



**Detroit Water and Sewerage Department**  
*Central Services Facility*  
6425 Huber Street, Detroit, MI 48211  
313-267-8000 • [detroitmi.gov/DWSD](http://detroitmi.gov/DWSD)

May 10, 2024

Homeowner / Resident  
4265 Seminole  
Detroit, MI 48214

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR PRIVATE SEWER SERVICE LINE

Dear Owner / Resident:

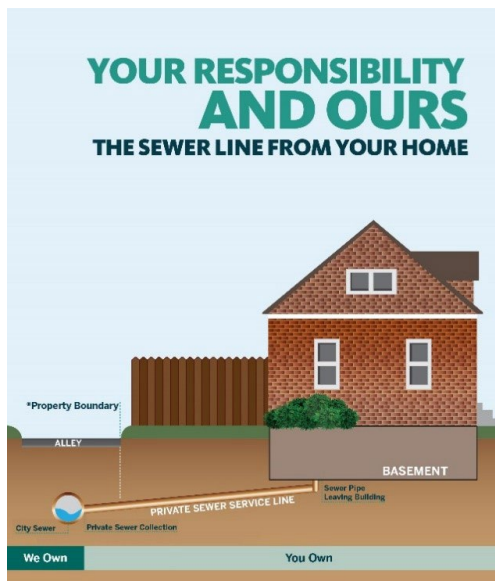
A video inspection of the City's sewer receiving sanitary sewage flow from your property address was recently performed by the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD). During the inspection, which included cleaning and televising with a closed-circuit video camera, it revealed **Damaged Lateral** in the private sewer connections at **4265 Seminole**, leading to the public sewer, which is the cause of the cave-in. There were no failed or blocked sewer sections found in the public sewer at this time. Below are pictures of the private sewer service connections.

### City Sewer

Public sewer pipes are owned and maintained by the City and normally lie in and parallel to alleys, streets, Right-of-Ways, and publicly owned easements. If these sewers fail, become blocked, or need corrective actions to clean or repair them, it is the City's responsibility and done by the City at no cost to the residence/business owner.

### Private Sewer Service Line

Private sewer service lines are pipelines that run from a home or business to the point of connection to the City public sewer pipe, regardless of its location. In the case of the home at **4265 Seminole**, the sewer connection is in the **rear**. Because property owners are responsible for maintaining the private sewer service line from their property up to its connection to the City's sewer, **we recommend that you follow-up based on the findings identified below.**



*The graphic above shows a private sewer service line and its connection to the City's sewer, as well as the separation between the City's ("We Own") and the property owner's responsibility ("You Own") for sewer line maintenance.*

You are advised to have your private sewer service line and connection from your property further investigated by a licensed plumber to determine whether action is needed at this time. If it is determined that action is needed, then you are advised to have your private sewer service line and connection from your property snaked (rodded) by a licensed plumber between the clean out (generally located in basement) and the City sewer. Snaking (Rodding) will not only clean the line but will also help identify if there are breaks in the line and determine if you will need to excavate or dig a hole to address findings and/or to perform repairs. This process may involve the need to cut tree roots.

Please be advised that before performing repair work that requires excavation, two permits – a Right-of-Way permit and a DWSD permit – are required and are to be obtained by the person performing the work. Additionally, the Michigan Utility Notification Center (MISS DIG) requires notification.

**RESOURCES:**

<b>DWSD Permits:</b>	Website: <a href="http://www.detroitmi.gov/DWSDPermits">www.detroitmi.gov/DWSDPermits</a> Email: <a href="mailto:DWSD-Permits@detroitmi.gov">DWSD-Permits@detroitmi.gov</a> Office: 313-267-8000
<b>Right of Way Permit:</b>	Address: City of Detroit, 2 Woodward Avenue, 6 <sup>th</sup> floor, Department of Public Works, City Engineering Division, Permits Office – Room 642, Detroit MI 48226 Email: <a href="mailto:CEDPERMITS@detroitmi.gov">CEDPERMITS@detroitmi.gov</a> Office: 313-224-3935
<b>MISS DIG:</b>	Dial 811 (or call 1-800-482-7171)

We hope that the information included in this letter and enclosed report will be helpful in resolving the issue(s) identified in your private sewer service connection to the City's sewer. If you have any further questions, please feel free to call Eric Charles at 313-410-1392.

Respectfully yours,

*Eric Charles*

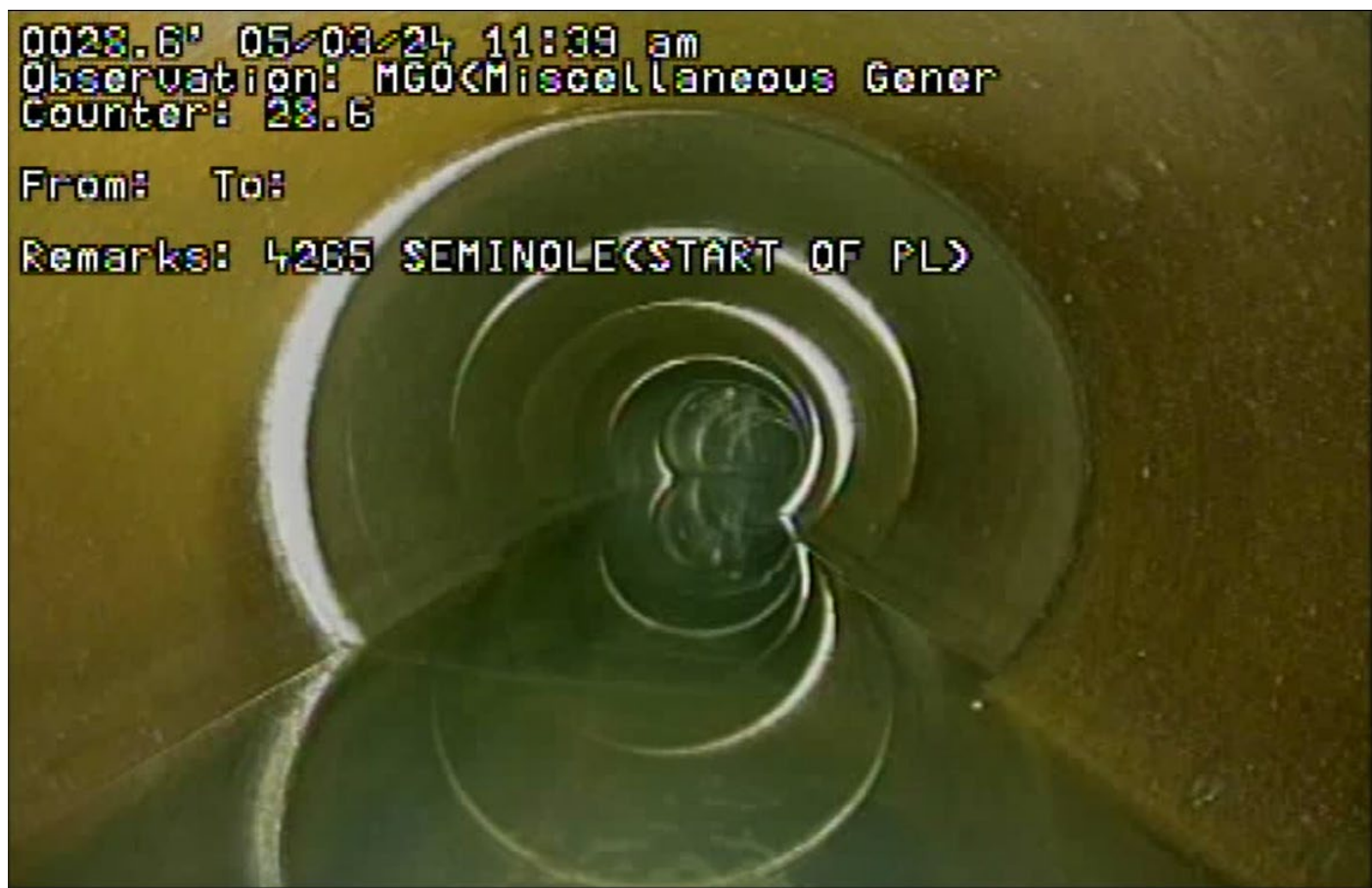
Eric Charles  
DWSD Maintenance and Repair Division  
EC/eg

Enclosure(s):  
Private Sewer Service Connection picture(s)

0028.6' 05/03/24 11:39 am  
Observation: MGO<Miscellaneous Gener  
Counter: 28.6

From: To:

Remarks: 4265 SEMINOLE<START OF PL>



4265 SEMINOLE

0046.4' 05/03/24 11:51 am  
Observation: TBA Tap Break-in Activi  
Counter: 46.4  
From: 11 To:  
Remarks: 4265 SEMINOLE UNDER CAVE-IN



4265 SEMINOLE  
DAMAGE PRIVATE LATERAL



0045.1' 05/03/24 1:26 PM  
Observation: MYUC Miscellaneous Due T  
Counter: 45.1  
From: To:  
Remarks: 4265 SEMINOLE UNDER CAVE-IN



4265 SEMINOLE  
DAMAGE PRIVATE LATERAL

0047.5' 05/03/24 11:55 am  
Observation: TBA Tap Break-in Activi  
Counter: 47.5  
From: 11 To:  
Remarks: 4265 SEMINOLE<20> OFFSET, UN



4265 SEMINOLE  
DAMAGE PRIVATE LATERAL