

**Oakland Development Activities Meeting**  
**November 7, 2019, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Hosted by OPDC at 294 Semple Street**  
**Project: Lead line replacement program, Central Oakland**  
**Presenter: PWSA**

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PWSA began a program for lead line replacement in 2016 and secured funding to complete this. Initially, they just replaced public side, but people had issues with lead levels after the work. Then in 2017, the law changed to allow PWSA to be able to do the portion on private property. Can be done at no cost to owner if PWSA has the permission to do it. It is not automatic – the homeowner needs to give PWSA the right to replace the line. So, property owner would need document to give PWSA permission to replace the portion on private property.

The property owner may need to create access to the line on the property – interior access such as moving things around in the basement if needed.

If excavate through yard, PWSA will back fill, but replacing grass is the owner's responsibility.

They do trenchless technology. Rare that would have to dig on private property.

They will be completing the program in an area in Central Oakland shown on a map presented at the meeting. The work will start around the end of the year.

PWSA has sent out communications to property owners in the defined area. Property owners should have received a mailer last week (letter and agreement document)

PWSA will also do outreach. Want to make sure they connect with everyone. Robocalls. Door hangers.

When a property owner sends back the form, PWSA will come out with contractor, look at property/basement, talk about options for construction. Can opt out at any time before work. Send agreement back to get an in-person discussion.

[Customer Assistance Program](#) available if property is not in mapped area (income based program to assist people 250% poverty level or below)

Look up service line material on PWSA's [interactive map](#).

**Q:** Why can't they replace sewage lines while replacing water service lines? It is terrible. Atwood Street is sinking, leading to believe there are leaks.

**A:** Funding from the state is for lead service line replacements because that is an immediate need. PWSA is restricted to the work on lead lines. The lines are private to the main.

**Q:** Explain the trenchless process.

**A:** Pull the new line through. Or air compressor and hose.

**Q:** What about sidewalk?

**A:** PWSA will replace sidewalk.

**Q:** What about pouring cement in January?

**A:** PWSA won't replace the sidewalks until the weather gets better. They will put down gravel and then come back during warmer weather.

**Q:** What about if a line is shared with two houses, one behind the other?

**A:** If possible, try to separate services. PWSA can come out and talk about it on site.

**Q:** Can't I scrape it and see if it is lead?

**A:** Wes, but they check the PWSA side. If not lead on PWSA side, not going to touch anything.