

Sewer Lateral Replacement Finance Program: Your Questions Answered

What is the Sewer Lateral Replacement program?

While Central San is responsible for maintaining the public sewer system, each property owner is responsible for maintaining the private sewer lateral (also called a side sewer) that connects the plumbing in their home or business to Central San's sewer line.

Central San's new Sewer Lateral Replacement program provides **low-cost financing** to help customers replace their private sewer lateral or separate a shared lateral. The program is open to both residential and non-residential property owners within Central San's service area who agree to replace their entire sewer lateral all the way from the building to the sewer main in the street.

Why should I replace my sewer lateral?

Lateral problems can be caused by aging pipes, root intrusion, and other factors. A sewer lateral in poor condition can negatively affect the rest of the sewer system. Groundwater and rainwater can leak through a defective lateral and overload the system, causing sewage to back up into your home, yard, or street. When laterals fail, repairs and cleanup can be costly and unpleasant.

Replacing your lateral using polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe or pipebursting can reduce the risk of root intrusion, cracks, joint misalignment, and general leakage.

What costs are covered? Under the Sewer Lateral Replacement program, you may finance:

- Application and Inspection Fees
- Construction of a side sewer payable to third-party contractors

What are the financing terms?

Single-family residential customers with a 4-inch connection may finance up to **\$12,500**, repayable in annual installments over a 15-year term via the Contra Costa County Property Tax Roll. Both multi-family residential customers and non-residential customers with a 6-inch connection may finance up to **\$25,000**, repayable in annual installments over a 15-year term via the Contra Costa County Property Tax Roll. Costs are paid directly by Central San. **The current interest rate is 4.5%.*** There is no penalty for early pay-off.

The Sewer Lateral Replacement program is first come, first served until annual funding is exhausted. Once exhausted, customers must wait until the following fiscal year.

How long will this opportunity last?

The Sewer Lateral Replacement program starts **August 4, 2023** and extends through **June 30, 2026**.

Who should I contact for more information about the program?

Email us at sewerfinancing@centralsan.org or visit our website at centralsan.org/financing-programs.



*interest rate anticipated to change on July 1, 2025

Step by Step: How to Participate in the Lateral Replacement Program

- 1 Obtain contractor quotes to develop an estimate of the project costs.**
 - a)** Central San and the California Contractors State License Board recommend obtaining three quotes to make sure you get reasonable bids. An active contractor list is available from our Permit Desk.
 - b)** Send the bids to the Sewer Financing Coordinator at sewerfinancing@centralsan.org to begin processing.
 - c)** Once Central San approves a contractor bid for the project, ask your selected contractor to request permit fee quotes from the Permit Desk. Staff will need your parcel address, details of the job, and a completed Side Sewer Repairs/Alterations/Extensions Application.
- 2 Work with the Sewer Financing Coordinator to process the financing assistance by executing a promissory note and enter into a recordable Memorandum of Agreement with Central San.**
 - a)** You will be assessed administrative charges at the rates and in the manner established in the Schedule of Environmental and Development-Related Rates and Charges.
 - b)** Fees will be financed by Central San over a 15-year term at our current published rate of 4.5%.*
 - c)** Payments will be collected annually on your property tax bill.
- 3 Sign a contract with your selected contractor to replace your lateral or separate a shared lateral.**
- 4 Once the financial assistance paperwork is complete, your contractor can pick up the permit and begin work.**
- 5 Your contractor will complete the work with Central San inspection.**

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CONTACT US TO GET STARTED

Email sewerfinancing@centralsan.org
or visit centralsan.org/financing-programs

