

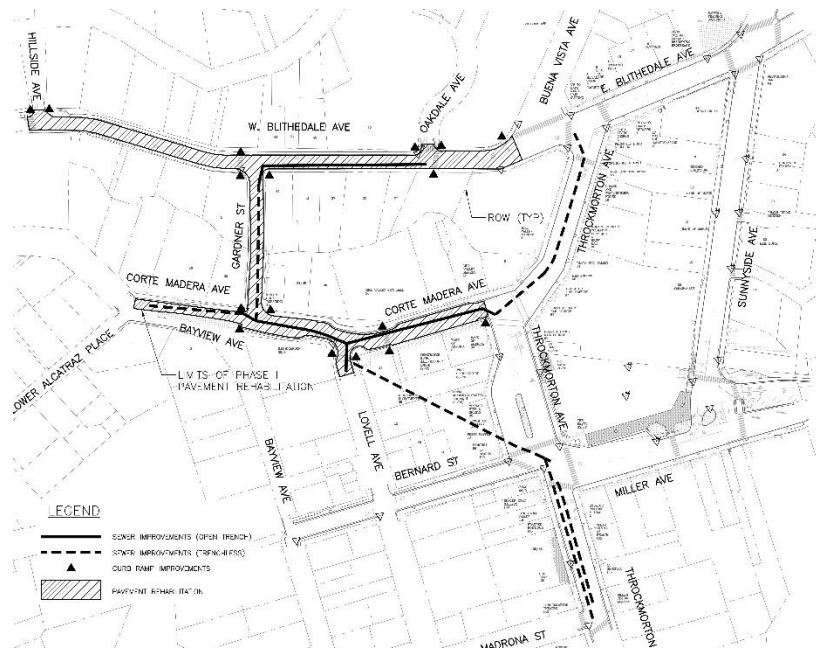


## Downtown Project

TRENCHLESS SEWER REHABILITATION INFO | January 2020

The Downtown Project includes 12 segments of downtown sewer that require repair. City engineers have determined that most of the work – 9 out of 12 segments – can be repaired with methods that require minimal digging of trenches in the street, and instead use manholes or pits to access the sewer lines.

These less intrusive pipe rehabilitation methods are called “Pipe bursting” and “Cured-in Place Pipe” or CIPP and they involve minimal impacts to the street, sidewalks and parking.



Engineers anticipate that the Pipe Bursting method will be applied to Throckmorton (between Corte Madera and E. Blithedale). The CIPP method will be used on Gardner St, Corte Madera (between Gardner and Lower Alcatraz), Throckmorton (between Miller and Madrona) and where the sewer crosses under buildings.

### IMPACTS TO YOU

- **Timing:** Construction will be phased, so that the impacts are concentrated in one segment of roadway at a time – usually 3-7 days in any one location. Construction will generally take place Monday-Friday, from 8 am to 5 pm. There may be some night work, depending on the construction phasing and community needs.
- **Service Connections:** During the sewer lining process, service connections will be temporarily closed off for a few hours. Every service lateral will be fully opened and back in service by the end of each workday.
- **Odor:** For locations that will be treated with the CIPP method, downtown community members may detect a chemical odor. This is the smell of styrene, a component of the resin used to saturate the sewer liner. This odor will quickly dissipate once the installation process is complete. Please see the section on the next page for additional information.

Additional anticipated impacts include some parking restrictions, traffic, temporary disruptions to delivery schedules and access, dust and noise. The City project team is committed to mitigating construction impacts and will work with individual businesses to make sure they are informed in advance of the work, and accommodations are made whenever possible to lessen disruptions to daily operations.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

- **Before Sewer CIPP Work Begins:** Pour a gallon of water into sinks, floor drains, or other drainage openings, especially those that are seldom used and whose traps may be empty of water, before the contractor begins sewer lining work. This should prevent any odor from entering your building or home.
- **During Sewer CIPP Work:** It is important that while this work is being performed you limit activities that utilize large volumes of water, such as doing laundry, dishwashing, flushing toilets and bathing. If you do detect an odor, simply open your windows and/or turn on a fan to help ventilate the building. This level of concentration of airborne styrene does not pose a health risk.

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: STYRENE

The City of Mill Valley has used the CIPP sewer rehabilitation method, using the chemical styrene in projects such as: the 2019 Wastewater Treatment Plant Sewer Rehabilitation Project, the 2017 Miller Avenue Streetscape Project, and the 2017 Sycamore Avenue Sewer Lining Project, among many others.

### What is styrene?

Styrene is a clear, colorless liquid that is used in the production of many everyday products such as plastic packaging, counter tops, disposable cups and containers, insulation and others. We are constantly exposed to small amounts of styrene in both ambient and indoor air, mostly attributable to emissions from building materials, and consumer products.



### How is styrene used in the sewer repair process?

To repair the sewers, contractors will install a resin-saturated felt tube that later hardens into a strong “pipe-within-a-pipe.” Styrene is used in the resin that makes up the outside of the new pipe.

### Will I smell styrene odors when the Contractor is rehabilitating nearby sewers?

Styrene can be detected by its smell even when there are very small amounts of the chemical present. As a result, persons living or working along the sewer lines may notice styrene’s distinct plastic smell during the new cured-in-place pipe process.

### Do the styrene odors released during the sewer CIPP rehabilitation process pose a risk to my health?

The release of styrene during the sewer CIPP rehabilitation process does not pose a significant risk to human health or the surrounding environment. Most people, even if able to detect the styrene odor, have no reaction or symptoms.

### What will the City do to monitor air quality?

The City will require the contractor to provide Air Quality Monitoring during CIPP installation. If the readings exceed those allowed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, then they are required to stop work immediately and notify the Construction Manager.

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**LEARN MORE:** Project Website: [www.cityofmillvalley.org/downtownproject](http://www.cityofmillvalley.org/downtownproject)

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