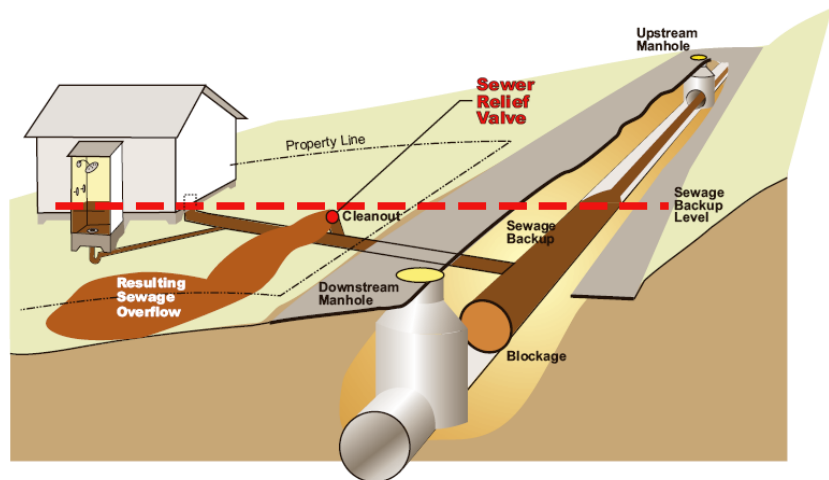


Sewer Relief Valve (SRV) & Backwater Valve (BWV) Facts

What is a sewer relief valve (SRV)?

A sewer relief valve is a device that is installed on the top of your private clean out in your yard. Its purpose is that in the rare instance a blockage occurs in the sewer main, it will allow any back up that would otherwise occur in your house to be discharged outside your residence minimizing the impact to your residence.



SEWER RELIEF VALVE

House and Cleanout Are Below Manhole
Sub-Slab Flooding

Who will maintain the SRV?

Once the SRV is installed and inspected by the City for proper installation, it will become the property of the homeowner and will be their responsibility to maintain the device and replace if needed.

What is the recommended maintenance for an SRV?

It is recommended that the lid be opened and inspected yearly and the float ball and hinge examined to insure that it is working freely and nothing is obstructing it.

If a backup should occur will the City clean up my yard?

The City will respond and provide cleanup for any overflows in accordance with approved ADEQ Standards for sewage spills. If it is found that the overflow was not caused due to a blockage of the City's main line but due to a blockage of the resident's lateral, the resident may be required to pay for the cleanup.

What is the risk of not having an SRV installed?

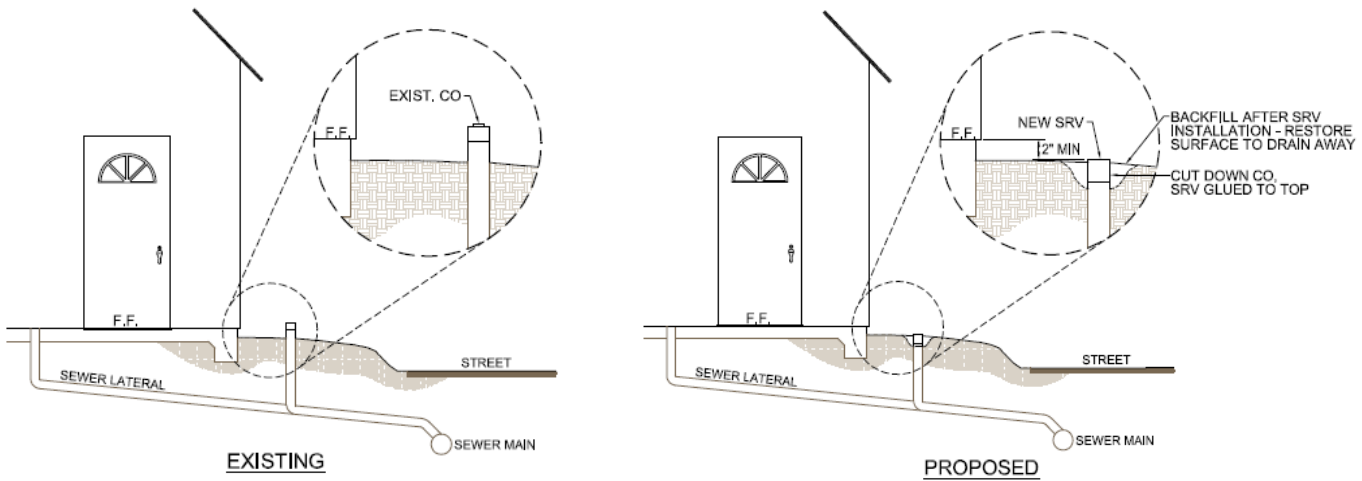
The City sewer system has historically had very few backups. Recently, due to vandalism, a few blockages have occurred, causing significant sewage to be backed up into a few residences. If a SRV was in place, it may have reduced the amount of damage that occurred to the residence. The City knows of only four backups in the City's main line causing damage to residents in the past 20 years.

Why is the City choosing to install these devices now?

Due to the aforementioned backups due to vandalism, the City Council felt that the affected residences might have a higher risk of a future backup occurring due to the floor elevation of their house, and that a SRV could provide additional protection. This is also to bring the laterals installed as part of the WWSE project in compliance with the City's building code.

What is the timing for this project?

The City Council has directed that this project be completed within one year's time.



What will I experience during installation of the SRV?

The SRV is relatively easy to install. The installer will not need to enter your home but only needs to have access to your outside clean out. The installation will require that the clean out be cut down to elevation below your foundation. The SRV is glued to the top of the clean out pipe and then minor grading is performed to insure that if a backup were to occur it would drain away from your house. We are estimating most installations will require less than one hour to complete (see figure).

What is a backwater valve?

A backwater valve is a flapper valve installed directly on your homes sewer lateral that only allows flows to flow away from your residence. In the case of a backup in the City's sewer main, the valve is forced shut preventing flows from entering your property.

What is the process to have the backwater valve installed?

Installing a backwater valve is more involved than the installation of a SRV. Depending on the elevation of your home, a trench will have to be dug and the sewer lateral exposed. Once the lateral is exposed, a piece of the pipe is cut out and replaced with section of pipe with the backwater assembly with a riser to the surface similar to a clean out.

How do you maintain a backwater valve?

The number one cause for a backflow to fail is the collection of debris at the valve preventing it from closing. The best way to reduce this from happening is to fill a bath tub full of water and allow it to drain quickly, flushing the pipe. The manufacturer generally recommends inspecting the device every six months to ensure it is performing correctly.

Will the City maintain the backwater valve or be responsible if it fails?

Once the device is installed, it will be the home owner's responsibility to maintain it. The City does not warranty or assume any liability for the device if it should fail to protect the property or in any way be a contributing cause to a back up in the home.

What is the risk of not installing this device?

As mentioned above, the City receives very little rainfall and has experienced very few backups in the last 20 years. This project is being done to provide an extra level of protection that the City Council has chosen to provide the citizens. Additionally, since your home is below the elevation of the next upstream manhole, you would be in violation of the City's Building Code with regards to your sewer lateral if the SRV or BWV is not installed.