



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 27596, **Version:** 1

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### **Fiscal Note**

No appropriation required.

### **Title**

Authorizing the City Engineering Division to issue a Request for Qualifications/Request for Proposals for a Sanitary Sewer Lateral Warranty Program to be made available to interested homeowners at no cost to the City.

### **Body**

WHEREAS, it is essential to the health of our citizens and environment that every home owner have reliable sanitary sewer service; and

WHEREAS, the home owner is responsible for maintenance and repair of the sanitary sewer lateral from the building to the point where it connects to the public sewer main; and

WHEREAS, sanitary sewer lateral repairs can be expensive and are not covered by homeowner's insurance; and

WHEREAS prior to November 2011 City Engineering was able to repair the portion of a private sanitary sewer lateral located in the public right-of-way at the request of the property owner; and

WHEREAS, City Policy mitigated the financial burden to the individual property owner' by capping the cost of such repair at \$4,500 and enabling these costs to be assessed against the property, payable over 8 years at low interest rate; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Act 32 prohibits the City from using its own workforce to perform a construction project for which a private person is financially responsible; and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney's Office has advised the Engineering Division that this limitation applies to the Division's repair of sanitary sewer laterals; and

WHEREAS, performing such repairs at no cost to the property owner is not in the interest of the Madison Sewer Utility and its rate payers; and

WHEREAS, the individual property owner may desire an insurance plan option to better protect against the high cost of a sewer lateral repair.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council authorizes the City Engineering Division to issue a Request for Qualifications/Request for Proposals for a Sanitary Sewer Lateral Warranty Program to be made available to interested homeowners at no cost to the City.