



Staff Report

January 2, 2024 Council Workshop Meeting

Professional Services Agreement for STEP Main Assessment

Presenter: Rob Charles, Utilities Manager

Time Estimate: 5 minutes

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BACKGROUND: The City has a large sewer force main (FM) in Lake Road which serves a majority of the STEP systems on the west side of the City and the south side of Lacamas Lake. Wafertech has been discharging to this line since they went into operation in the early 1990's. Wafertech has been experiencing hard scaling issues from chemical processes on their internal sewer lines which have reduced the capacity of their piping. The City expects that this scaling has also entered the City's FM. Since this is such an important FM and there is no way to bypass or redirect the flows in it, it is critical that the City maintain capacity within the FM for future sewer capacity.

SUMMARY: Gray and Osborne, Inc. has been working with the City on determining the amount of scaling in the City's FM and has proposed to create construction drawings to expose three different locations along the FM such that a piece of equipment can be placed on the pipe to measure any scale buildup. This is proposed along three different locations of the FM. If scale buildup is found, a plan to remove the scale buildup along the FM will be generated. Staff will likely be bringing back both a contract for a contractor to expose the FM and a company which will measure the scale buildup with specialized equipment at future dates. Removing any scale buildup by either chemical or mechanical means along the FM may also be brought back to Council by a separate contract.

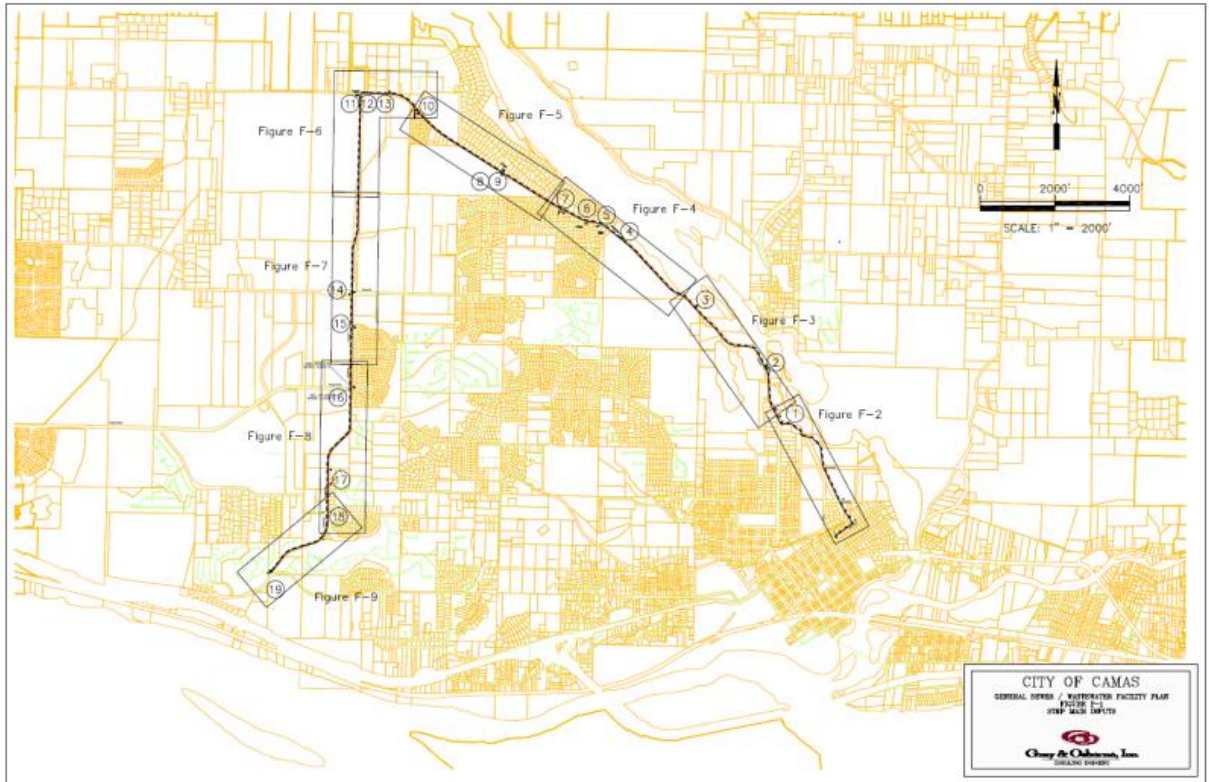


Figure 1: Lake Road FM

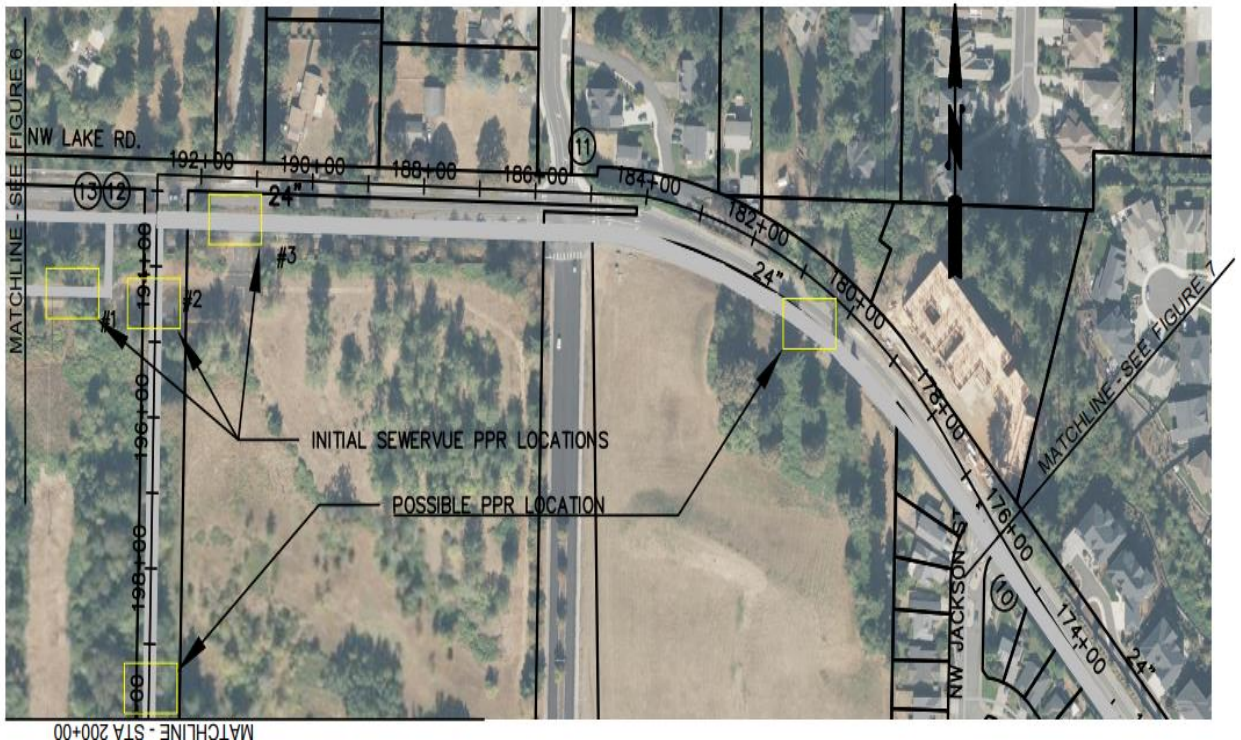


Figure 2: Proposed FM access points

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY: As the City continues to experience growth, it is important that capacity of this FM is maintained to allow for increased sewer flows as development occurs. Staff will also be working closely with Wafertech to minimize scale impacts from their operation moving forward.

POTENTIAL CHALLENGES: Since the FM is located on Lake Road, there will be traffic issues related with exposing sections of pipe. Cleaning any scale buildup on the inside of the pipe may also be challenging.

BUDGET IMPACT: The cost for the plans and specifications of the design portion of the project is \$27,520. There are sufficient funds within the Sewer Utility to complete this work.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that this item be placed on the January 16, 2024 Council Regular Meeting Consent agenda for Council's consideration.