

Sewer Maintenance Department

Tom Dolly, Manager

The Sewer Department cleaned a total of 97,468 feet of sewer lines and televised 94,776 feet of sewer lines in 2021. The collection system has over 200 miles of sanitary sewers and storm lines. Cleaning and televising are an important process in maximizing flow of sewage to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and



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determining what needs to be repaired or replaced. Reports of larger sewer/storm infrastructure that need repair are often identified and sent to the Engineering Department for bidding.

The Sewer Department has 14 employees that do cleaning, televising, new sewer hookup inspections, sewer locates for digging, and repairs. The Sewer Department also assists the Street Department in the winter with plowing.

Video Surveillance Program

The Department has a planned video surveillance program with precise documentation of sewers that may need maintenance. The video inspection crew checks the integrity of the pipe, the condition of sanitary sewer laterals and validates repairs or lining.

The video surveillance crew records all visual data and all manually documented information gathered. This information is uploaded to the City GIS Department and Engineering for further study and updating of the City GIS Map. Inspections of new sewer system extensions through sewer televising are conducted to ensure that the construction meets our City specifications.



Video Inspection Truck

The video inspection trucks are also equipped with a lateral launch system that gives us the ability to televise residential laterals from the main line in the street up to the house to determine blockages or damage. We are also able to take our mini push-cam system into homes to televise from the house to the street to determine blockages or damage. In 2021, we televised over 1,972 feet of residential laterals at 32 homes with the push cam system for a grand total of 94,776 feet of main line and lateral lines televised.



Vactor Truck

The employees assigned to push-cam inspections may also do sewer locates for contractors, and follow-ups on residential issues. These employees performed 141 sewer excavation inspections in 2021.

Sewer Insurance Program

Over the past year, we had 213 calls from residents during normal working hours and 40 after hours requests for our personnel to check the sewer main. These calls ranged from homes with sewer problems, odors coming from the sewer line, water standing in the street or following up on contractor cleaned laterals.

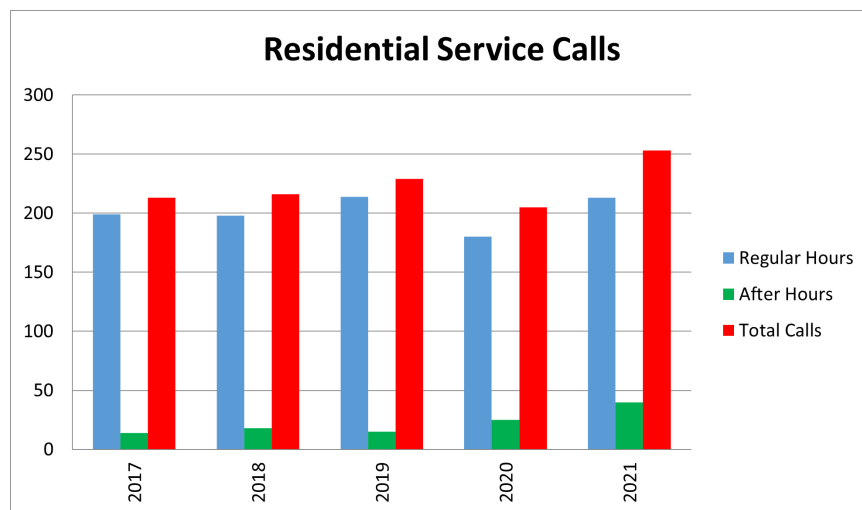
Of the 253 total calls, 58 residents qualified for the sewer insurance program. These 58 sewer insurance work order calls were taken; set-up and completed by our office personnel. These residents had repairs that ranged from a simple second opinion cleaning and 1-year guarantee against tree roots, to a more in-depth project such as an excavation and lateral repair. This program has proven to be very successful in assisting Mishawaka’s residents with the high cost of sewer lateral repairs. More of the specifics regarding the sewer insurance program can be found on our City’s website.



The Sewer Department continues to strive to improve its preventative maintenance programs and, through cost-effective measures, maintain the current level of services provided. Through its various programs, the division endeavors to preserve and maintain its major infrastructure system investment. Working together as a team with all Departments has proven to be one of the most important keys to success in 2021.



Sewer Maintenance Statistics



Maintenance Repair Summary

Sanitary & Combined Manhole Entry	7
Sanitary Main Repairs	0
Sanitary Manhole Repairs	15
Sanitary Manholes Replaced	0
Sanitary Manhole Invert Repairs	0
Sanitary Manhole Bench Repairs	0
Storm Grate Replaced or Repaired	0
Combined Manhole Raised to Grade or Exposed or Repaired	1
Storm Main Repairs	0
Storm Manhole Repairs	2
Combined Manhole Invert/Bench Repair	0
Storm Manhole Invert/Bench Repair	0
Storm Inlet Repairs/Replaced	14
Storm Catch Basin Repairs/Replaced	15
Combined Catch Basin Replaced/Repaired	1
Combined Inlets Repaired/Replaced	0

Bags of Concrete	168
Castings	4
Pre-Fabs	5
Risers	10
Sewer Permit Inspections	141
Water Tap Inspections	0
"As-Built" Inspections	7