



SHAKER HEIGHTS

Memorandum

To: Finance Committee

From: Ramona Lowery-Ferrell, Director, Public Works

cc: Mayor David E. Weiss
 Chief Administrative Officer Matt Carroll
 Christian Maier, Asst. Director of Public Works Infrastructure
 Anthony Smith, Sewer & Streets Superintendent

Date: February 17, 2026

Re: **Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works 2026 Sewer Maintenance Agreement**

Since 2012, the City of Shaker Heights has been using the Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works (CCDPW) to augment Public Works staff related to sewer maintenance activities and capital improvements. In general, these services consisted of cleaning and inspection of laterals & mains. Public Works has also used the County to perform sewer repairs and other improvements such as installation of cured in place pipes (CIPP) liners to reduce infiltration & inflow and manhole rehabilitation. When conducting extensive sewer repairs and CIPP liners, the County also provides an engineer and inspector to ensure quality control. As depicted in the table below, Public Works use of CCDPW's has varied over the past 13 years.

YEAR	MAINTENANCE	CAPITAL	TOTAL
2012	\$260,000.00	\$0.00	\$260,000.00
2013	\$300,000.00	\$37,632.50	\$337,632.50
2014	\$592,000.00	\$0.00	\$592,000.00
2015	\$400,000.00	\$400,790.00	\$800,790.00
2016	\$400,000.00	\$749,732.00	\$1,149,732.00
2017	\$225,000.00	\$282,118.00	\$507,118.00
2018	\$95,000.00	\$1,563,189.00	\$1,658,189.00
2019	\$112,500.00	\$2,175,873.00	\$2,288,373.00
2020	\$115,000.00	\$0.00	\$115,000.00
2021	\$200,000.00	\$574,892.00	\$774,892.00
2022	\$110,164.00	\$225,000.00	\$335,164.00
2023	\$175,000.00	\$315,000.00	\$490,000.00
2024	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00
2025	\$50,000.00	\$450,000.00	\$500,000.00
Total =	\$3,134,664.00	\$6,774,226.50	\$9,908,890.50

The original contract with CCDPW was renewed annually. In December 2025, the County provided a new agreement that would be effective for 2026, with the option to renew in 2027. The core services provided by the County would essentially remain the same. The new agreement would have an annual cap of \$500,000. Given the new direction of the Department to perform more sewer maintenance activities “in-house”, this amount is a reasonable. Funds would come from a combination of sewer maintenance and sewer capital. CCDPW services provides another resource the City can use for sewer maintenance and select capital improvement projects.

We presented our recommendation to the Safety & Public Works Committee on February 5, 2026 and it was passed unanimously.

Citizen member Hren inquired if our request includes extending the option to renew the contract for 2027. No, Public Works will come back in 2027 for a contract renewal.

Council member Chengelis asked is the \$500,000 cap was reasonable. Yes, Public Works has reviewed previous years sewer maintenance efforts and feels the \$500,000 cap is reasonable.

Council member Moore mentioned her surprise at the reduction in sewer maintenance costs for services provided by the County. Director Lowery-Ferrell stated the Department is going in a new direction and we are performing more sewer services “in-house”. Additional equipment, such as the camera truck, the hiring of a Sewer Superintendent and the creation of a sewer department has enabled the Department to provide sewer maintenance services to residents, with less reliance on the County.

We are seeking support from the Finance Committee to enter into an agreement with Cuyahoga County Department of Public Works for Sewer Maintenance services in the amount of \$500,000.