Chapter 14.44

SEWER CONNECTIONS AND USE

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14.44.010 Connection to Public Sewer - Required When Sewer Available.
14.44.020 When Sewer Not Available.
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14.44.160 Maintenance of Private Systems, Etc.
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14.44.190 Procedure to Effect Abandonment of Septic Tank, Etc.

14.44.010 Connection to Public Sewer - Required When Sewer Available.
All plumbing which receives the waste discharge from any building, structure or place of business, shall be connected to a public sewer.

All plumbing receiving waste discharge which is connected to a private disposal system shall be connected to a public sewer within one year after a public sewer becomes available. (Prior code §37.17)

14.44.020 When Sewer Not Available.
The connection to a public sewer required by Section 14.44.010 may be dispensed with when no public sewer is available and when, in the opinion of the Health Officer of the County, a private sewage disposal system would be adequate and safe and would not constitute a menace to public health. (Prior code §37.18)

14.44.030 When Connection to Approved Private Sewage Disposal System Required.
All plumbing receiving waste discharge which is not connected to a public sewer shall be connected to a private sewage disposal system approved by the Chief of Building and Zoning and Health Officer of the County. (Prior code §37.19)

14.44.035 Connection to Private System - Written Agreement Required.
As a condition to the approval of the connection of property situated outside the corporate limits of the City to the City sanitary sewer system, the owner of such property, or his or her authorized agent, shall be required to enter into a written agreement with the City of Santa Barbara which includes at least the following provisions:

A. A provision that the connection shall be at the sole expense of the applicant;
B. A provision that the property owner or his or her successors in interest shall pay the monthly fee or charge applicable;
C. Provisions for the default and termination of the agreement;
D. A provision that the agreement shall be recorded and that it shall run with the land and be binding on all successors in interest of the contracting owner;
E. A provision that in the event the property being served by such sanitary sewer connection be proposed for annexation to the City under proceedings initiated by property owner petition or otherwise, the contracting party expressly waives any right of protest to such annexation, except that such party shall have the right to be heard in any hearing in which zoning of the subject property is being considered; and
F. A provision that upon annexation of the property, the contracting owner or his or her successor in interest shall pay the annexation fees provided by Chapter 4.04 regardless of whether the annexation is initiated by property owner petition or by motion of the City Council. (Ord. 3721 §1, 1975)

14.44.060 Connections Letting Roof, Etc., Water Into Sewers.
No person shall make or maintain any connection by pipes or otherwise with any public sewer by which roof or surface water may run into any such sewer. (Prior code §37.22)

14.44.140 Entering, Etc., Sewers, Etc.
No person shall, without authorization from the Public Works Director, open, enter, disturb or clean any public sewer, structure or appurtenance thereto. (Prior code §37.2)

14.44.150 Maintenance Generally Not to Obstruct Public Sewer Flow.
No person shall, or cause to be done, any maintenance which would damage or obstruct the flow of any public sewer. (Prior code §37.3)

14.44.160 Maintenance of Private Systems, Etc.
A. It shall be the responsibility of each property owner whose property is connected to the City sewer system to maintain continuously and satisfactorily in operation at his or her own expense, any house connection sewer, private sewage disposal system or industrial liquid waste pre-treatment facility.
B. Failure to maintain such industrial liquid waste pre-treatment facilities shall be sufficient for immediate revocation of the industrial liquid waste permit of the person so failing and disconnection of his or her premises from the public sewer.
C. Users of private sewer disposal systems shall keep all cleanout caps and other access ports in place and properly sealed. (Ord. 5340, 2004; prior code §37.4)

14.44.180 Septic Tank, Etc., to be Abandoned When Main Line Connection Obtained.
When a house connection sewer is constructed connecting to a main line sewer, a house sewer which previously drained to a septic tank or cesspool, the septic tank or cesspool shall be abandoned and no portion of the house sewer shall then pass through or connect to such septic tank or cesspool. (Prior code §37.6)

14.44.190 Procedure to Effect Abandonment of Septic Tank, Etc.
When any septic tank or cesspool is abandoned, the top of such septic tank or cesspool shall be removed and the tank or cesspool shall be drained and filled with fine earth or sand and compacted and any pipes connecting to such tank or cesspool shall be cut directly outside of the tank or cesspool and shall be plugged with concrete. The abandonment of the septic tank or cesspool shall be complete before the house connection constructed shall be considered to have completely passed inspection. (Prior code §37.7)
Chapter 14.46

BUILDING SEWER INSPECTIONS

Sections:
14.46.010 Definitions.
14.46.020 Maintenance of Private Building Sewer Laterals.
14.46.030 Building Sewer Inspections - Access to Premises.
14.46.040 Mandatory Building Sewer Inspections.
14.46.050 Requirements for a Proper Building Sewer Lateral Inspection Report.
14.46.060 Required Building Sewer Lateral Repairs.
14.46.070 Common Interest Developments.
14.46.080 Administrative Guidelines for Inspections.

14.46.010 Definitions.
Unless the context indicates otherwise, the following definitions apply to the use of the following terms for the purposes of this chapter:

BUILDING SEWER INSPECTION. An inspection of a Building Sewer Lateral that consists of the retention of a licensed plumber (as certified under Section 14.46.050) by the Owner in order to visually examine and inspect a Building Sewer Lateral in the manner deemed appropriate by the City Public Works Director. Such an inspection shall, at a minimum, include the use of a closed-circuit television inspection device for the purposes of determining whether the Building Sewer Lateral complies with the requirements of this chapter, the Regulation adopted under Section 14.46.080, and any applicable state laws.

BUILDING SEWER LATERAL. That part of the horizontal piping of a drainage system which extends from the end of the building drain and which receives the discharge of the building drain and conveys it to a public sewer, private sewer, individual sewage disposal system, or other point of disposal. For the purposes of this chapter, a Building Sewer Lateral shall also include a Septic Tank if one exists upon the Property and it is in use.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY. Any real property not used for residential purposes and not a Common Interest Development.

COMMON INTEREST DEVELOPMENT. A development characterized by individual ownership of a condominium housing unit or a residential parcel coupled with the shared ownership of (or right to use) common areas and facilities, including, but not limited to, condominium projects, community apartment projects, stock cooperatives and planned unit developments, which contains three or more dwelling units and which has a Building Sewer Lateral shared by three or more dwelling units.

NOTICE TO REPAIR. The notice issued by the City Public Works Director to the Owner advising that the Owner appears to be in violation of the Santa Barbara Municipal Code with respect to the Owner’s Building Sewer Lateral, or in violation of the Code in the manner of the Building Sewer Lateral’s connection to the City sewer system, which order directs the abatement of the identified apparent violation in a timely manner.

OWNER. Any person, partnership, association, corporation or fiduciary having legal title (or any partial interest) in any real property situated within the City.

SEPTIC TANK. As the term is defined in Section 14.34.100. (Ord. 5396, 2006)

14.46.020 Maintenance of Private Building Sewer Laterals.
A. MAINTENANCE OF BUILDING SEWER LATERALS. Each Owner shall maintain his or her Building Sewer Lateral(s) free of displaced joints, open joints, root intrusion, substantial deterioration of the line,
cracks, leaks, inflow, or infiltration of extraneous water, root intrusion, grease and sediment deposits, or any other similar conditions, defects, or obstructions likely to cause or increase the chance for blockage of the Building Sewer Lateral.

B. MAINTENANCE OF SEPTIC TANK. Each Owner shall maintain his or her Septic Tank free of deterioration, corrosion, damage, disposal failure or any other similar deficiencies or defects likely to increase failure of the Septic Tank.

C. GENERAL MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS. The maintenance obligation imposed by this section shall be in addition to and supplemental of the general private sewer system maintenance obligations imposed by Section 14.44.160 of this code. (Ord. 5396, 2006)

14.46.030 Building Sewer Inspections - Access to Premises.
The Public Works Director or the City Health Officer (or any designated representative thereof) is hereby authorized to inspect any Building Sewer Lateral in use within the City and connected to the City sewer system for the following purposes:

A. To determine the size, depth, and location of any sewer connection.

B. To determine the end outlet of any sewer connection by depositing harmless testing materials in any plumbing fixture attached thereto and flushing the same, if necessary.

C. To determine, by measurements and samples, the quantity and nature of the sewage or waste water being discharged into any sewer.

D. To determine the location of the roof, swimming pool, floor and surface drains, and whether or not they physically connect to a sewer.

Nothing herein shall be deemed to provide the Public Works Director (or the Director’s designee) with any right or authority to enter a building or other apparently private or interior area of a real property, except to the extent such entry is expressly authorized by state law. (Ord. 5396, 2006)

14.46.040 Mandatory Building Sewer Inspections.
A. HEALTH AND SAFETY BASIS FOR REQUIRING A BUILDING SEWER LATERAL INSPECTION. An Owner shall have the Building Sewer Lateral of his or her real property inspected in accordance with the requirements of this chapter (as directed and within the time period indicated by the Public Works Director) upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

1. Overflow or Malfunction. Whenever the Public Works Director has sufficient evidence (as determined by the Director) that the Building Sewer Lateral has recently overflowed or has recently malfunctioned;

2. Lateral Failure or Lack of Maintenance. Whenever, based on sewer system testing conducted by the City (of either the Building Sewer Lateral or the City’s public sewer system), the Public Works Director finds that there is sufficient evidence to conclude that the Building Sewer Lateral has failed, is likely to fail, or has not been properly maintained.

3. Public Health Threat. Upon any other reasonable cause to believe that there is a threat to the public health, safety, or welfare due to the condition of a Building Sewer Lateral.

B. EVENTS REQUIRING A BUILDING SEWER LATERAL INSPECTION - RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES. An Owner shall have the Building Sewer Lateral of his or her residential Property inspected in accordance with the requirements of this chapter upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

1. Home Additions. Prior to the issuance of a City building permit for a residential building addition or new improvements on the real property in excess of 400 square feet of habitable space as that phrase is defined in the California Building Code as adopted and amended by the City;

2. New Plumbing Fixtures. Prior to the issuance of a City building permit for two or more new plumbing fixtures attached to the Building Sewer Lateral upon the residential Property. For the purposes of this
section, the phrase “new plumbing fixtures” shall refer only to an increase in the number of plumbing fixtures in use on the real property prior to the application for a building permit for the “new” plumbing fixtures.

C. SCHEDULE FOR LATERAL INSPECTIONS - NONRESIDENTIAL AND COMMON INTEREST DEVELOPMENT REAL PROPERTIES.

1. Nonresidential Properties. An Owner or Owners of a nonresidential property within the City shall have that Property’s Building Sewer Lateral(s) inspected in accordance with the requirements of this chapter once every 10 years beginning January 1st of the year following the adoption of the Ordinance first enacting this chapter. Within each 10-year period of time, such lateral inspections shall occur in accordance with and not later than the Citywide area map and schedule attached to this section as Exhibit 1 and dated as of September 26, 2006, in the order and by district as established on Exhibit 1. [For the purposes of this section, a property which has a mixture of allowed residential and nonresidential uses shall be considered a nonresidential property with respect to its compliance with the sewer lateral inspection requirements of this section.]

2. Common Interest Developments. The Owner or Owners of a Common Interest Development shall have that Property’s Building Sewer Lateral(s) inspected in accordance with the requirement of this chapter once every 10 years beginning January 1st of the second year following the enactment of the Ordinance first enacting this chapter. Within each 10-year period of time, such lateral inspections shall occur in accordance with and not later than the Citywide area map and schedule attached to this section as Exhibit 1 and dated as of September 26, 2006, in the order and by district as established on Exhibit 1, an official full size color copy of which shall remain on file in the City Clerk’s office.

D. EXCEPTION TO INSPECTION FOR RECENT PRIOR INSPECTIONS AND REPAIRS. The following are exceptions to the Inspection requirements of subsections B and C above:

1. Prior Replacement of Sewer Lateral. An Owner otherwise required to perform a Building Sewer Lateral inspection under subsection B or C of this section shall not be required to perform such an inspection if the Owner (or the Owner’s predecessor-in-interest) has originally installed or has replaced his or her Property’s Building Sewer Lateral within the 20 years prior to the date of the application for a building permit.

2. Prior Inspection or Repair of a Building Sewer Lateral. An Owner otherwise required to perform an inspection under subsection B or C of this section shall not be required to perform such an inspection if the Owner has either completed a remedial inspection (conducted in accordance with the Inspection requirements of this chapter) or completed a permitted repair of the Building Sewer Lateral within the three years prior to the date the inspection would otherwise be required.
14.46.050 Requirements for a Proper Building Sewer Lateral Inspection Report.

A. INSPECTION REPORT STANDARDS. The Building Sewer Inspection Reports required by this chapter shall be prepared in accordance with the following requirements and specifications:

1. The Inspection Report shall be prepared by a licensed plumber;
2. The Inspection Report shall identify all of the following:
   a. Any of the following conditions: displaced joints, open joints, root intrusion, substantial deterioration of the line, cracks, leaks, inflow or infiltration of extraneous water, root intrusion, grease and sediment deposits or other conditions likely to increase the chance for blockage of the Building Sewer.
   b. Whether any connection, by pipes or otherwise, allows rainwater or groundwater to enter the Building Sewer or public sewer.
   c. Whether the Building Sewer has an installed backwater device where any outlet or trap of the Building Sewer is below the level of the nearest manhole. If a backwater device is already installed, the report shall indicate whether the backwater device is functioning properly.
   d. Where the Building Sewer includes a Septic Tank, the report shall identify the extent to which the Septic Tank is deteriorated, corroded, damaged, whether the disposal field has failed or any other relevant deficiency.

3. The Inspection Report shall contain an express certification from the certified inspector that the property has been inspected for any outdoor drain connection to the City sewer system and that no such unpermitted connection is present. It shall also contain either a videotape or DVD of the video inspection of the Building Sewer Lateral in a format acceptable to the City, as established by the City regulations.

B. COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS. The Inspection Report shall, in all other aspects, comply with the requirements and specifications described in the Public Works Director’s specifications for a Building Sewer Lateral Inspection Report as established by the regulations authorized under Section 14.46.080 hereof. (Ord. 5396, 2006)

**14.46.070 Common Interest Developments.**
The homeowners association of a Common Interest Development shall, along with the Owner, be jointly and severally liable for the duties and obligations imposed by this chapter in relation to any Building Sewer Lateral located within a common area of the Development. If no homeowners association exists, then the individual unit owners, both jointly and individually, shall be liable for the duties and obligations with respect to Building Sewer Laterals established by this chapter. (Ord. 5396, 2006)
14.46.080

**Administrative Guidelines for Inspections.**
Within 90 days of the adoption of the ordinance enacting this chapter, the Public Works Director shall prepare and promulgate the public administrative guidelines which shall, among other things, establish the following:

A. A certification program for licensed plumbers who will be accepted by the City to perform Inspections and the basis for obtaining and maintaining such a certification or for a decertification;

B. Develop a standard Inspection report form and specifications for Building Sewer Inspection reports; and

C. Establish a Notice format and standard enforcement timelines for the Notice to Repair and for repair and inspection service of that Notice in a manner consistent with the requirements of due process. Such administrative guidelines shall be approved by a resolution of the City Council. (Ord. 5396, 2006)
Chapter 14.48

SEWER PERMITS

Sections:
14.48.010 Required Generally.
14.48.020 Connection Permit - Application.
14.48.070 Fees and Deposits - Permit for House Connections for Nonparticipating Properties Generally.
14.48.080 Permit for House Connections for Nonparticipating Properties to Sewers Constructed Pursuant to Chapter.
14.48.090 When Fee Amount Doubled.
14.48.100 Bonds in Lieu of Cash Deposits.
14.48.110 Reimbursing City for Plan Checking, Etc. - Refund, Etc.
14.48.120 When No Fees Payable.
14.48.130 Connections Permit - Issuance.
14.48.140 Contents - When Work Must be Started - How Work to be Done.
14.48.150 Permit - When Not Required.
14.48.170 Permit - Approval of Pre-Treatment Facility Plans, Etc.
14.48.180 Permit - Required.
14.48.190 Permit - Application.
14.48.200 Permit - Soil Test - Health Department Approval of System.
14.48.220 Permit - When to be Denied.

14.48.010 Required Generally.
It is unlawful for any person, other than persons specifically permitted, excepted by this chapter, to do or cause to be done, or construct or cause to be constructed, or use or cause to be used, or alter or cause to be altered, any public sewer, house connection sewer or industrial liquid waste pre-treatment plant system, or other similar appurtenances without first obtaining from the Public Works Director a written permit to construct or use such facilities, and paying all fees and deposits as required by resolution. (Prior code §37.30)

14.48.020 Connection Permit - Application.
The Public Works Director before issuing such permits as are required by Section 14.48.010 shall require a written application to be made and filed. In such application shall be set forth the name and residence or business address of the person making such application and, in detail, the location, description, work to be done or facilities to be used, the legal owner of the property to be served and any other information deemed necessary by the Public Works Director to determine that the proposed work or use complies with the provisions of this chapter. (Prior code §37.31)

14.48.070 Fees and Deposits - Permit for House Connections for Nonparticipating Properties Generally.
Before issuing any house connection sewer permit to connect to a public sewer from a property benefited by such sewer which has not participated in paying the cost of constructing such sewer, the Public Works Director shall collect a connection charge for each connection to any sewer which has been constructed and financed by one of the following methods:
A. A 1911 Act or other special assessment district, with charges and assessments against properties other than the property to be connected, where such 1911 Act or other special assessment sewer district is formed after the effective date of this chapter.

B. A publicly financed sewer, constructed after the effective date of this chapter.

C. A privately financed sewer paid for by person or properties other than the person or properties desiring connection, and constructed after the effective date of this chapter under a plan submitted to and approved by the City.

The connection charge to be collected under this section shall be equal to the cost to a similar individual property based on the actual cost of constructing the public sewer as estimated by the Public Works Director or as recorded on the assessment roll if the relative sewer was constructed under the so-called 1911 Assessment Act proceedings, but shall in no case be less than $350.00, except that if, connection to any one of the three types of systems described in subsection A, B or C of this section, is made by means of a main line extension of 50 feet or more in length the Public Works Director may waive a portion or all of the special $350.00 connection fee and charge only a portion of that fee, or the standard $10.00 connection fee. (Prior code §37.36)

14.48.080 Permit for House Connections for Nonparticipating Properties to Sewers Constructed Pursuant to Chapter.

Before issuing any house connection sewer permit to connect to a public sewer constructed under a sewer extension agreement provided for in Section 14.48.010 by a property which did not participate in the cost of constructing such public sewer the Public Works Director shall collect the charges set forth in the sewer extension agreement, which fee shall be in addition to and not excuse the permittee from any of the requirements of Section 14.48.060. (Prior code §37.37)

14.48.090 When Fee Amount Doubled.

If a connection is made to a public sewer prior to securing of the permit required by Section 14.48.010, all applicable fees under Sections 14.48.030 - 14.18.120 shall be in an amount that is twice the amount otherwise required by Section 14.48.010. (Prior code §37.38)

14.48.100 Bonds in Lieu of Cash Deposits.

In lieu of any cash deposit required by this chapter a good and sufficient corporate surety bond may be given by the permittee under this chapter in the amount of $1,500.00 or more; provided, that the amount of such bond is not less than the total amount of the required deposit. Such bond shall be conditioned upon the payment of all charges required by this chapter and the faithful and proper performance of the work. (Prior code §37.39)

14.48.110 Reimbursing City for Plan Checking, Etc. - Refund, Etc.

A. Before acceptance of any work for which a bond or deposit is required to cover the actual cost of plan checking, processing, inspection and replacement, the actual cost to the City for such plan checking, processing, inspection and replacement shall be computed. If such actual cost exceeds the amount of the deposit or bond, the applicant shall pay any additional amount to cover the actual cost.

B. If such actual costs as computed are less than the amount of any deposit required herein, any excess shall be refunded to the applicant. The actual cost to the City for plan checking, processing and inspection shall be as fixed by resolution. The actual cost to the City for replacement shall mean the cost of replacing any existing improvements damaged and not repaired or replaced by the applicant for a permit under this chapter and shall mean the cost of completing any work left incomplete by the applicant at the expiration of the permit. (Prior code §37.42)
14.48.120 When No Fees Payable.
A. This chapter shall not be construed to require payment of fees where collection of any such fee is prohibited by Section 6103 of the Government Code or by any other statute of the State.
B. This chapter shall not be construed to require payment of fees set forth in Section 14.48.060 for any connection which is made to a public sewer which was constructed under a 1911 Act Assessment District; provided, that such connection is made to a property included in the assessment district and is completed within one year of the date of acceptance of such sewer by the City. (Prior code §37.41)

14.48.130 Connections Permit - Issuance.
Upon receiving a written application, as provided for in Section 14.48.020, and the fee and bond or deposit required by Sections 14.48.030—14.48.120, the Public Works Director shall issue a written permit to construct or use the relative sewer or treatment facilities. (Prior code §37.42)

14.48.140 Contents - When Work Must be Started - How Work to be Done.
A permit issued pursuant to Section 14.48.130 shall state whether the work to be done is covered by deposit or bond, the amount of such deposit or bond, the amount of each fee required by Sections 14.48.030 - 14.48.120 and such permit shall be a receipt therefor. The permit shall also state the name and address of the permittee, the owner of the property to be served, and the location and extent of the work or connection to be done. Every such permit for construction or connection shall be void unless construction pursuant to such permit is commenced within 60 days of the date of such permit for house connection or within one year of the date of such permit for public sewers and the work diligently prosecuted strictly pursuant to City specifications. (Prior code §37.43)

14.48.150 Permit - When Not Required.
The provisions of this chapter requiring permits for construction of sewers and appurtenances shall not apply to contractors constructing public sewers and appurtenances under contracts awarded and entered into under the proceedings had or taken pursuant to any special procedure statute of the State providing for the construction of sewers and assessing the expenses thereof against the properties benefited thereby, or under contracts between a contractor and the City. (Prior code §37.44)

The Public Works Director may revoke the permit issued under this chapter for and may disconnect from the public sewer any industrial liquid waste connection which is constructed or connected without the proper permit, or which is used in violation of the provisions of this title governing industrial liquid wastes. (Prior code §37.45)

14.48.170 Permit - Approval of Pre-Treatment Facility Plans, Etc.
Plans and specifications of all industrial waste pre-treatment facilities shall be approved by the Public Works Director before any permit is issued for construction of such facilities. (Prior code §37.46)

14.48.180 Permit - Required.
It is unlawful for any person to construct, alter, put into use or cause to be used any private sewage disposal system, septic tank or cesspool without first obtaining from the Chief of Building and Zoning a written permit to construct or use such disposal facilities, paying the required fees to cover the cost of inspection and incidental expenses in connection therewith. (Prior code §37.47)

14.48.190 Permit - Application.
The Chief of Building and Zoning before issuing a permit required by Section 14.48.180 shall require a written application to be made and filed, in which application is set forth the name and address of the person making such application and which states in detail the location and description of the work to be done and the facilities to be
used and any other information deemed necessary by the Chief of Building and Zoning to determine whether the proposed work or use complies with the provisions of this code and other ordinances of the City providing for construction of sewage disposal systems on private property. (Prior code §37.48)

**14.48.200 Permit - Soil Test - Health Department Approval of System.**
Before issuing any permit under this chapter the Chief of Building and Zoning may require the applicant to furnish a report prepared by a registered, practicing civil engineer which may include soil tests, percolation tests, geological data and design of a disposal system based on such data which indicates that adequate capacity and percolation or leaching system is provided, and when deemed necessary by the Chief of Building and Zoning may require that such disposal system design be approved by the Health Department. (Prior code §37.49)

**14.48.210 Private Disposal - Issuance.**
Upon receipt of a written application, payment of all the required fees and approval of such application as provided for in Sections 14.48.180 - 14.48.200, the Chief of Building and Zoning shall issue a written permit to construct or put into use such private disposal facilities. (Prior code §37.50)

**14.48.220 Permit - When to be Denied.**
No permit shall be issued for installation, repair or alteration of any private sewage disposal system when a public sewer is available, except as provided in Section 14.44.020. (Prior code §37.51)