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DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERING

May 22, 2014

Re: Building Inspection Program

Dear Homeowner/Commercial Building Owner:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of an upcoming Building Inspection Program in your area, and to ask for your assistance. If you received this letter and you are not connected to the Town's sewer system, then please disregard this information.

The Town of Dedham has initiated a program to reduce the amount of groundwater (infiltration) and rainwater (inflow) entering the Town's sewer system. Inflow comes from sources such as roof gutters, yard and driveway drains, and sump pumps that are improperly connected to the sewer system. The flow contributed by these sources is clean water that does not require treatment. However, when this clean water enters the sewer system, it may contribute to sewer backups and overflows and results in increased sewer rates for all. Due to these and other adverse impacts, these connections are prohibited.

The Town, through its Department of Infrastructure Engineering (hereinafter referred-to as the "Department") is conducting an extensive investigation of the sewer system to identify and eliminate sources of infiltration and inflow. As part of this investigation, the Department has made arrangements with an outside consultant, Weston & Sampson, to send teams of inspectors to inspect private properties for the purpose of identifying prohibited connections. At this time, participation in the program is voluntary and, the Town is not currently mandating that property owners submit to such an inspection. Those who do, however, will receive amnesty insofar as they will not be subjected to fines or penalties that may arise as a result of having a prohibited connection, while those who do not participate may not receive such amnesty in any future inspection programs.

Building inspections, lasting about 10-15 minutes, will be performed by a two-person team from the Town's wastewater consultants, Weston & Sampson, in a "door-to-door" fashion during the dates identified in the attached notice. You do not have to allow the inspectors in if you do not want to and you can ask them to leave at any time once they are inside. If you do consent to an inspection, the team will evaluate the basement or equivalent lowest level of each building to determine if any of the common sources of inflow may be connected to the sewer system. The exterior of each building will also be checked for potential inflow sources. All persons performing building inspections will have been certified by the Police Department through criminal background checks, and they will have proper photo identification.

Building inspections will be conducted Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. from June through October 2014. Please see the attached notice for when Weston & Sampson is expected to be going door-to-door in your area. For your convenience building inspections may be scheduled in advance or you may have the inspection conducted by a licensed plumber of your choosing.

Once the investigation is complete you will receive a report detailing any inflow sources found at the home. These connections are not allowed under the Massachusetts Building and Plumbing Codes and the Town's Sewer Use Regulations and, once the extent of the issue is identified, the Town will develop a plan for redirection of the identified sources.

The Town of Dedham is asking every homeowner to help by taking part in the Building Inspection Program. It is not the intent of the Town to be punitive in this endeavor but to work with the homeowner if any positive inflow sources are identified. To schedule an appointment or if you have any questions, the Town of Dedham requests that you please call our wastewater consultant, Weston & Sampson at (781) 355-7706.

For additional information and downloadable content on the Private Building Inspections Program, please visit the Town's website at www.dedham-ma.gov/index.cfm?pid=25939 . Any updates pertaining to this program will be posted on this website, so we encourage you to check back frequently.

Attached to this letter please find the following:

- Summary of the Door-to-Door Inspection Policy
- An Upcoming Building Inspections Notice which describes when Weston & Sampson will be in your area
- A Consent To Entry And Inspection form that can be signed ahead of time and handed to Weston & Sampson the day of your inspection. Weston & Sampson will also have a digital version of this consent form on their iPads that can be executed at the time of your inspection, should you so desire.

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation in this important matter.

Very Truly Yours,

Jason L. Mammone, P.E.
Director of Engineering

NOTE: If you received this letter and you are not connected to the Town's sewer system, then please disregard this information.