

MEMORANDUM

HOME SANITARY SEWER & WATER SERVICE CONNECTIONS

July 31, 2007

BACKGROUND

The Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety (MnOPS) in 2005 adopted new rules regarding locating utilities within public rights-of-way and easements. The new regulations now require the operators of utility systems to locate all utilities (including water and sanitary sewer services) within public rights-of-way and easements. The location information must include approximate horizontal and vertical information. These requirements are effective for all utilities installed after January 1, 2006.

CITY OF MOORHEAD SERVICE INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS

In response to these rule changes, the City of Moorhead is now installing sanitary sewer cleanouts on the sanitary sewer services in all new subdivisions installed after January 1, 2006. Cleanouts were also installed on several subdivisions built late in 2005 (Village Green 6th Addition – Phase 1, Johnson Farms Addition – Phase 1, Tessa Terrace 3rd Addition, and Prairie Meadows 1st Addition). The cleanouts are typically installed 10-feet beyond the right-of-way line and must remain in place as it is the method that the City Wastewater Department will use to verify the service location and depth. Homebuilders will be required to either connect to the existing 4-inch service stub that extends approximately 5 feet further into the lot from the cleanout, or else connect to the cleanout somewhere along the vertical riser as shown on the attached details. Homebuilders will also be responsible for adjusting the top of the cleanout to finished grade. Please note that there is a “marker disc” that must be attached to the threaded cap at the top of the cleanout riser. This disc is necessary for locating purposes, so the threaded cap needs to be salvaged and reinstalled when the cleanout is adjusted to finished grade. In some cases, the marker disc is glued to either the interior or the exterior of the cap. The current specified method is to provide a GPK threaded cap with a locator disc molded to the inside of the cap. Please note that the cleanouts installed in Johnson Farms are different from the typical City services – these services are 6-inch services (instead of 4-inch) and have two 45-degree bends at the end of the service instead of a wye connection. Also, the Johnson Farms and Tessa Terrace 3rd additions do not have threaded caps or marker discs.

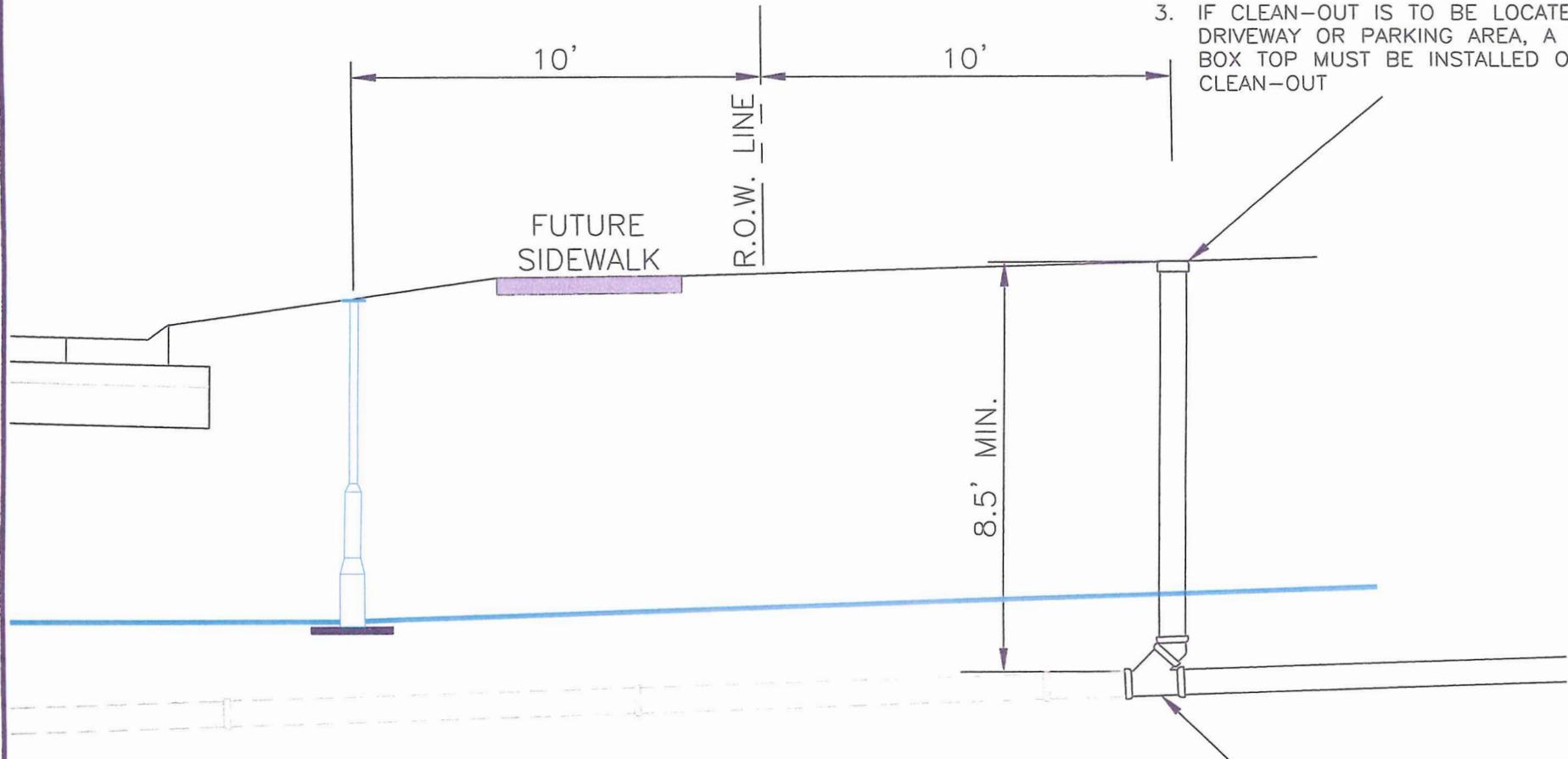
All new sanitary services need to be installed with cleanouts. When connecting to an existing service stub that does not have a cleanout, the homebuilders must install a cleanout per the attached detail at the point of connection.

The top of the cleanout shall either be adjusted to finished grade, or to within 4 to 6 inches of finished grade in grassed areas. Where cleanouts are located in driveways or parking areas, a gate valve box top needs to be installed over the cleanout to protect it and provide access.

Moorhead Public Service (MPS) is using tracer wire on all new watermain and water services to assist in locating their underground utilities. For water services in subdivisions constructed after January 1, 2006, the tracer wire must be extended to the house and brought up along the exterior wall of the house at the point where the service enters the building so that MPS personnel can locate the services. This requirement only applies for water services in subdivisions that were constructed after January 1, 2006, as there is no wire to extend on services constructed before this date.

Tom Trowbridge
Assistant City Engineer
City of Moorhead

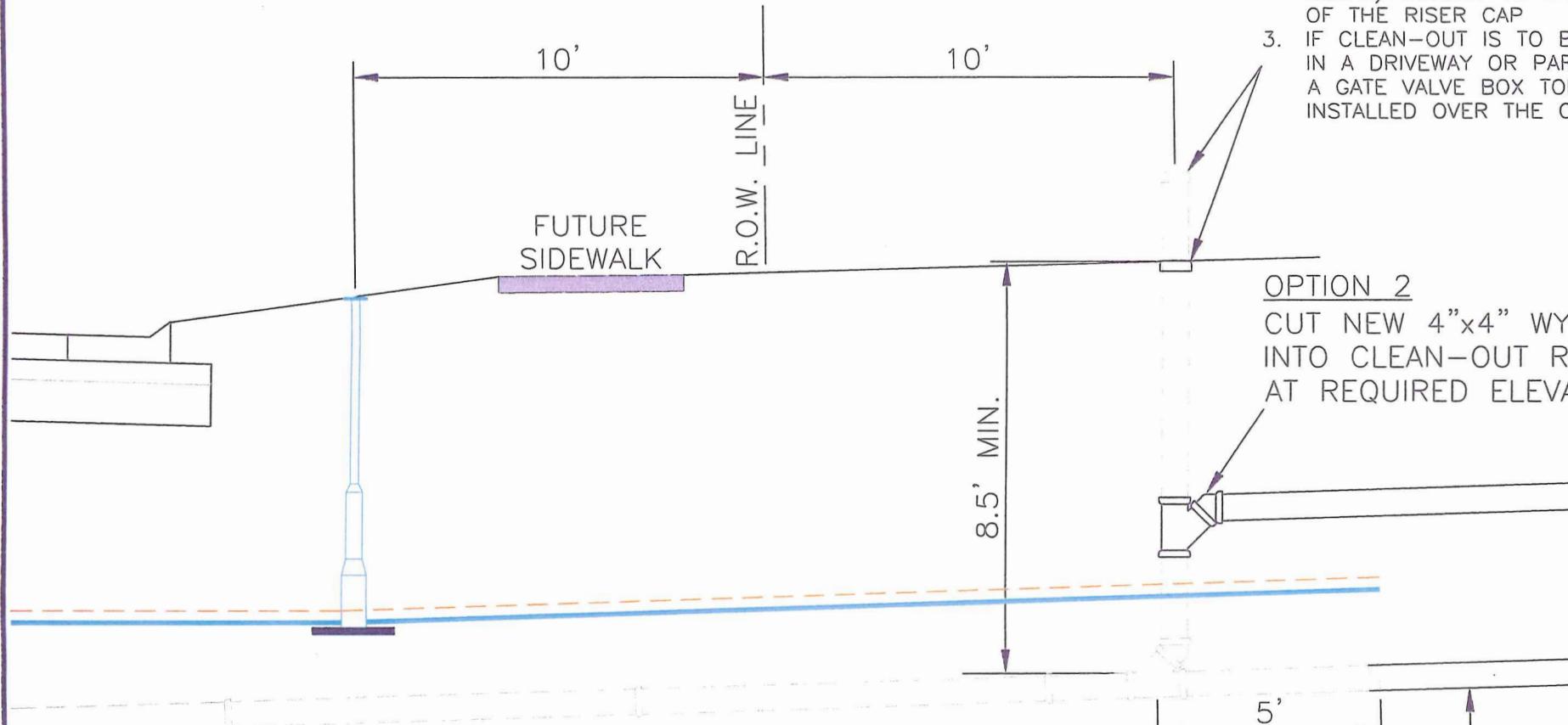
1. CUT CLEAN-OUT RISER OFF TO FINISHED GRADE
2. INSTALL 4" THREADED CAP w/LOCATING DISC (GPK SMART PLUG OR APPROVED EQUAL) MOLDED TO THE INTERIOR OF THE RISER CAP
3. IF CLEAN-OUT IS TO BE LOCATED IN A DRIVEWAY OR PARKING AREA, A GATE VALVE BOX TOP MUST BE INSTALLED OVER THE CLEAN-OUT



FOR NEW HOMES OR SERVICE REPAIRS IN
SUBDIVISIONS CONSTRUCTED PRIOR TO
JANUARY 1, 2006

TYPICAL HOUSE CONNECTION TO SERVICES

NOT TO SCALE



1. CUT CLEAN-OUT RISER OFF TO FINISHED GRADE
2. SALVAGE & REINSTALL 4" THREADED CAP w/LOCATING DISC (GPK SMART PLUG OR APPROVED EQUAL) MOLDED TO THE INTERIOR OF THE RISER CAP
3. IF CLEAN-OUT IS TO BE LOCATED IN A DRIVEWAY OR PARKING AREA, A GATE VALVE BOX TOP MUST BE INSTALLED OVER THE CLEAN-OUT

FOR NEW HOMES IN SUBDIVISIONS
CONSTRUCTED AFTER JANUARY 1, 2006

TYPICAL HOUSE CONNECTION TO SERVICES

NOT TO SCALE