



# I-94 Business Loop Lead Service Line Replacement Project Public Notice

## **Project Introduction**

In the coming months, lead service line replacement (LSLR) work will begin along the I-94 Business Loop (Lakeshore Drive, Main St, Ship Street, and Port Street), 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 or the Contractor. The contractor for this project is B and Z Company Inc out of Benton Harbor, MI. This project is being undertaken to comply with the 2018 Lead and Copper Rule promulgated by the State of Michigan in 2018 by removing lead services line within the project limits of two planned Michigan Department of Transportation projects. The project is split into two areas. Area 1 is Lakeshore Dr/Main St from the southern City limits to Hoyt St. Area 2 is Main St/Ship St/Port St from Hoyt St to Wayne St. There is an attached map showing the limits of the project geographically.

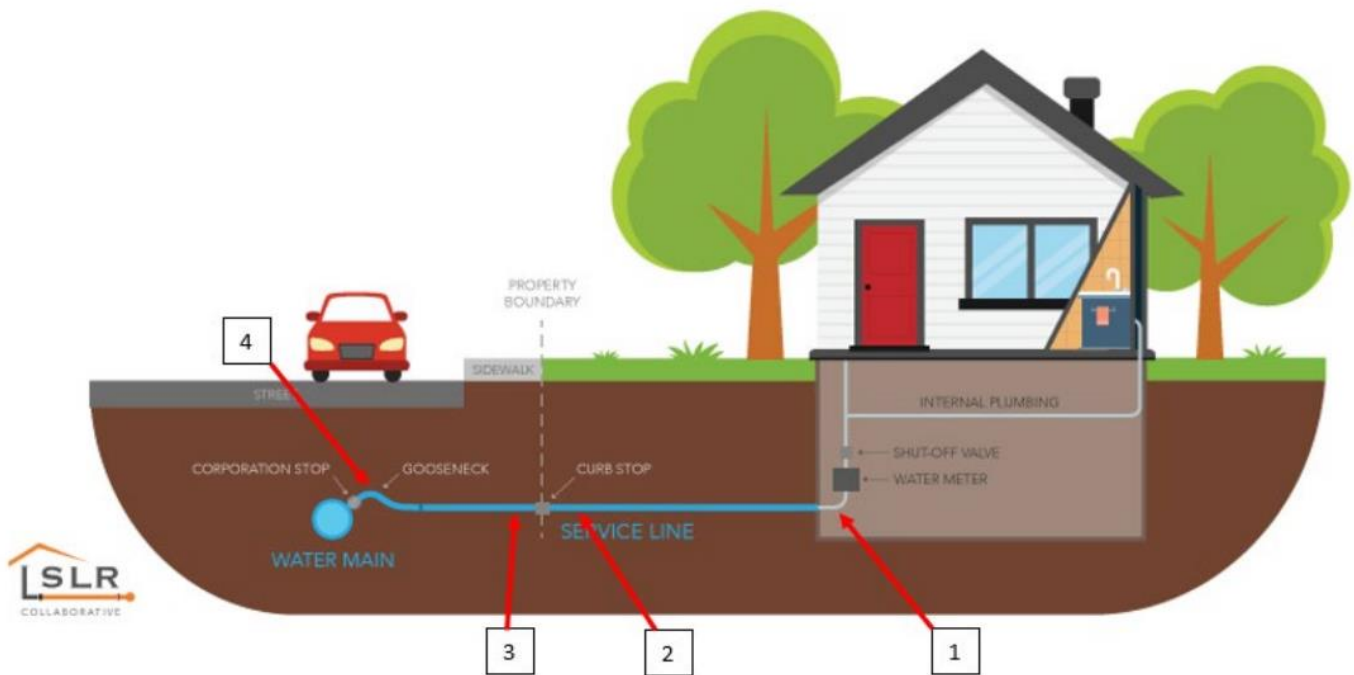
## **Background on the 2018 Lead and Copper Rule (LCR)**

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 by 2041. 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 below. 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. B and Z Company will complete the point 2 and 3 inspections as part of the project.



*Water Service Line Diagram*

### **Project Cost and Funding**

B and Z Company was awarded the project at a total price of \$1,761,831.00. We anticipate replacing on the order of 150 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 through a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) low interest loan (75% of the cost) and Drinking Water Infrastructure (DWI) grant (25% 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 25% grant funding to help reduce the upward pressure on water rates due to the 2018 LCR. Initial estimates have the lead service line replacements exceeding \$20,000,000 over the program life; the 2018 LCR requires all lead services to be replaced by 2041.**

## **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 copper pipe.

## **Project Schedule & What to Expect During the Construction**

B and Z Company intends to start work on the project in **June of 2023** starting with Area 1. The contract documents specify that Area 1 must be completed prior to September of 2023 and Area 2 must be completed prior to September of 2024. While the contract allows for construction to take place during this time, construction is not expected to take the entire construction window.

B and Z Company intends to start at the southern limit of Area 1.

B and Z Company 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 to the new. 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 months.

During construction, at least one lane in either direction on Lakeshore Dr, Main St, Port St, and Ship St will remain open. Lane closures will be kept to the minimum required to complete the work safely. The work zone will move as the work progresses. Lane closures will only be in place while construction is active or while roadway restoration is taking place (including concrete cure time).

City staff and B and Z Company would like thank you in advance for your patience and cooperation while this work is underway. 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

## I-94 BL Lead Service Line Replacement Project Contact Information

### First Call:

Alex Austin, P.E., Assistant City Engineer  
City of St. Joseph  
700 Broad Street  
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: (269) 985-0321 Ext 235  
FAX: (269) 985-0346  
Email: [aaustin@sjcity.com](mailto:aaustin@sjcity.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](mailto:tzebell@sjcity.com)

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

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

**I-94 BL LSLR 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:

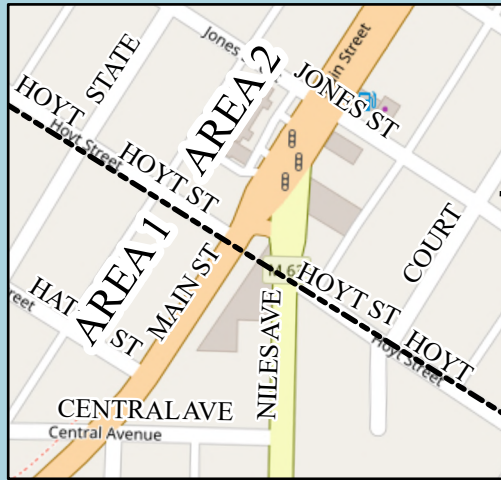
City of St. Joseph  
700 Broad Street  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
Attn.: Alex Austin, Assistant City Engineer

FAX: (269) 985-0346  
Email: [aaustin@sjcity.com](mailto:aaustin@sjcity.com)

Please call 269-983-5541 with special care requirements.

CITY OF ST. JOSEPH  
700 Broad Street  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
Attn: Alex Austin, Assistant City Engineer

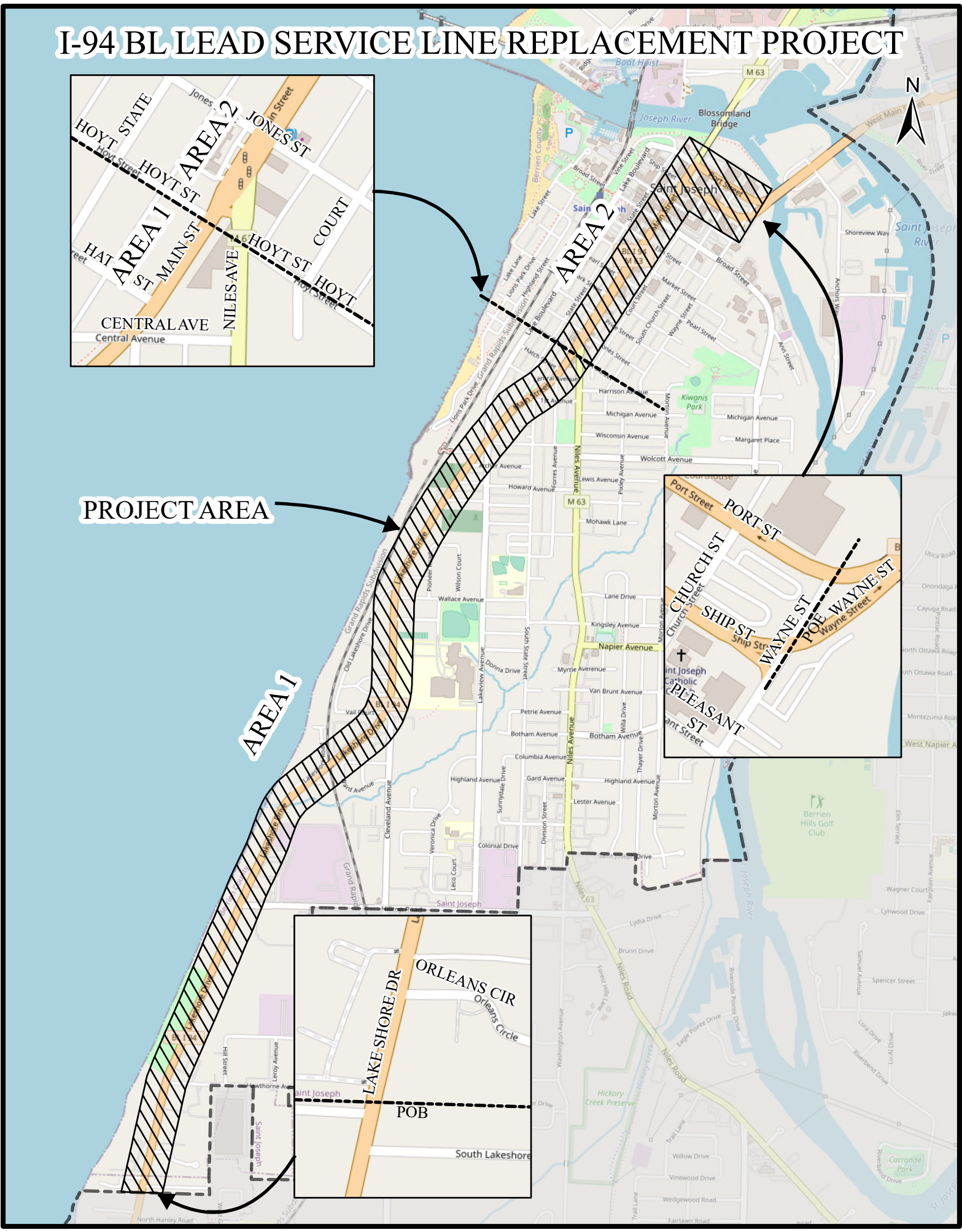
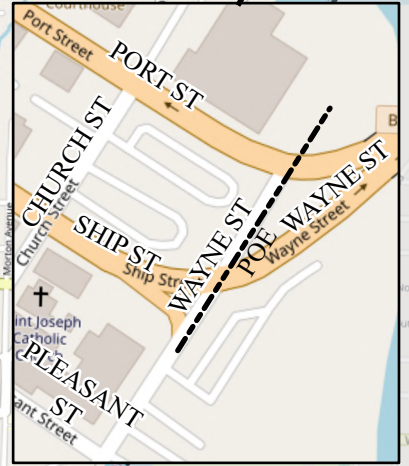
# I-94 BL LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT



PROJECT AREA

AREA 1

AREA 2



# 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 **"I-94 BL Lead Service Line Replacement 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 once it is determined private service work will not be required for this property, and in no case longer than two years from the execution date.

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.