

# **SewerLine Check Professionals, LLC**

## **Sewer Line Inspection Report**



**Lily Chen**

3261 Coolidge Ave. Mar Vista, CA 90066

Mark Harrison

# SEWERLINE CHECK PROFESSIONALS, LLC INSPECTION CONDITIONS

## **CLIENT & SITE INFORMATION:**

DATE OF INSPECTION: March 14, 2018  
TIME OF INSPECTION: 1:00 PM  
CLIENT NAME: Lily Chen  
ADDRESS: 3261 Coolidge Ave. Mar Vista, CA 90066  
INSPECTOR: Mark Harrison

## **BUILDING CHARACTERISTICS:**

BUILDING TYPE: Single Family Residence  
STORIES: One

## **OTHER INFORMATION:**

BUILDING OCCUPIED: No  
CLIENT PRESENT: Yes

COMMENTS: This is a specialty inspection of the main sewer line only. 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.

## **PAYMENT INFORMATION:**

TOTAL FEE: \$290

## **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:	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
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".

## SEWER LINE:

The following is based on a video line inspection of the sewer line only. This inspection is exclusive to the main sewer line and does not include any part of the water supply system or above ground waste line pipes (unless otherwise stated in this report).

This report is not intended as a code inspection nor is it intended to itemize every "flaw". It is intended to give an overall condition of the main sewer line.

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.

### **SEWER LINE OBSERVATIONS:**

#### **ACCESS LOCATION:**

Today's examination was performed from the four inch main sewer line cleanout located at the front right of the house behind the vegetation.



#### **FINDINGS:**

The main sewer line is the original vitrified clay sewer pipe. The drain system exits the house and the main sewer line runs out about 15 feet before jogging over a couple of feet and running straight out to public sewer near the middle of the street. The line is about 53 feet total.

Vitrified clay pipe is a very common pipe material for main sewer line systems. This type of pipe has a long service life expectancy. Being a natural clay material, it holds up well under ground. It is fairly brittle, however, and does have a higher potential for damage during seismic activity so it is strongly recommended that clay pipes be examined after any significant earthquake and if there are roots intruding into the pipe at the joints, annual video examinations to monitor for potential future repairs.

**Needs Attention:** In the vitrified clay main sewer pipe, there are root intrusions at the joint areas. Root intrusions at the joint areas of a vitrified

clay sewer pipe are common and can normally be maintained with regular sewer line cleanings. However, if these root intrusions are left un-maintained for extended periods, they can create blockages in the system and potentially damage the pipe itself. Also seen at a few of these joints are cracks or minor breaks around the joints. These are significant enough to suggest repair and is what should probably be done. That being said, with maintenance the line could be kept functional for the time being.



Repair would be replacing the first 15 feet of pipe. This is the area of the heavy vegetation and trees so that may complicate the repair some but there are methods that should be able to get it done with minimal intrusiveness, such as pipe bursting, which is a method that does not require trenching, only excavation at either end of the run.

MAIN SEWER LINE  
VIDEO:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EhxRV7P9ASw>

# RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations and "estimated costs" are based on the inspectors experience, education and opinions. This is not a guarantee of costs for any work to be performed and is not a warranty for any work to be performed.

Only qualified licensed contractors should be used to perform any repairs or reconstruction. It is recommended, for health and safety reasons, that a high level of integrity be maintained for the sewer line system. This includes yearly servicing and appropriate inspections.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

### **RECOMMENDED REPAIRS:**

It is suggested that it would be beneficial but not urgent to replace the first 15 feet of the line as described above.

### **RECOMMENDED MAINTENANCE:**

It is our recommendation to have regular sewer line cleanings approximately every 8 to 12 months to maintain the root intrusions in the vitrified clay pipe. This service can help to minimize potential future blockages in the system as well as damage to the pipe.

It is our recommendation that all main sewer lines should be examined after any significant seismic activity and that main sewer lines should be examined annually to monitor for changing conditions in the system as changing conditions could potentially dictate future repairs and changing maintenance recommendations.

### **ESTIMATED COST FOR REPAIRS:**

The suggested repair could probably be done for around \$3,500.