



## CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

LAW DEPARTMENT  
One Parkway  
1515 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102-1595

### **GUIDELINES FOR THE INSPECTION AND PRESERVATION OF CITY OF PHILADELPHIA UTILITIES AND STREET OPENINGS LOCATED AT OR NEAR SOUTH JUNIPER STREET AND SANSOM STREETS, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

**TAKE NOTICE:** All persons having interest in the July 3, 2018 water main break that occurred at or near South Juniper and Sansom Streets, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (“subject location”). Effective immediately, these guidelines are being established for the inspection and preservation of City of Philadelphia utilities and street openings at or near the subject location.

1. On July 3, 2018 the City of Philadelphia Water Department (PWD) was notified of a large water main break at the subject location. Businesses in the area were affected and continue to be affected by this event.
2. In response to this event, PWD completed the design of a plan, and issued an emergency contract (collectively, “Emergency Project”) to replace broken water main and sewer infrastructure at the subject location.
3. The length of time to complete the project is not yet determined.
4. The project is complicated by the close quarters of multiple utilities underground and the need to safely perform work.
5. The intersection of Sansom and South Juniper streets is closed.
6. All interested persons and the City seek to complete the Emergency Project as soon as possible.
7. The City of Philadelphia has been in close consultation with businesses in the affected area. These businesses claim to have experienced loss in revenue because of this event. Business owners have expressed the need for the Emergency Project to be completed as soon as possible.
8. The City of Philadelphia has pledged to these business owners that it will work with all deliberate speed to complete the Emergency Project.
9. Representatives of interested persons have requested to examine the subject location.

10. While respecting the requests of various interested parties to examine the subject location, the City is determined to begin work on the Emergency Project in the very near future. Therefore, inspection of the subject location must be done quickly.
11. Before inspection and testing begins, the City of Philadelphia reserves the right to make determinations as to safe entry on and into the subject location. However, safe passage to the subject location cannot be guaranteed. The City may request that persons who enter the subject location execute a waiver of liability.
12. The City of Philadelphia does not represent that the subject location appears in the same condition as it did on July 3, 2018 immediately after the event. The City had to engage in emergency work to stop the flow of water and supply emergency, temporary service to certain customers. The City has made a good faith effort to preserve the site.
13. Interested parties, their representatives and experts will need to work cooperatively to ensure that inspection of the subject location takes place without unduly delaying the Emergency Project.
14. The City of Philadelphia will communicate with representatives of known, interested parties as to the status of the Emergency Project. The Water Department will designate a contact person for this purpose. Notices will also be placed on the Philadelphia Water Department's website, [www.phila.gov/water](http://www.phila.gov/water).
15. This is an emergency construction project and time is of the essence. Also, unexpected conditions may be encountered at the subject location. The City will attempt to give adequate notice as to the timing of work and how to access the subject location.
16. To inspect, repair and replace the infrastructure at the subject location, the City and/or its contractors will need to alter or destroy parts of the subject location. Experts retained by interested persons desire to engage in destructive testing at the subject location.
17. The City of Philadelphia and interested parties will make best efforts to coordinate the destruction and preservation of physical evidence at the subject location. This may include allowing for observation, videotaping and who will undertake actual destruction at the site.
18. The City and any interested party, including without limitation, experts, attorneys, insurance companies or third-party administrators acting on behalf of an interested party will work cooperatively to ensure proper physical storage and chain of custody

of material removed from the site. A written record of chain of custody shall be maintained by any person removing pieces of City of infrastructure from the subject location. Permission from the City of Philadelphia shall be obtained before destruction and any removal of material from the subject location.

19. A separate protocol for destructive testing of material may be created by the City of Philadelphia.
20. The City of Philadelphia and all interested parties reserve all rights, arguments and defences regarding these guidelines.
21. The City of Philadelphia Water Department's contact for questions concerning these Guidelines is:

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