

ADDRESS OF CERTIFICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

APN: \_\_\_\_\_

## City of Burlingame

501 Primrose Road, Burlingame, CA 94010 ~ Public Works Department, Division Engineering ~ Phone: 650-558-7230 ~ Fax: 650-685-9310

### **SEWER BACKWATER PROTECTION CERTIFICATION**

Per the Backwater Protection Ordinance No. 1710, whenever property undergoes new construction, remodel classified as "new" per Municipal Code 18.07.020, or addition of new drainage fixture unit, the property owner shall file with the Building Department, a written certificate by a licensed professional, determining whether any plumbing fixture, existing and/or proposed, has an inadequate height differential where sewer backflows may occur. If such a situation exists, the property owner shall provide the backwater protection described in section 18.12.080 or permanently remove the sanitary sewer drainage unit fixture or fixtures that have an inadequate height.

- **Inadequate height** differential means that the flood rim elevation of a fixture on a property's sanitary sewage system is **less than one foot above** the next upstream manhole or flushing inlet cover on the sanitary sewer main serving the fixture's piping.
- **Flood rim elevation** is defined as the point where liquid would be expected to flow out of the fixture or a combination of fixtures if the discharge pipe was capped or blocked. Example of common building fixtures' flood rim elevation:
  - Sinks, lavatories, urinals, or toilets: Top edge of the bowl
  - Stall shower: Edge of the shower curb
  - Bath tub: Top of tub
  - Washing machine discharge pipe: Top opening of the standing pipe
  - Floor drain: Lowest point of the drain opening
  - Commercial or custom fixtures may require determination by the licensed professional

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**Step 1:** **A licensed professional** must complete the Backwater Protection Certificate (on page 2) to determine whether a sewer backwater valve is required. The licensed professional shall sign and certify the elevation of the next uphill manhole from the flood rim of the lowest fixture on the property.

**The following must be submitted along with this certification form:**

- Sketch showing property line, footprint of structure(s) with lowest fixture, sewer lateral, City main and upstream manhole.
- City sanitary sewer map – Circle property address and nearest upstream manhole.
- Proof of professional license (i.e. Professional stamp with signature or contractor license).

The completed Backwater Protection Certificate must first be reviewed by the Engineering Department prior to submittal to the Building Department. For City map, questions, or examples regarding the certification process, please visit the Public Works Department at 501 Primrose Avenue, call 650-558-7230, or the City website at [www.burlingame.org](http://www.burlingame.org)

**Step 2:** A sewer backwater valve shall be installed for plumbing fixtures where the flood rim elevation of the plumbing fixtures are **less than one-foot above** the next upstream manhole in the public sewer. Contact the Building Department at (650) 558-7260 for sewer backwater valve minimum installation requirements. Obtain the required permits from the Building Department. Only the homeowner or a California licensed plumbing contractor can obtain the required permits.

**Step 1: A licensed professional shall complete the form below and certify whether sewer backwater protection is required.**

Provide the elevations, to the nearest one inch (1") or tenth of a foot (0.1') of the following. A licensed professional must complete, sign and certify the elevations.

|  | Elevation | Describe Location/<br>Manhole Number | Method(s) Used |
|--|-----------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Property Flood Rim<br>Elevation of Lowest Fixture<br>(Existing or proposed) |           |                                      |                |
| 2. Upstream Manhole<br>(Cover)   |           |                                      |                |
| 3. Elevation Difference  |           |                                      |                |

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SEWER BACKWATER PROTECTION CERTIFICATION</u></b></p> <p>Address of Certification: _____</p> <p>I, _____<br/>(Professional's Name, Company Name)</p> <p>(License: _____, Type: _____)</p> <p>hereby certify that I have surveyed, inspected and certify that <b>all</b> drainage fixtures, existing and/or new, within the structure(s) have flood level rim elevations of <b>at least one foot (1') above</b> the upstream manhole cover.</p> <p>Professional's Signature: _____</p> <p>Certification Date: _____</p> | <p><b>Sketch</b> - showing property line, footprint of structure(s) and lowest fixture, sewer lateral, City main and upstream manhole</p> |
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**Complete below when fixture(s) have flood rim elevation less than one foot above upstream manhole**

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SEWER BACKWATER PROTECTION CERTIFICATION</u></b></p> <p>Address of Certification: _____</p> <p>I, _____<br/>(Professional's Name, Company Name)</p> <p>(License: _____, Type: _____)</p> <p>hereby certify that I have surveyed, inspected and certify that there are drainage fixtures within the structure(s) with flood rim elevations <b>less than one foot (1') above</b> the upstream manhole cover. All required backwater valves or sewer ejectors together with all required building sewer relief valve(s) shall be installed per the latest California Plumbing Code, and that these devices will be fully operable.</p> <p>Professional's Signature: _____</p> <p>Certification Date: _____</p> | <p><b>Sketch</b> - showing property line, footprint of structure(s) and lowest fixture, sewer lateral, City main and upstream manhole</p> |
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