

To: **Mayor and City Council**
Through: **Nathan Burkett, City Manager**
From: **Ross Beckwith, Public Works & Parks Director/City Engineer**
Date: **September 27, 2021**

Contract for Sanitary Sewer Inspection Services

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City's Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) Program has been underway since 2008 and was initially run by a consultant. In 2016, the City brought the program in-house and hired an I/I Inspector to manage it. It's been running much smoother since. The I/I Inspector's job is to go into the property, televise the sewer lateral, analyze the video (in the office) and determine whether the service is deficient. From there, a letter is sent to the property owner and if repairs are needed a final video is submitted from the contractor for certification.

Staff is proposing to subcontract the televising portion of the I/I process. A private company would perform the video and submit it electronically to our I/I Inspector for review. From there, the I/I process would follow the same course as it currently does with the City's I/I Inspector overseeing the program. All sewer inspection appointments will continue to go through the City.

Staff reached out to multiple televising companies and Drain Busters, of Eagan, MN came in with the lowest fee for televising services. Staff interviewed Drain Busters and also had them perform some property inspections to perform the work and upload the video. Everything went seamlessly. As part of the contract with Drain Busters, a background check will be required of all persons performing the inspections.

Without the duty of performing inspections, our I/I Inspector will begin allocating time towards rental licensing, which is a need within the Community Development group. This change is underway and is a great fit for the skill set of our I/I Inspector.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of a video inspection will be \$100. The City estimates about 250 inspections per year. This will continue to be a free service to the City's property owners.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council approve a two-year contract with Drain Busters for sanitary sewer inspection services.