



2022 Lead Service Line Replacement (LSRL) Project Public Notice

In the coming weeks, lead service line replacement (LSLR) work will begin in your neighborhood, this public notice is being provided to inform you of what to expect and ask for your prompt cooperation when you are contacted by the City, Abonmarche, and Pajay, Inc. The reason the project is being undertaken is to comply with the 2018 Lead and Copper Rule promulgated by the State of Michigan in 2018. The street you live or own property on was identified in the 2017 Asset Management Plan for future reconstruction or water main improvements, and the City is replacing lead service lines to reduce the coordination burden when those larger projects are underway. This also helps the City meet the new regulatory requirements described below.

Background on the 2018 Lead and Copper Rule (LCR)

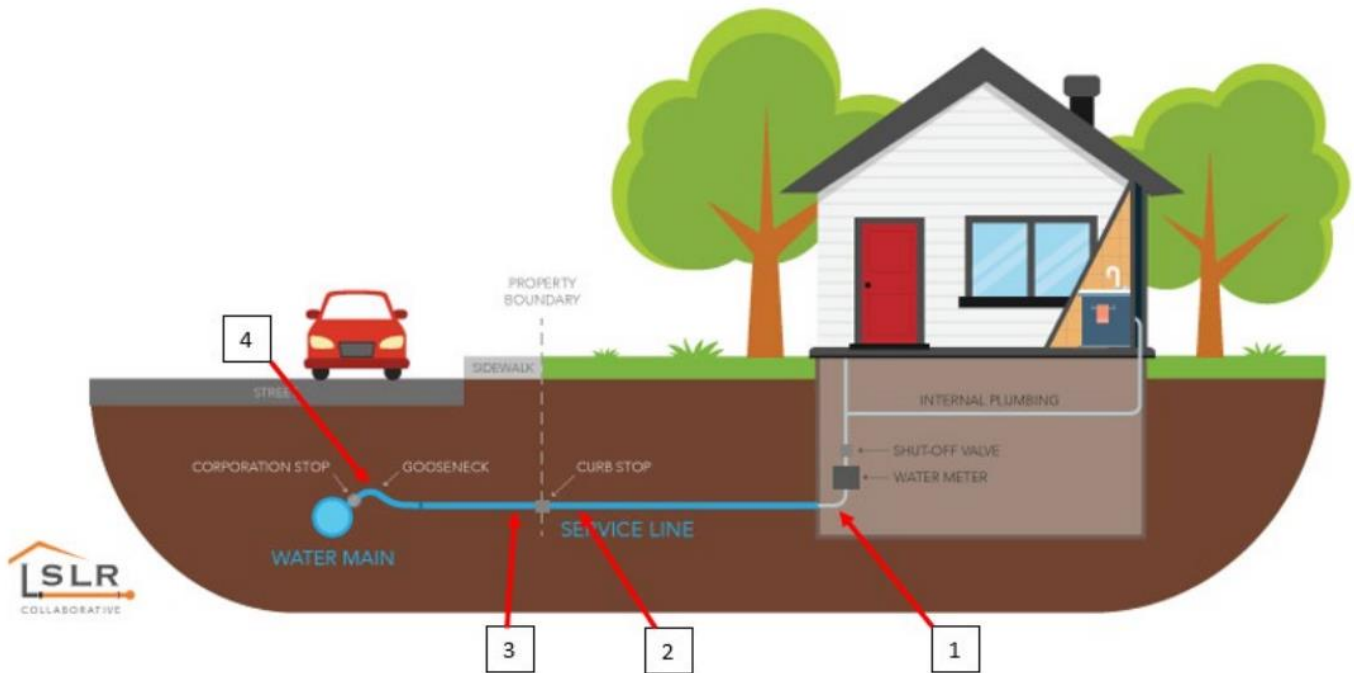
In 2018, the State of Michigan made significant changes to the LCR which requires water suppliers to replace all lead services within a prescribed timeframe. The City is currently required to replace all lead service lines within 20 years, at an average rate of 5% per year. Initial estimates indicate that the City has at least 2,700 lead service lines which requires completion of approximately 135 LSLRs per year. The replacement rate is tied to sampling results, and the City is currently eligible for the most lenient schedule based upon the current action level for lead of 15 parts per billion (ppb).

The definition of a lead service is more involved than one might think, and the limits of the City's responsibility to replace lead services goes beyond the portion of the service that the City owns. So what constitutes a lead service line? It is a water service that contains lead pipe, galvanized iron pipe connected to lead, or galvanized iron pipe previously connected to lead. The LCR requires the City to replace lead service lines from connection point at the water main to the first shutoff, or to within 18" inside the building, whichever is less. The portion of the water service from the main to the curb stop/shut off valve (typically located in the tree lawn areas) belongs to the City, the remaining portion of the service into the home or building is privately owned.

The City must verify the service line materials under the strict guidance published by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE). This is best explained by referring to the water service line diagram on the next page.

In most cases, EGLE requires the City to verify service line material at three of the four points shown in the diagram. Point 1, inside the home or building, is referred to as the point-of-entry (POE) and an inspection of it is required as part of this project. If you have not been contacted already to request access to perform the POE inspection, you will be in the very near future. Point 2 and 3 verifications are completed by excavating the service line near

the curb stop to verify the material type. Pajay will complete the point 2 and 3 inspections as part of the project.



Water Service Line Diagram

Project Cost and Funding

The City received seven bids for the 2022 LSLR project and Pajay submitted the low bid of \$1,207,583.50 for the awarded scope of work. Pajay is located in New Buffalo, Michigan. We anticipate replacing on the order of 177 lead service lines as part of this project.

You will not be assessed or billed directly for the lead service line replacement (LSLR) work mandated by the 2018 LCR. The project is being funded for through a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) low interest loan (70% of the cost) and Drinking Water Infrastructure (DWI) grant (30% of the cost). The debt service on the DWSRF loan is drawn from the City Water Improvement Fund, which is funded by the rates spread across all City rate payers. **It is important that we complete this work now to take full advantage of the 30% DWI grant funding to help reduce the upward pressure on water rates due to the 2018 LCR. Initial estimates put the LSLR Program exceeding \$20,000,000 over the next 20 years.**

Why Prompt Cooperation is Needed

There are several times during the project that your cooperation and prompt response is needed and appreciated. First contact is typically made to request a POE inspection (described above). This helps the City to determine the scope of work required on your

property. If it is determined that your service line contains lead, the City will then need a signed Right of Entry (ROE) form to allow the LSLR work to be completed at your property. A copy of the ROE form is attached to this public notice. If your service line needs to be replaced, the new service material will be HDPE (high density polyethylene) pipe, HDPE is a type of plastic pipe that is approved in the plumbing code. If eligible for replacement, and you desire copper pipe instead of HDPE, you will be charged the difference in cost between HDPE and copper at the rate quoted in the bid of \$10.00 per foot. As an example, if your private water service is 60 feet long, opting for copper pipe will cost \$600.00. If you desire copper pipe instead of HDPE, please return the form indicating this as soon possible (again, this is for properties eligible for private service replacements only). If the City does not receive a signed response by the property owner, the new service will be HDPE. Those opting for copper will be billed based upon the actual quantity placed; the invoice will be sent upon completion of the work. Please note that failing to pay the bill in the timely manner will result in the amount being placed on your property tax bill with a \$250 administration fee added to it.

Project Schedule & What to Expect During the Construction

Pajay intends to start work on the project the week of May 23. The contract documents allow the work to continue through mid-November of 2023, however, Pajay has stated they intend to complete the work much sooner than that. The locations of the LSLR work is expected to follow the order shown on the attached map.

Pajay will start by contacting property owners to schedule POE inspections to determine the service material type inside homes/buildings (point 1 in the water service line diagram) within the project areas. They will also be excavating near the curb stop/water shut off to verify the water service material on either side of it (points 2 and 3 in the water service line diagram). The materials identified will determine the scope of work at each property. As noted previously, where work is required on the private side of the service, a ROE form signed by the owner is needed before the work can commence. Water service interruptions will be required for this project when the services are switched from the old main to the new main. The interruptions are expected to be 1 to 2 hours in duration. The disruption caused by this project in your neighborhood is expected to be on the order of several weeks, and will be minimal as compared to a full reconstruction project such as the Langley Avenue Reconstruction in 2021 or the Willa & Lester and Donna Reconstruction Projects this year.

City staff, Abonmarche and Pajay all thank you for your cooperation and please feel free to contact us if you have any concerns or questions. You may wish to clip and post the project contact information on the next page, and place it on your refrigerator, etc. for ready access in the future.



CITY OF St. Joseph

2022 Lead Service Line Replacement Project Contact Information

First Call:

Conner Eyerly, EIT, Project Engineer
Abonmarche Consultants, Inc.
95 West Main Street
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Phone: (269) 252-7565
FAX: (269) 927-1017
Email: ceyerly@abonmarche.com

If additional follow-up is necessary, call:

Tim Zebell, P.E., City Engineer
City of St. Joseph
700 Broad Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: (269) 985-0339
FAX: (269) 985-0346
Email: tzebell@sjcity.com

For non-emergency, after normal working hours, call:

St. Joseph Water Treatment Plant:
Phone: (269) 983-1240

**2022 Lead Service Line Replacement Project\
Resident/Property Owner
Requested Contact Information**

Name: _____

LSLR Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____
(if different from LSLR Address)

Daytime Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

Please mail, scan/email, FAX or drop off this form to:

City of St. Joseph
700 Broad Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085
Attn.: Tim Zebell, City Engineer

FAX: (269) 985-0346

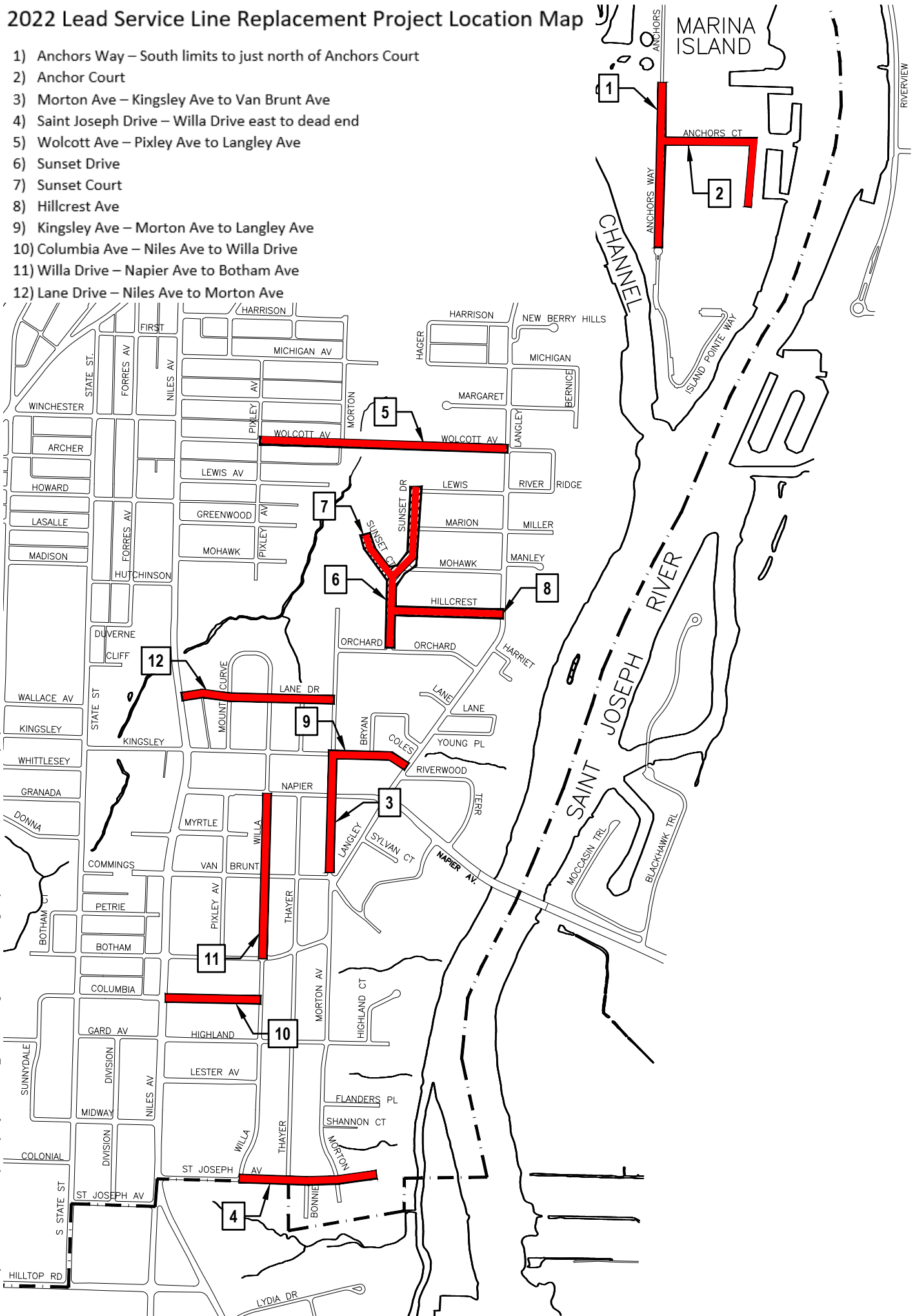
Email: tzebell@sjcity.com

Please call 269-985-0339 with special care requirements.

CITY OF ST. JOSEPH
700 Broad Street
St. Joseph, MI 49085
Attn: Tim Zebell, City Engineer

2022 Lead Service Line Replacement Project Location Map

- 1) Anchors Way – South limits to just north of Anchors Court
- 2) Anchor Court
- 3) Morton Ave – Kingsley Ave to Van Brunt Ave
- 4) Saint Joseph Drive – Willa Drive east to dead end
- 5) Wolcott Ave – Pixley Ave to Langley Ave
- 6) Sunset Drive
- 7) Sunset Court
- 8) Hillcrest Ave
- 9) Kingsley Ave – Morton Ave to Langley Ave
- 10) Columbia Ave – Niles Ave to Willa Drive
- 11) Willa Drive – Napier Ave to Botham Ave
- 12) Lane Drive – Niles Ave to Morton Ave



REDUCING POTENTIAL LEAD EXPOSURE FROM DRINKING WATER

Run your water before drinking. The more time water has been sitting in your home's pipes, the more lead it may contain. Therefore, if your water has not been used for several hours, run the water before using it for drinking or cooking. This flushes lead-containing water from the pipes.

- **For homes with a lead service line or galvanized service line previously connected to lead, run the water for at least five minutes to flush water from both the interior building plumbing and the service line.**
- For homes **WITHOUT** a lead service line or galvanized service line previously connected to lead, run the water for 30 seconds to two minutes, or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature.

Do not boil water to remove lead. Boiling will not remove the lead.

Use cold water for drinking and cooking. Do not cook with or drink water from the hot water tap. Lead dissolves more easily into hot water.

Use cold water for preparing baby formula. Do not use water from the hot water tap to make baby formula. If you have a lead service line or galvanized service line previously connected to lead, consider using bottled water or a filter certified to reduce lead to prepare baby formula.

Clean your faucet aerator. As part of routine maintenance, the aerator on the end of your faucet should be removed at least every six months to rinse out any debris that may include particulate lead.

Consider using a water filter. Read packaging to find a filter that meets NSF/ANSI Standard 53 for the reduction of lead. Be sure to maintain and replace the filter device in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to protect water quality.

Consider replacing older plumbing fixtures that likely contain lead. Older faucets, fittings, and valves sold before 2014 may contain higher levels of lead even if they are marked "lead-free." Faucets, fittings, and valves sold after January 2014 are required to meet a more restrictive "lead-free" definition but may still contain up to 0.25 percent lead. Consider contacting a licensed plumber to have a plumbing assessment done. This can help determine if your in-home plumbing is a source of lead in drinking water.

Flush your pipes after long periods of non-use. If you are moving into a new home or apartment or residence that has been unoccupied for some time, you should run all faucets an extended period of five minutes or more before using any water for drinking or cooking.

Learn about your drinking water. Read your community's Consumer Confidence Report that is mailed to you each year or find it at your local water utility's website. If you wish to get your drinking water tested, call your water supply or use a certified lab. Visit [Michigan.gov/MILeadSafe](https://www.michigan.gov/MILeadSafe) for more information about sources of lead and what you can do to reduce your exposure.

**PRIVATE WATER SERVICE REPLACEMENT
CONSTRUCTION RIGHT-OF-ENTRY**

I _____ (print name) Owner of the property located at

_____ (print street address) authorize the City of St. Joseph (City) to access the above listed property, including inside the home, to undertake the following work:

Replace the existing lead or galvanized steel private water service with a new water service, to the extent required, from the curb stop in the right-of-way to the meter set or first water shutoff as described below. The work will be completed as part of the City of St. Joseph's **"2022 LSLR Project"**.

As Owner, I understand and acknowledge that the work will be performed under the following provisions.

- The service replacement is mandated by the State of Michigan Lead and Copper Rule. I understand the City is not permitted to re-establish water service to the new water main until my lead/galvanized water service is completely replaced.
- The work will be limited to installing a new meter set or to the first water shutoff valve if the meter is newer and remains in service. The maximum extent of the plumbing work will not extend 2 feet beyond the demand/downstream side of the meter setting and any work required to re-establish service beyond that point shall be my responsibility.
- Restoration of green space/lawns will be included as part of the City's work unless I direct otherwise. Restoration of the green space/lawns will be to a condition consistent with the City's right-of-way restoration standards in effect at the time, but in no event less than topsoil and seeding.
- The new water service installed from the curb stop to the meter in my home will remain private and my responsibility; the City will have no ownership interest in or responsibility for the service once installed.

In signing this authorization, I allow the City to occupy or utilize the area necessary to perform the full scope of the described work, including but not limited to stockpiling soil, placement of construction equipment, machinery and all other related equipment. The City shall also have the right of ingress and egress at any time without notice as may be necessary for the above purposes, understanding that City will use due care, carry on the construction in such a manner as to cause minimum inconvenience, and make reasonable efforts to provide me advance notice to the extent practicable.

The Right-of-Entry is effective upon execution and shall remain in effect until all work described, including restoration, is complete, or no later than **two years from when this Right-of-Entry was signed** whichever first occurs.

By signing this Right-of-Entry, I acknowledge and affirm that I am the legal owner of the described property and have authority to sign.

OWNER(s)

Signature

Dated: _____

Printed Name:

Signature

Dated: _____

Printed Name:

Telephone (Home/Mobile/Work): _____

Telephone (Home/Mobile/Work): _____

Email: _____

Please return the signed Right-of-Entry must be returned to the City of St. Joseph Engineering Department, 700 Broad Street, St. Joseph, Michigan as soon as possible. Note: Telephone numbers and email address are needed to schedule and coordinate the work, please provide the best information for City staff to contact you during the daytime. Thank You.

Attention Property Owner - Please complete this form and **return as soon as possible** to:

City of St. Joseph - Engineering Department

700 Broad Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085 Phone: 269-983-5541 Fax: 269-985-0346

2022 Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) Project Reply Form

The City of St. Joseph will be undertaking the 2022 Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) Project. The cost difference between copper and high density polyethylene (HDPE) is estimated to be approximately \$10/ft (for example: \$600 for a 60 foot long service). Property owners who want to change the material of their service to copper will pay the difference in cost for the installed length of their service.

Owner: Please indicate your intentions by checking the appropriate box and return this form to City Hall as soon as possible. The City cannot guarantee requests to use copper pipe and will do our best to accommodate timely responses. In the absence of a response HDPE will be used as the private service material.

- I want my private service material to be HDPE. I do not want to be billed for increased cost of changing the service material to copper.
- I want my private service material to be copper. I understand that I will be billed for the difference in cost between HDPE and copper. I understand the bill will be based on actual quantities installed and actual contract costs. I understand the cost difference shown above is an estimate and the actual cost may vary and that the amount billed will be placed on my tax bill with and administrative fee if I do not pay it in a timely manner.

Property Address: _____

Name of Owner/Agent: _____ Phone # _____

Signature of Owner/Agent: _____ Date: _____

Please send this form to Alex Austin, Assistant City Engineer (Fax: 269-985-0346, email: aaustin@sjcity.com)