

CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

MEMORANDUM

Reply Requested
Yes No

Date

Dec. 12, 1983

To: (From:) Lyle Dechant
Mesa County Attorney

From: (To:) Steve Johnson SJ

Bennet Boeschstein
Planning Director

RE: SEWER LINE MAINTENANCE IN PERSIGO SERVICE AREA

At the County Public Works meeting on 12/08/83 Lyle inquired about the sewer line maintenance activities of the City, and expressed concern that some areas are not being maintained by the City.

Upon checking into the matter, I have confirmed that the City does indeed maintain all lines within the Persigo Service Area, with the exception of Fruitvale and Orchard Mesa Sanitation Districts. Those entities provide their own maintenance, and receive a corresponding downward adjustment of one-third on their service charges.

In 1982 the City expended more money for line maintenance activities outside of the City than for inside the City.

Our maintenance activities include a preventive program which involves "rodding" and visually inspecting all of the lines in the system on a three-year cycle. The City also responds to calls to repair breaks or to remove plugs. In addition, we constantly service numerous lift stations throughout the system.

Authority for City maintenance activities outside of City boundaries derives from several sources. First, the authority is a prerogative of ownership of those lines the City does own (e.g., Paradise Hills Interceptor). Secondly, the Joint Sewerage Service Agreement specifically refers to the City's obligation to "properly maintain" the "connecting sewer line" from "the area described in Section II" of the Agreement. (See Section I, paragraph 6.) Section II describes all of the areas covered by the Agreement, which areas collectively constitute all of the 201 Service Area.

Finally, the maintenance authority is an implied power which is absolutely necessary to accomplish the wastewater system management and operation duties of the City. These duties were created by the County's general delegation, with limited exceptions, of the overall authority and control over the "County" system provided for by paragraph 3 of Section I. This delegation, and our out-of-city maintenance activities, are consistent with the primary goal of operation of the City and County systems as single unified systems in order to ensure the physical integrity of the system.

Lyle Dechant, Mesa County Attorney
Bennet Boeschstein, Planning Director
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For your information, the City has no formal line replacement program. Sewer lines do not wear out; rather, they are broken or plug up, and are replaced as needed, as part of the maintenance program. Practically, their service life cannot be predicted. The Mesa County Sewer Issues Paper appears to unnecessarily emphasize the need for line replacement programs. See particularly the Proposed Addition to the L/U Code -- III C2(b); Recommendations for Special Action -- III E1. Other comments on the paper are forthcoming.

where is/what is
this doc?
Issues Paper?