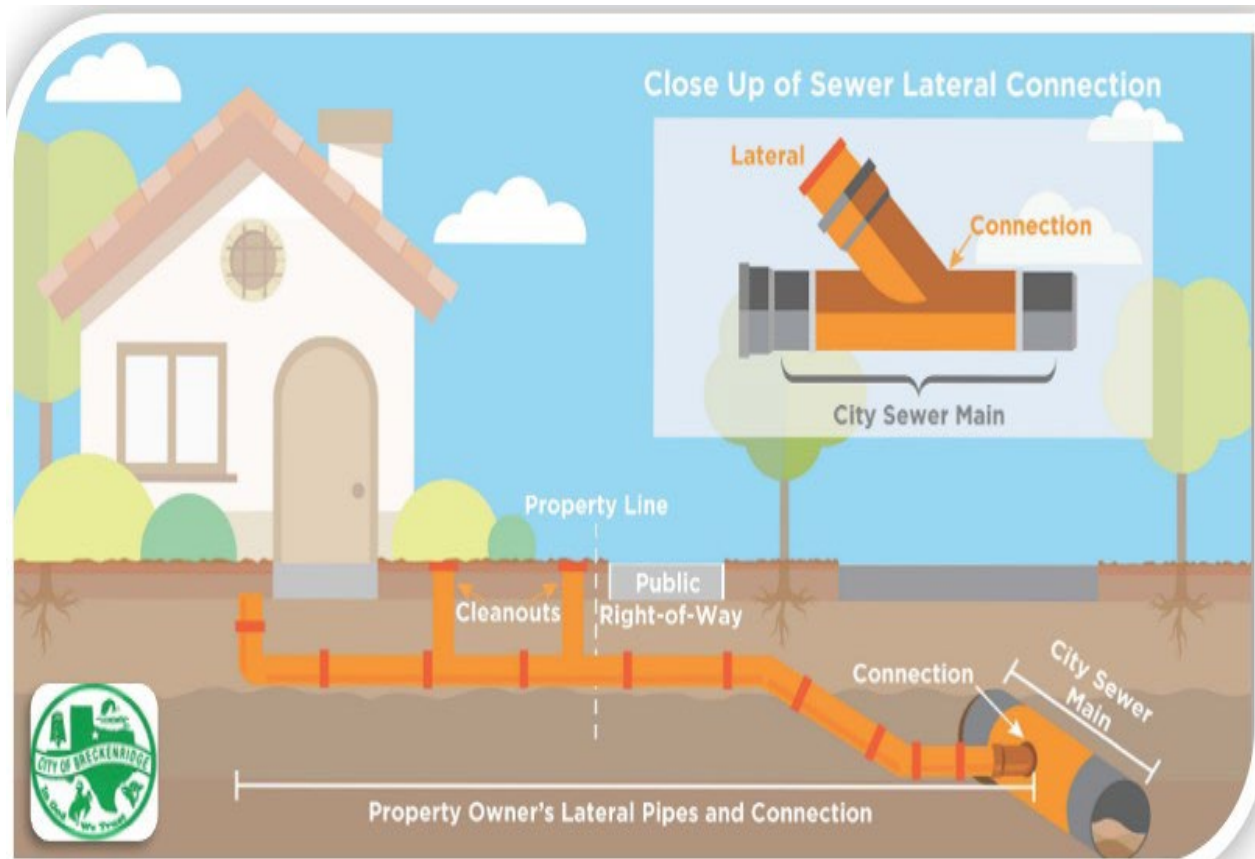




Sewer Stoppages: Who is Responsible?

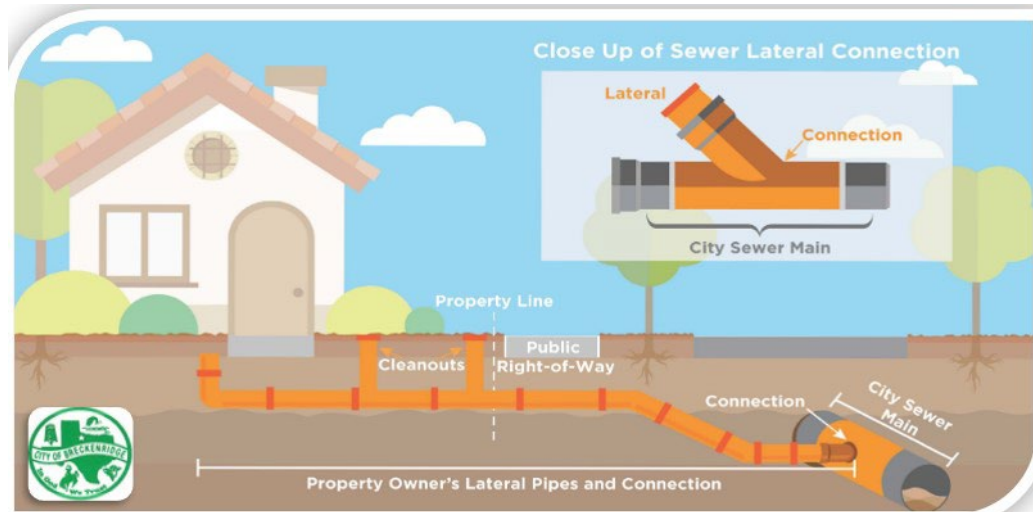
BACKGROUND



After issue surfaced, began research:

- *Ordinances*
- *Met w/former employees*
- *Met w/ area plumbers*
- *Consulted with Engineers, Attorney*
- *Consulted with other cities*





(9) Auxiliary pump--A secondary or supplementary pump that is available for use as needed.

(10) Biotower--A biological filtration system that involves biological film on a plastic media that reduces the biochemical oxygen demand of the effluent.

(11) Building lateral--A pipe that conveys raw wastewater and connects the plumbing of a structure to a collection system pipe. For an alternative collection system, a pipe that conveys raw wastewater and connects the plumbing of a structure to an on-site component (e.g., grinder pump, vacuum valve pit, septic tank effluent pump). A building lateral is not a part of a collection system.

(12) Bypass--The intentional diversion of a waste stream from any portion of a wastewater treatment facility or collection system.

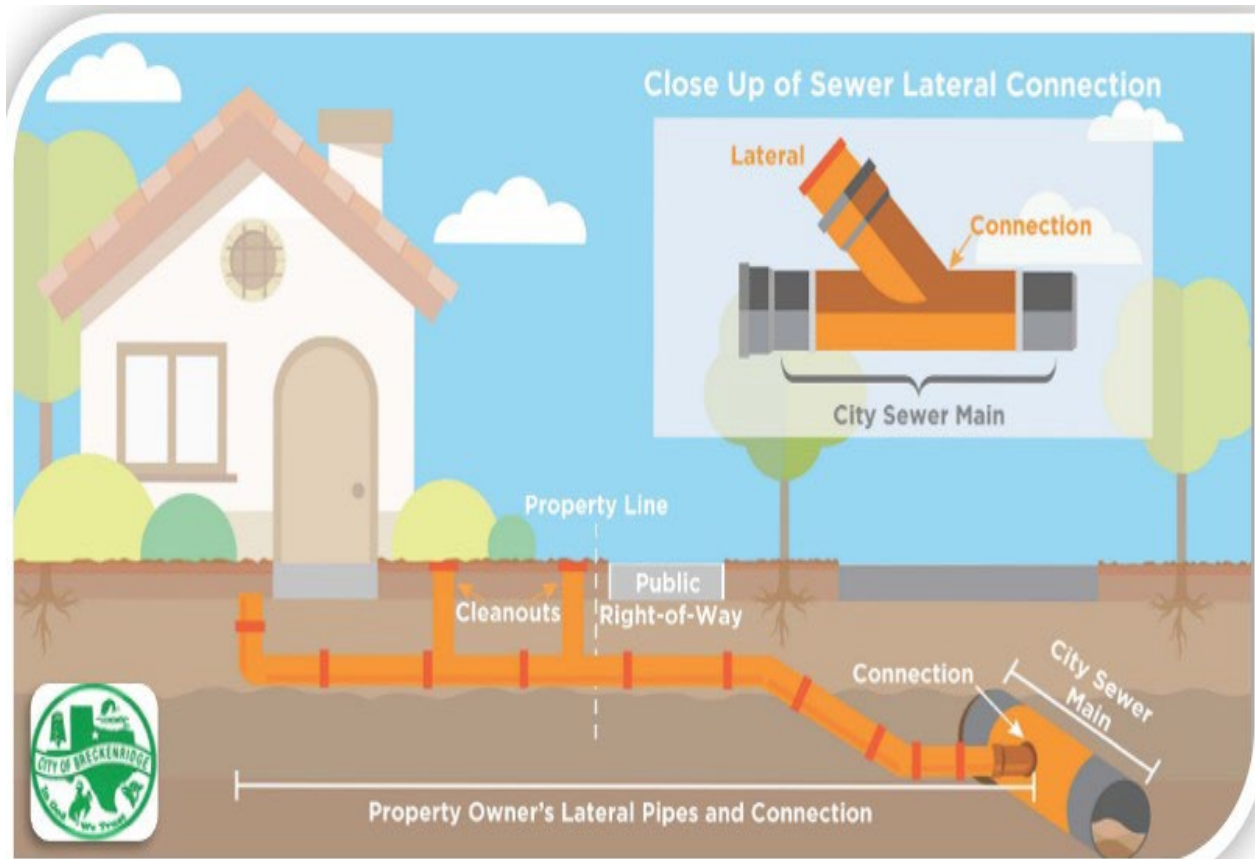
(13) Collection system--Pipes, conduits, lift stations, force mains, and all other constructions, devices, and appurtenant appliances used to transport domestic wastewater to a wastewater treatment facility.

CHALLENGE: WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

TCEQ's definitions on Design Criteria for Domestic Wastewater Systems



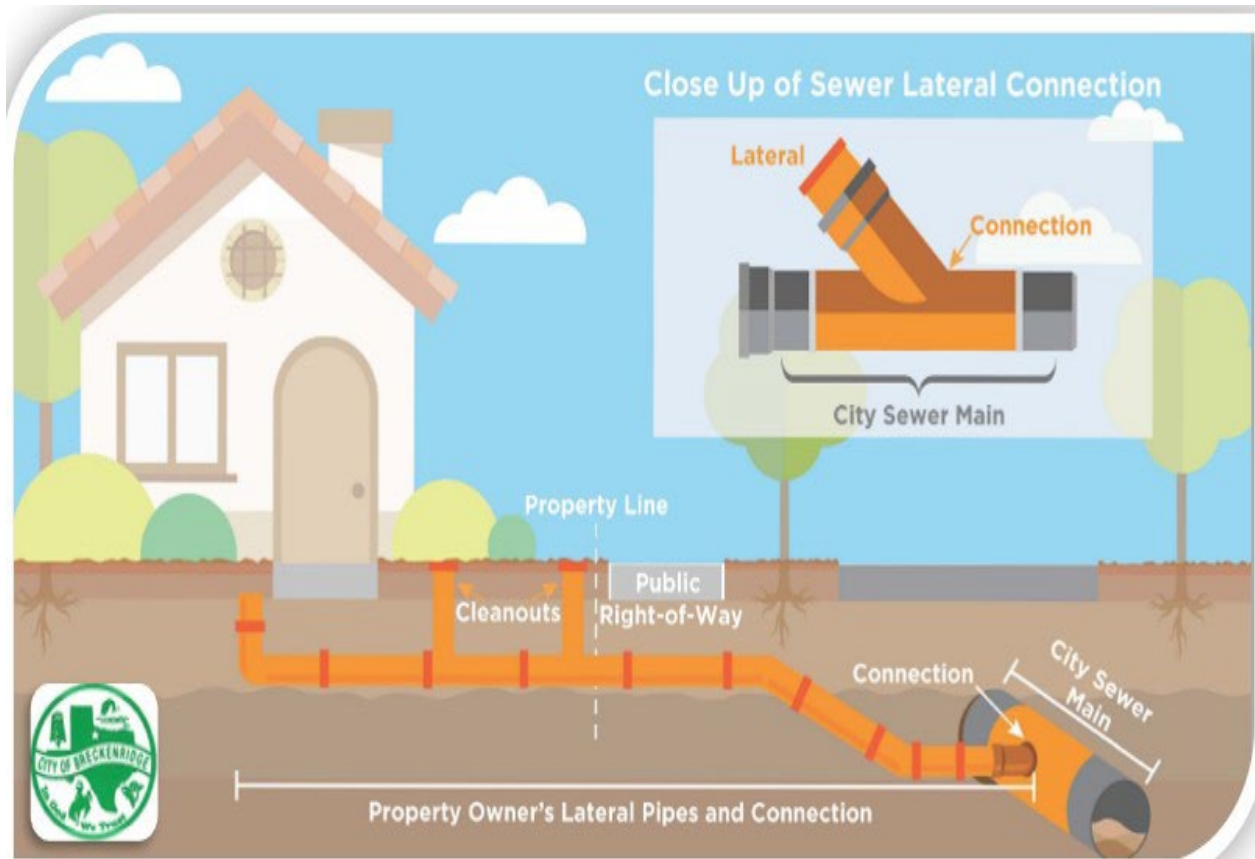
CHALLENGE: WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?



- Ordinance is silent
- Schedule of Fee structure indicates property owner
- Inconsistent application
- City has been assuming private property owner's liability



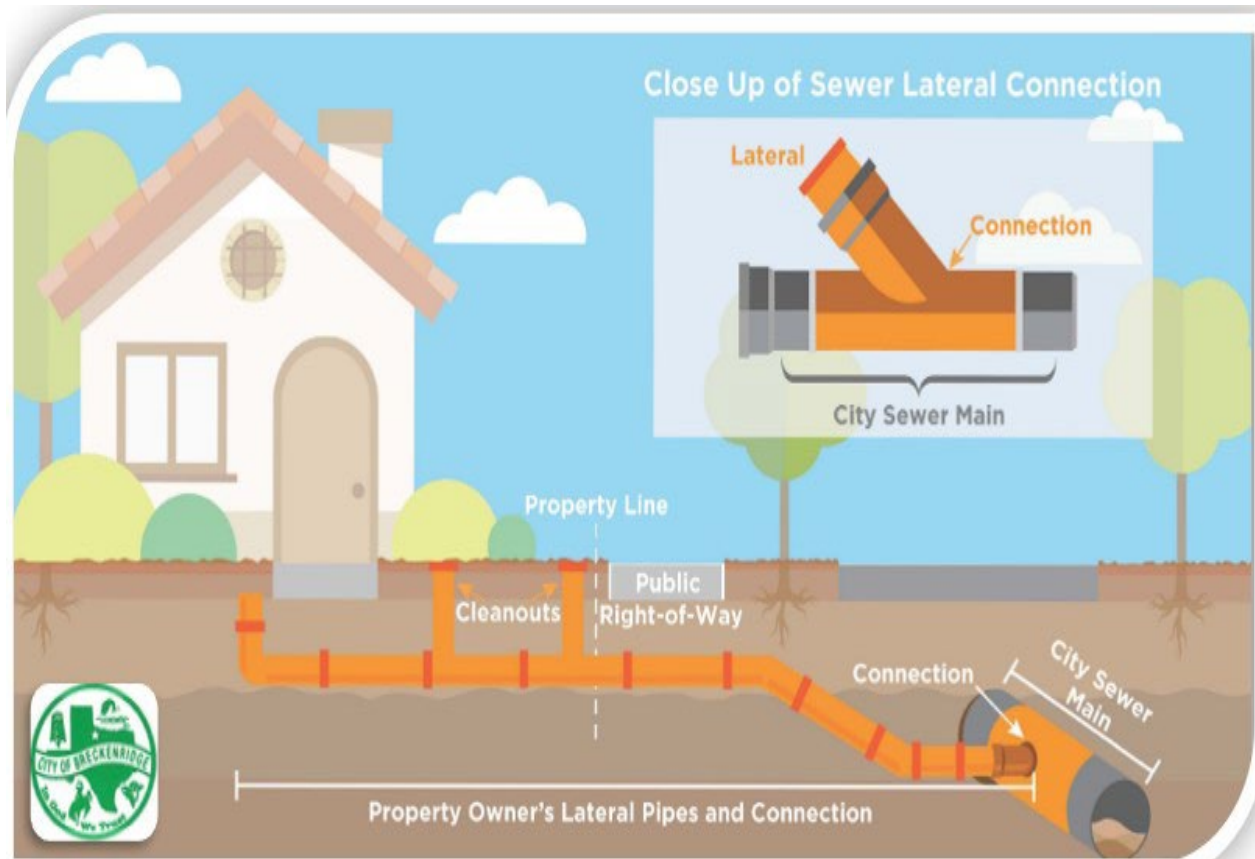
PROPOSED RESOLUTION



- Update Ordinance to clarify responsibility
- Adopt best and common practice adopted by most municipalities
- Allow City to invest in system-wide collection improvements that benefit all – treating all property owners the same
- Consistent, clear application



PROPOSED RESOLUTION



Options for covering the cost:

- Assess individual property owner based on cost
- Assess a surcharge to all system users. Adding a **\$5 surcharge to every user** would generate approximately \$132K (2200 accounts X \$5=\$11K X 12 months = \$132K).

