



CITY OF PLACERVILLE DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BUILDING DIVISION

3101 Center Street Placerville, CA.95667
530-642-5240

Connecting to the City Sewer¹

Overview

The City of Placerville (City) operates and maintains the City Wastewater Treatment plant and the City sewer collection system. The City Engineer (CE), with field information collected by the Public Works Operations Staff, maintains and constantly updates a map of the City collection system showing the approximate locations and sizes of city maintained pipes and other related facilities such as manholes, cleanouts, pump stations, etc. This map also shows private sewer systems that have not been accepted into the City system and which are not operated or maintained by the City, but which at some point downstream connect to the City system. City Code Title 7 Chapter 4 covers [Sewer Regulations](#).

The City's [Development Services Department](#) (DSD) includes the [Building](#) and [Planning](#) Divisions. Building Permits (for sewer and other work on private property) are issued on the 2nd Floor by the Building Division, and Encroachment Permits (for sewer and other work in the public right of way or easement) are issued on the 3rd floor by the [Engineering Department](#). The [Public Works](#) Operations Division operates and maintains the Sewer Collection System with administration personnel at Town Hall and Operations personnel and equipment at the City Corporation Yard on Big Cut Road. The City Engineer and staff work closely with the Public Works Operations Manager and staff to coordinate the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of the sewer collection system which transmits all sewage to the Wastewater Treatment Plant at the downstream western edge of the city on Mallard Lane.

All buildings with any plumbing component(s) (sinks, toilets, showers, kitchens, etc.) must be connected to the City Sewer system as part of the building permit for new construction or for remodeling, except as noted herein. The connection of the sewer lateral into the public sewer shall conform to the requirements of the current California Building Code building and plumbing codes as adopted in Title 4 of the City Code, and other applicable rules and regulations of the City. All connections shall be made gas-tight and water-tight. A two-way cleanout shall be installed at the property line; however, depending on the distance between the building and the connection more cleanouts may be required. The cleanout shall be in an approved box and shall be easily accessible. The City follows the [EID standard](#) details and specifications as its Sewer and Water standards.

There are areas in the City where the City Main is greater than 200 feet away from the proposed building. The owner may attempt to obtain permission to install a septic system from both the City's Development Services Director and the [County Environmental Health Department to operate a septic system](#) to treat wastewater. The City strongly encouraged connection to the public sewer system. When there is no City sewer main adjacent to the property line, it is the responsibility of the property owner to extend the public sewer line to service their property in accordance with City standards ([7-4-19\(J\)](#)).

7-4-19 (J) Where there is no city sewer main adjacent to the property line, then it shall be the responsibility of the property owner to extend the public sewer line to the city sewer main in accordance with city standards. (Ord. 1646, 5-8-2012)

7-4-22: Septic Tanks; Permit Required:

It shall be unlawful for any person to construct a septic tank in the city unless because of the terrain it is not feasible to connect with the city sewer system, and in that event, a permit must be first obtained from the development services director. When connection to the city sewer system is not feasible, a building permit shall not be issued until the proposed building site is inspected and approved by the county or city health officer and all county regulations regarding septic tanks have been complied with. Upon presentation of an approved, numbered septic tank permit issued by an authorized city or county health officer, a building permit may be issued by the duly authorized representative of the city showing thereon the approved septic tank permit number. (Ord. 1646, 5-8-2012; amd. Ord. 1654, 6-25-2013)

Capital Improvement Charge (CIC)

A CIC fee must be paid at time of permit issuance for all new buildings connecting to the City Sewer system. This charge is as shown on the current City of Placerville [Development Fees](#) chart maintained by the DSD. This fee is the payment for the new connections share of the capacity of the overall system, and is related to the amount of sewage expected to be generated by that new connection. Therefore the fee varies according to the type and size of building being connected. Single family homes and multi-family units are per unit, regardless of size. The CIC is independent of any costs the property owner will incur for physically connecting to the City Sewer system.

Design and Installation of New Sewer service (lateral)

A plot plan and site plan must be submitted with the building and encroachment applications showing where the sewer lateral will be installed, as well as a detailed cost estimate. The plan and cost estimate should be prepared by a civil engineer, depending on the complexity of the project. The plan shall be to scale, show the building to be served, topography, features such as edges of roadway, sidewalks, trees, manholes, the proposed service line location, size, type of material, slope, elevations, etc. so that a clear picture of the project is presented to the plan reviewer. The plan shall refer to acceptable standards for the various types of work.

Based on the plan and cost estimate, the applicant will be issued a building permit for work on private property, and an encroachment permit for work in the public right of way or easement ([Development Services and Engineering Fees](#)). All work covered under the encroachment permit must be performed by a contractor licensed by the State of California to perform this type of work. The contractor must also have a City business license. City Code [7-4-19](#) provides detailed information on the property owner's responsibilities

¹Engineering Department – information obtain from Policy and Procedures.