

COUNCIL POLICY

SUBJECT: STORM DRAINS AND SEWER LINES - MAINTENANCE	DATE: April 21, 1987 Revised:
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In order to minimize excessive maintenance costs for sewer and storm drain systems, the following policy is effective immediately.

Where it is determined that there has been penetration of tree roots into either storm drain or sanitary sewer systems, the following action will be undertaken:

- a) Upon receipt of a citizen complaint concerning a blockage, staff will effect clearance of the main and determine the source of the offending roots.
- b) Frequency of cleaning will be stepped up by staff to an annual or semi-annual cleaning, and if this is not effective and the tree is on a boulevard the Parks Department will be asked to have the tree removed.
- c) If the offending tree is on private property the owner will be notified of the problem, and a recommendation will be made to have the offending tree removed in order to absolve future responsibility of the property owner.

The property owner will be given an approximate cost estimate in advance for future clearing of the line if the tree is not removed, and the problem continues.

- d) The property owner will be advised at the same time of the alternative of replacing the existing lines with plastic pipe at his expense, and cost estimates will be provided for this service.

The objective of this procedure is to minimize liability for flooding damage to up-stream property owners, by maintaining efficient storm water and sewer systems.