, OPERATE OR MAINTAIN THE WATER SYSTEM, THE CITY UTILITIES DEPARTMENT MAY REPLACE AT ITS EXPENSE ALL OR A PORTION OF ANY LEAD AND/OR GALVANIZED SERVICE LINES OF A CITY WATER CUSTOMER FROM THE METER TO THE BUILDING. THE UTILITIES DEPARTMENT MAY REQUIRE REPLACEMENT OF ALL OR A PORTION OF ANY SERVICE CONNECTION THAT COULD POSE A RISK TO SERVICE LEVELS, PUBLIC HEALTH, OR WATER QUALITY, AS DETERMINED BY THE CITY OR REQUIRED BY STATE OR FEDERAL REGULATION. THE REPLACED SERVICE CONNECTION SHALL BE THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY OWNER.

Severability.

The officers of the City are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this Ordinance.

if any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this Ordinance shall for any reason be held to be invalid or unenforceable, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause, or provision shall in no manner affect any remaining provisions of this Ordinance, the intent being that the same are severable.

INTRODUCED on first reading this 2nd day of April 2025 and ordered published in pamphlet form.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on second reading this 16th day of April 2025 and ordered published in pamphlet form.



Abram Herman
President of the City Council

ATTEST:



Selestina Sandoval
City Clerk



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing Ordinance, being Ordinance No. 5255 was introduced by the City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado at a regular meeting of said body held on the 2nd day of April 2025 and the same was published in The Daily Sentinel, a newspaper published and in general circulation in said City, in pamphlet form, at least ten days before its final passage.

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT a Public Hearing was held on the 16th day of April 2025, at which Ordinance No. 5255 was read, considered, adopted, and ordered published in pamphlet form by the Grand Junction City Council.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said City this 21st day of April 2025.



Deputy City Clerk

Published: April 5, 2025
Published: April 19, 2025
Effective: May 19, 2025

