



DETROIT  
**Water & Sewerage  
Department**

Central Services Facility  
6425 Huber Ave.  
Detroit, MI 48211

Customer Care: 313-267-8000  
Emergencies: 313-267-7401  
detroitmi.gov/dwsd

August 15, 2018

Homeowner/Resident  
**13561 Memorial**  
Detroit, Michigan 48227

Dear Homeowner/Resident;

**RE: Cave-in Complaint in the Rear of 13566 Rutland** Detroit, MI 48227

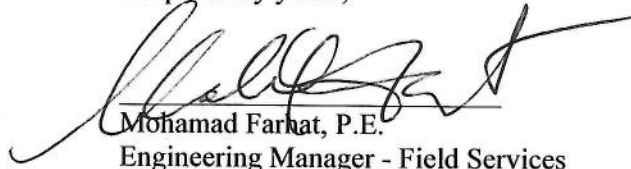
The cave-in in the rear of the property at 13566 Rutland has been investigated by the Detroit Water and Sewage Department (DWSD). DWSD conducted a thorough investigation to establish the facts regarding a customer's complaint about the cave-in. The complaint suggests that the cave-in in the back of the property at **13566 Rutland** was caused by failure or malfunction in assets owned and/or maintained by the Department. DWSD's investigation included Closed Circuit TV (CCTV) Inspection of the 18-inch public sewer and manholes in the alleyway in the rear of the property at 13566 Rutland. The investigation also included a Dye Test at the location of the cave-in and the result is explained below. The CCTV inspection of the 18-inch public sewer and manholes involved televising the public sewer and all private sewer service connections along the public sewer from the manhole in the middle of the alleyway between Memorial and Rutland, north of Davison, to a manhole in the T-Alley south of Schoolcraft. The CCTV investigation determined that there a **private service from the property of a neighbor has collapsed (approximately 80% collapse) and is the cause of the cave-in.**

The investigation also included Dye Test at the location of the cave-in directly behind **13566 Rutland** to help determine the cause of the Sinkhole. In this particular case, the dye test was positive through the collapsed private sewer service and a second sewer service connection belonging to the same neighbor. The positive dye test means both private sewer services from **the property** have failed with direct opening to the cave-in and are allowing water flow and soil migration from the cave-in through the private sewer service connections to the 18-inch public sewer. However, no blockage or failure was found on the 18-inch public sewer. The 18-inch public sewer has since been lined to prevent the public sewer from collapsing due to the cave-in caused by the failed private service.

The failed private sewer lead from **13566 Rutland** is the cause of the cave-in in the rear of the property at **13566 Rutland**. Detroit City Ordinance states that customers are responsible for the upkeep of their sewer service connections from the domicile up to the point of connection with the public sewer. The neighbor with the failed sewer service connection/line has been sent a letter informing the customer of their responsibility to repair the failed sewer line and the resultant cave-in.

I hope that the information provided above will be helpful in resolving this situation. If you have any further questions, please feel free to call Mr. Pei Boayue at 313-267-1255.

Respectfully yours,



Mohamad Farnat, P.E.  
Engineering Manager - Field Services

cc: DPW/File /DWS-900\_ER-110W-N