

SPLASH PAD & SEWER UPDATES FROM JUNE 20th -JUNE 27th

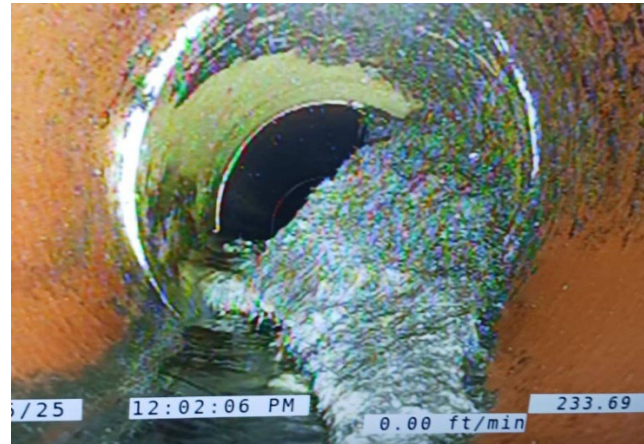
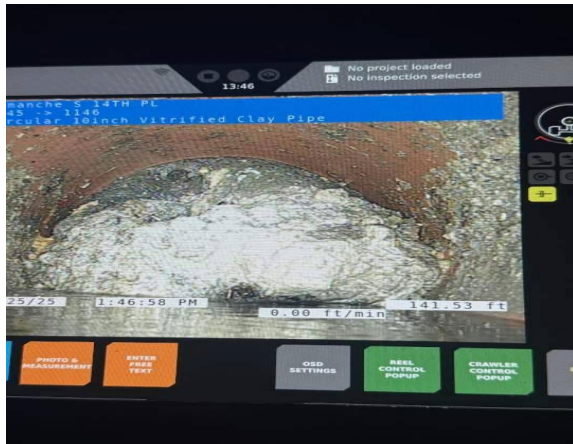
UPDATE!! Public works was able to jet out the clog. It was root debris and wet wipes. Please do NOT flush wet wipes down the toilet. Just because it says flushable on the package doesn't mean you should do it. This causes major problems in every city's system. Running the splashpad has revealed a clog in the sewer line on Hiawatha. This is causing issues with backups in some houses. Crews are working to clear the line. The splash pad cannot operate until this issue is resolved. Check back here for updates. If your house is affected, send a message here or email akida@camancheia.org

After a couple of hours of operation we received a call about a sewer backup. The splash pad will have to be shut down until this situation can be resolved.

Splash Pad Update!!

Public Works is having the sanitary sewer line along 14th Place videoed to find out why there is a backup further back down the line. The sewer up Hiawatha is an 8" line which connects to a 10" line on 14th. On day one with limited usage we had citizens experience backups from Hiawatha up through to 14th Place including some down Blackhawk Lane. After clearing a clog on Friday, we chose to run the splash pad on Saturday morning. It ran for 2 hours before we experienced a backup and that was only for a few houses on 14th Place. We have had communications with the property owners to deal with damages. The expectation at this point is that the video process will show some root infiltration which we will have cut out so that things like wet wipes and other debris which shouldn't be in the sanitary system do not get caught and create clogs. Jetting the sewers just moves an issue along. Getting rid of the roots will eliminate the chance for clogs to happen. We again discourage people from flushing wet wipes, or more recently popular "dude wipes" down the sewer. Even though they say "flushable", they wreak havoc on our system including the clogging of lift stations. This creates excessive costs to the sewer department. Once we have visually verified that the line is clear, we will run the splash pad at half capacity. If we verify that the flow is good and the line is clear, we will run at full capacity and monitor the homes which saw the most issues. Again, the infrastructure as design will handle the volume of water. If there are obstructions along the way, that will change the ability. Removing any obstructions between 12th Place up Hiawatha, then east on 14th Place to 7th Avenue should resolve any future issues. Moving forward, we will propose lining this sewer path so that other infiltration of roots will not occur.

Here is what the camera has found in the sewer on 14th place so far. These are roots and wet wipes, neither of which belongs in the sewer. The city is going to take care of its issue. We ask that you do the same. Wet wipes, baby wipes, dude wipes.... call it what you will. Flushing them causes major problems. Please stop doing it. The camera and cutting will be expensive enough to your sewer fund. Sewer work is very expensive. Please don't make it any more expensive than it needs to be. Once cleared, we will resume flow testing at half capacity of the splash pad for verification that everything moves as it should. Thanks for your patience.



Sewer Update!! We have cleared all of the roots and blockages from the lines on Hiawatha and 14th Place. If you are experiencing sewer odors in your basement, it is most likely from the change in flow and pressure which has removed the water in your basement floor drain trap. To prevent the odor from being in your basement, simply pour a gallon of water into your floor drain. This will create a new water trap in your drain and prevent the smell from coming into your house. You may also want to run your faucets for a minute to make sure that you have proper water in your P traps for the sinks.

We are currently running water down the sewer lines and monitoring flow. City crews are in the neighborhood. Flag them down if you are having a problem. If it is actual water/sewer backing up, call the city administrator at 563-249-9219. That is the cell number.

Here is an update on the sewer situation as it pertains to Hiawatha, 14th Place, Blackhawk Lane and the splash pad.

1st. The splash pad did not cause the problem. The amount of water only exposed the real issue for this area. The sewers are designed to handle plenty of water. However, there is infiltration from tree roots at many locations. We will be providing each home with a video picture of their connection. The infiltration typically happens because of the connection from the property to the sewer main. In some cases we will be able to show the property owner that even though we have cut out the roots in the main, they may still have roots in their private service line. This will cause a problem for those properties at some point. We will let you know.

The sewer mains had the roots cut out so there are no more places for wet wipes and other debris to catch and build up. That doesn't give a green light for people to flush wet wipes. This continues to be a problem in Camanche and many other cities. Once the roots were cut out, the lines needed to be jetted with pressurized water to move the debris to a manhole access. This is where some other minor issues occurred this morning. That pressurized process most likely drained any water traps in floor drains and may have pushed any water traps in basement toilets back into the home in the basement. This is not preventable in this work so we apologize for that inconvenience. The missing water in your

floor drain may have then allowed sewer odor into your house. You can fix this by pouring a gallon of water down your floor drain. That water stays in the trap and prevents the gassy smell from getting into your house.

We have been running 165 gallons per minute from a fire hydrant into the sewer at 12th place which runs up Hiawatha. We have monitored the sewer flow at 14th and Hiawatha and everything is going as expected after the cleanout. 165 gallons per minute is a lot more than what the splash pad puts out. We will be making some adjustments to a couple of features so it uses even less water. We also have a couple of adjustments to make to some features at the pad. That will be worked on Monday and Tuesday. We expect to do a new test run from the splash pad mid week. We are expecting positive results and can then do a proper ribbon cutting and celebration. We appreciate your patience.

As a public note, news stories have not included our position on the basement backups. We have been in contact with all of the households that have identified themselves to us as it pertains to backups in their basement. We have referred them to our insurance company and have instructed the insurance company to address the claims appropriately. All properties damaged from this event will be made whole. Again, the splash pad didn't cause the problem, it just exposed a problem that we have now addressed.

Thank you all for your patience. I know it's hot and kids want to be on the splash pad. We are working to get that resolved as soon as possible.