

November 21, 2018

Dear Residents (Upstream of Seneca Lane Mudslide Sewer Repair Project):

**Re: Request for your Help and an Update Regarding the Seneca Lane Mudslide Sewer Repair Project - Crystal Springs County Sanitation District**

The Crystal Springs County Sanitation District (District), which is administered by the County of San Mateo Department of Public Works, sent a postcard to you on October 31, 2017. The postcard informed you of a meeting held at the Highlands Elementary School on November 14, 2017 regarding the damage to the District's sanitary sewer main in the easement behind 1560 Seneca Lane due to a mudslide in connection with the January 2017 winter storms. The meeting presentation can be accessed from the following location:

<https://publicworks.smcgov.org/crystal-springs-county-sanitation-district>

**Temporary Bypass Pumping System and Inappropriate Items**

Enclosed is a map and list of addresses, "Connections Upstream of 1560 Seneca Ln", that depict the 47 properties (including your property) that rely on the sewer pipe that was damaged by the mudslide. Until the sewer pipe within the mudslide area can be permanently repaired, sewage is being pumped from the upstream sewer manhole to the next downstream sewer manhole across the mudslide area (temporary bypass pumping system).

The temporary bypass pumping system works well when it is pumping what it is meant for, human waste and toilet paper, also known as the 3 Ps (Pee, Poop, and [toilet] Paper). The system cannot handle other materials, which can cause pump failure and blockages. The District has responded to numerous sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) at this location since the bypass pumping system has been installed. In most instances, the causes of the SSOs were due to blocks of grease and household items that have inappropriately been introduced into the sewer system. These items have and will continue to cause the pump to malfunction and create blockages in the sewer system.

We need your help to keep the bypass pumping system functional, by only using the sewer facilities for what they are meant for (3 Ps). We have included two photographs depicting the types of materials the District has removed from this bypass system. The material shown in the photographs include: tampons, sanitary napkins, personal hygiene products, condoms, gloves, diapers, diaper and make-up wipes, cleaning wipes advertised as "Flushable" material, toys, clothing, shredded paper and credit cards, and grease. These items have caused the bypass pumping system to fail and without your attention and help, these failures will continue. ***Please be mindful of the sewer system and do your part to prevent system failures by using the sewer system appropriately.***



The District incurs expenses responding to SSOs, which impact your sewer service fees. Materials that do not belong in the sanitary sewer system may have been improperly introduced into the sewer system and have caused or contributed to sewer pipe blockages. Knowledge and simple precautions can help prevent SSOs, costly cleanup, and expensive repairs. The two enclosed brochures contain information regarding your sewer system and how you can help in preventing blockages in sewer pipes and SSOs. Please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself, your family, and any household helpers with this important information, so you can do your part to reduce sewer system blockages and the costs associated with SSOs.

### **Seneca Lane Mudslide Sewer Repair Project (Project) Update**

At the November 14, 2017 meeting referenced above, we informed the attendees that the District would seek funding from the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) and the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) to help with replacing the sewer main. We have continued to pursue this funding, but unfortunately CalOES and FEMA have not approved funding as they are currently conducting the environmental review for the Project. We will not be able to construct the Project this year as winter is upon us. The conditions of the winterization measures that were installed last year were recently assessed and a contractor will be making repairs to the existing winterization measures in the next couple of weeks.

While the District continues to work with CalOES and FEMA to secure funding for the Project, the District must continue to rely upon the temporary bypass pumping system described above.

**Thank you for your cooperation, help, and interest in keeping your sewer system working properly.** If you have questions or concerns, please contact us at (650) 363-4100.


**Happy Thanksgiving!**


**“Stuff the Turkey, Not the Sewer”**


# Connections Upstream of 1560 Seneca Ln

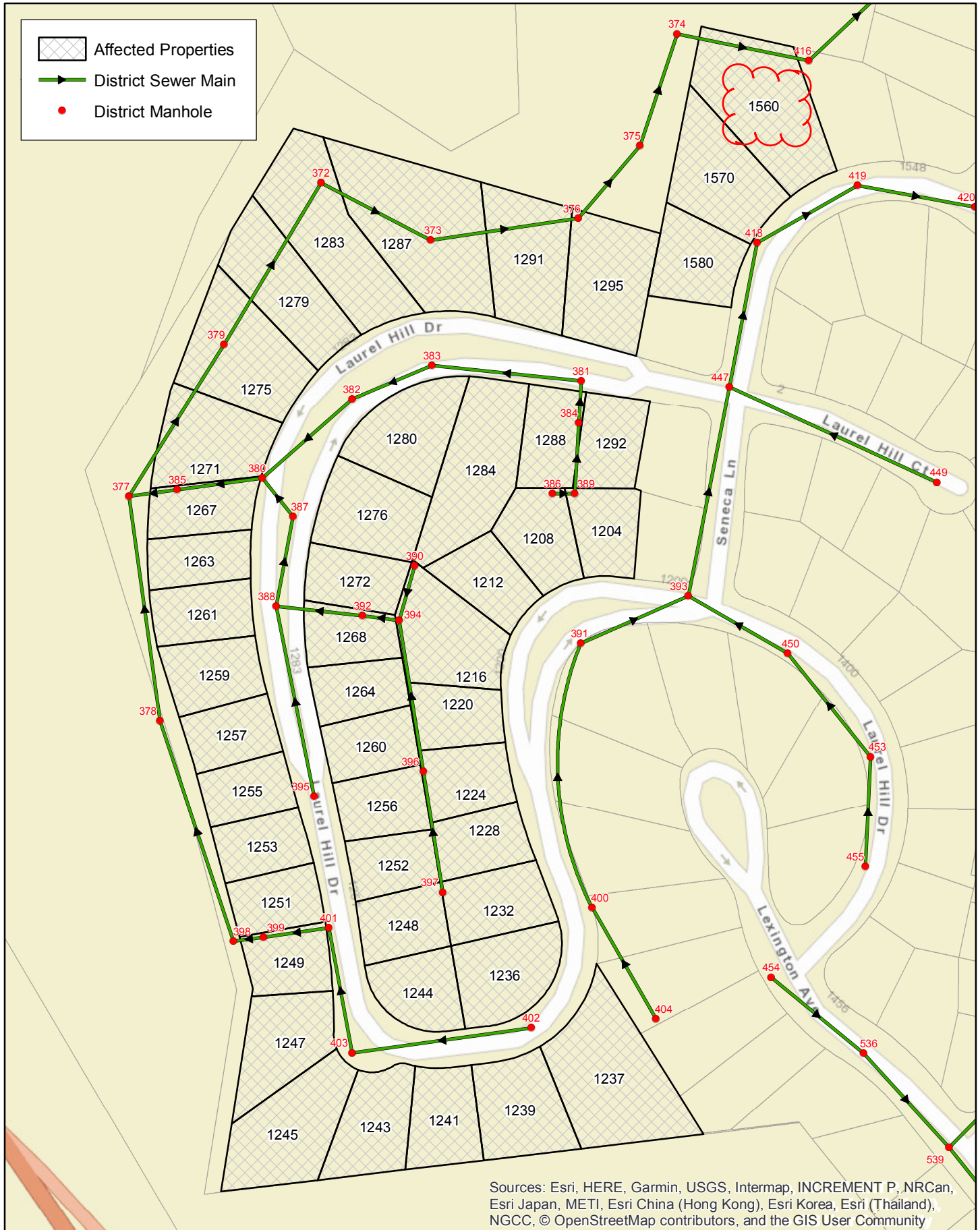
SMCO DPW 11/21/2018



 Affected Properties

 District Sewer Main

 District Manhole



Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

**List of Properties Upstream of 1560 Seneca Ln  
Crystal Springs County Sanitation District**

- |                         |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. 1204 Laurel Hill Dr  | 25. 1259 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 2. 1208 Laurel Hill Dr  | 26. 1260 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 3. 1212 Laurel Hill Dr  | 27. 1261 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 4. 1216 Laurel Hill Dr  | 28. 1263 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 5. 1220 Laurel Hill Dr  | 29. 1264 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 6. 1224 Laurel Hill Dr  | 30. 1267 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 7. 1228 Laurel Hill Dr  | 31. 1268 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 8. 1232 Laurel Hill Dr  | 32. 1271 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 9. 1236 Laurel Hill Dr  | 33. 1272 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 10. 1237 Laurel Hill Dr | 34. 1275 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 11. 1239 Laurel Hill Dr | 35. 1276 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 12. 1241 Laurel Hill Dr | 36. 1279 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 13. 1243 Laurel Hill Dr | 37. 1280 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 14. 1244 Laurel Hill Dr | 38. 1283 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 15. 1245 Laurel Hill Dr | 39. 1284 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 16. 1247 Laurel Hill Dr | 40. 1287 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 17. 1248 Laurel Hill Dr | 41. 1288 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 18. 1249 Laurel Hill Dr | 42. 1291 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 19. 1251 Laurel Hill Dr | 43. 1292 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 20. 1252 Laurel Hill Dr | 44. 1295 Laurel Hill Dr |
| 21. 1253 Laurel Hill Dr | 45. 1560 Seneca Ln      |
| 22. 1255 Laurel Hill Dr | 46. 1570 Seneca Ln      |
| 23. 1256 Laurel Hill Dr | 47. 1580 Seneca Ln      |
| 24. 1257 Laurel Hill Dr |                         |

**Materials Removed from the Bypass System that have Caused Blockages  
and Pump Failures**

(Materials include: tampons, sanitary napkins, personal hygiene products, condoms, gloves, diapers, diaper and make-up wipes, cleaning wipes advertised as “Flushable” material, toys, clothing, and shredded paper and credit cards)



**Chunks of Grease Removed from Bypass Pumping System**

(Fats, Oils, and Grease [FOG] – belong in the garbage can)

