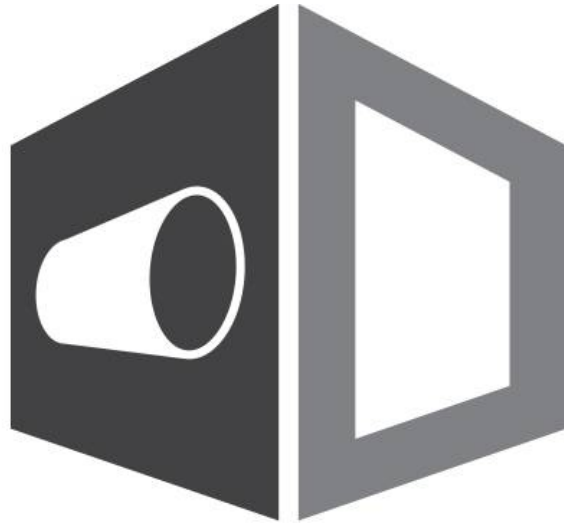


# **SewerLine Check Professionals, LLC**

## **Sewer Line Inspection Report**



# **SEWERLINE CHECK**

**Carolee Whitehead**

709 Wilson Court Burbank, CA 91501

Inspector: Ken Bell



709 Wilson Court Burbank, CA 91501

TIME: 12:30 PM  
DATE: June 05, 2024.  
CLIENT: The Client was not present  
BUILDING: Single Family Residence: No, the house does not appear to be occupied  
TOTAL FEE: \$375

**INSPECTION INFORMATION:** This is a specialty inspection of the main sewer line only (unless specified in the contract). The main sewer line is that portion of the waste drainage piping system that is exterior to the structure and carries the building waste from the building drain (that portion of the waste drainage piping system that is under/interior to the structure) to the city sewer connection.

The findings of this inspection are based on the opinions and education of the inspector and reflect the conditions discovered at the time of inspection only.

**As this is a non-invasive visual inspection SLCP does not guarantee the ability of the Main Sewer Line to fulfill its function in the future, as the outer wall of the sewer line is not visible and therefore beyond our view.**

SewerLine Check Professionals does not participate in any repairs or remediations and we do not accept payment for any referrals. Referrals are given solely for the benefit of the client.

# SEWER LINE

This inspection is exclusive to the main sewer line and does not include any part of the water supply system. No portion of the building waste lines are included in this inspection/report (unless otherwise stated in the contract).

The goal of this inspection is to help determine the serviceable condition of the main sewer line and to help determine needed repairs or maintenance to help ensure an operable main sewer line. This is not a code inspection.

## SEWER LINE OBSERVATIONS:

### ACCESS:

The main sewer line was accessed through the 4 inch main sewer line cleanout located in the driveway.



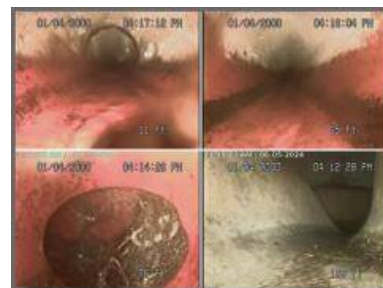
### TYPE OF MATERIAL:

Vitrified clay pipe.

Vitrified Clay (0 to 131 feet) has a very long service life and is a natural material, so it is not intended to deteriorate underground like metal or concrete piping may. This material however, is a brittle in nature and has a higher possibility of being cracked or damaged during significant seismic activity or earth quakes.

### OBSERVATIONS:

**Needs Attention:** This line appears to be functioning as intended water also appears to be flowing fine and moving debris, however, there are significant root intrusions, at 76 feet into the system, that prevent the view of the inner walls of the piping, so no conclusive findings can be made on this area. The system needs to have a thorough cleaning to rid the system of roots and a follow up inspection should then be performed for more data on this area should the roots be hiding any damage (SEE VIDEO).



VIDEO LINK: <https://youtu.be/6bb2ZvpvKcI>

COMMENTS: Roots intruding into a clay main sewer line sewer line are common and can normally be maintained with regular sewer line cleanings. It is when roots are left un-maintained for an extended period of time that they can cause blockages and or damage to a clay main sewer line. Roots most commonly intrude at the joint lines where the pipes are typically held together with mortar which breaks down over time. The roots that are present within the main sewer line indicates that the integrity of the mortar filled joints have been compromised to a degree and may worsen over time. Regular sewer line cleanings will help to prolong the life of the main sewer line but as the root intrusions intensifies over time the system may need to be replaced in the future.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations and "estimated costs" are based on the inspectors experience, education and opinions. No guarantee of costs or warranty of repairs is given or implied.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

### REPAIRS:

The line would need to be cleaned and for this system I would recommend a hydro-jetting, which is a very effective cleaning method for the pipe. It utilizes a high pressure water system to cut the roots and remove the soil from the inner walls of the pipe, while also washing them down the line. This type of cleaning will allow for maximum visibility of the inner walls of the pipe so that the proper repair recommendations can be made, if necessary.

Once the system has been cleared a follow up video examination will need to be performed to assess the main sewer line's condition along the root intruded area.

### MAINTENANCE:

Regular sewer line cleanings should be performed every 8 to 10 months, utilizing a full size sewer cleaning blade, in order to maintain the roots in the system to help keep them from creating future blockages and/or damage within the system.

As with any clay system it is advised to have the line video inspected every couple of years or after any significant seismic activity as conditions within the system can change over time.

### ESTIMATED COST FOR REPAIRS:

Main sewer line cleanings typically start around \$400 to \$600 for the hydro jetting method. Costs may vary depending on the contractor chosen and the amount of effort needed.

Contractor referral: [www.gopherco.com](http://www.gopherco.com)

Getting a follow-up examination is at the reduced rate of \$195.

# DEFINITIONS OF TERMS & STANDARDS

## **DEFINITIONS OF TERMS:**

- ACCEPTABLE:** It is the inspectors opinion that this item is doing the job for which it was intended and exhibits normal wear and tear.
- NEEDS ATTENTION:** It is the inspectors opinion that this item is in need of repairs and/or further investigation. The client should be aware of this situation and take appropriate action with the appropriate professional during the inspection period and prior to the close of escrow (if applicable). During the repair process, additional problems may be found.
- NOT ACCEPTABLE:** It is the inspectors opinion that this item is either not performing the job for which it was intended and/or is otherwise a potential threat to health and safety. The client should be aware of this situation and take appropriate action with the appropriate professional during the inspection period and prior to the close of escrow. During the repair process, additional problems may be found.

## **THE GOAL OF THE INSPECTION:**

- OUR GOAL:** Our Goal is to determine the true condition of the main sewer line and identify potential material defects that would affect the operation and safety of this system and therefore the purchaser's buying decision (if applicable). We strive to add significantly to your knowledge of this system.
- The scope of this inspection is to determine if the main sewer line has been damaged. The scope of this inspection does not require or include construction evaluation. Do not rely on this report as an exhaustive evaluation of the sewer line as this scope is limited to visible and observable areas only.
- EMPHASIS:** The report emphasis is on material defects (which are observable with a video inspection) within the main sewer line. While some minor defects may be mentioned this is not intended to be an all inclusive list of the main sewer line "flaws".
- STANDARDS:** The report is a professional opinion based on a visual inspection of the accessible (and viewable) features of the system. It should be understood that while we can reduce the risk of purchasing (or operation), we cannot entirely eliminate it, nor do we assume it.

# USE OF THE INSPECTION REPORT

**CLIENT:** The report contained herein is confidential and is given solely for the use and benefit of the client, and is not intended to be used for the benefit of or relied upon by any other buyer, lender, title insurance company, or other third party.

**SCOPE OF REPORT:** Many main sewer lines have hidden areas that cannot be accessed without destructive testing or dismantling of integral components of the house and/or plumbing system. Destructive testing (and dismantling) is not part of this inspection unless otherwise stated and agreed upon. Therefore there may be hidden defects that could not be determined as part of this inspection, as access is generally limited.

**INFORMATION AND LIMITATIONS:** We specifically exclude those items that we cannot fully observe such as areas within walls, behind walls, underground or other concealed or inaccessible areas.

It is advisable to obtain all available documentation such as building permits, certificates of compliance, certificates of occupancy, construction documents such as plans or engineering, contracts, warranties, guarantees, receipts, instruction manuals or any other kind of pertinent information related to the plumbing system and its individual components.

This report is intended to identify material defects only and act as a general guide to help the client make his or her own evaluation of the overall condition of the main sewer line, and is not intended to make any representation as to the advisability of purchase. The report expresses the personal opinions of the inspector, based upon his visual impressions of the conditions that existed at the time of the inspection only. The inspection and report are not intended to be technically exhaustive, or to imply that every component was thoroughly inspected (this is not always possible as there are generally areas that are not accessible), or that every possible "defect" was discovered. No disassembly of equipment, opening of walls, moving of furniture, appliances or stored items, or excavation was performed. All components and conditions which by the nature of their location are concealed or camouflaged are excluded from the report.

This inspection is specific to the main sewer line and any general comments about systems and conditions other than the main sewer line are informational only and do not represent an inspection of these areas.