



JERSEY CITY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

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PROCEDURE TO OBTAIN A CREDIT FOR VOLUNTARY LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

Only For Use in the Jersey City Water Supply System

Date: **August 2023**

Background

On July 22, 2021, legislation was passed into law for mandatory lead service line replacement, “NJ Bill A5343/S3398,” P.L.2021, Ch. 183, effective immediately upon signature. Public community water systems are now required to inventory and replace all known lead service lines (LSLs) and address all service lines of unknown materials in their service areas by July 22, 2031. Pursuant to this legislation, all lead service lines in the Jersey City Water Supply System will be replaced through the new Lead Free JC Program. This Program is projected to cost approximately \$288 million over the next ten years, however the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority (JCMUA) has applied for numerous state and federal grants, infrastructure funding, and no interest loans to reduce the costs of the project. It is the goal of this program to be fully funded by grants and low interest loans so that there will be no direct costs for the customer for LSL replacement. Information regarding this program is available at www.leadfreejc.com and through the Lead Free JC Program at (201) 365-6189. Note that Jersey City’s water is tested regularly and has not exceeded state or federal lead levels, making it safe to consume for everyone.

All properties with known lead services lines will automatically be scheduled for replacement over the next 10 years. JCMUA expects to replace approximately 1,000 lead service lines per year. Properties will be prioritized based on factors including but not limited to the targeting of known lead service lines, lead service line replacement for disadvantaged consumers and populations most sensitive to the effects of lead, in accordance with federal regulations. We understand that many Customers will voluntarily replace their LSL in advance of the Lead Free JC Program schedule. These LSLs may be replaced as a result of a leaking service repair or as a proactive measure, among other reasons. It has been the intent of the Lead Free JC Program to incentivize the voluntary replacement of LSLs throughout the City. Following adoption of Jersey City Ordinance No. 23-022 and JCMUA Board of Commissioners Resolution No. 7/23/6, the JCMUA has been authorized to provide credit applied to the Customer’s water bill when voluntary LSL replacement is performed. This will be a one-time credit that is non-transferable and ends with change of ownership or sale of the property.

Procedures

This procedure has been prepared to provide requirements to be followed by Customers who voluntarily replace LSL and would like to obtain a credit on their water service bill. This procedure applies only to

LSL replacements within the Jersey City Water Supply System subsequent to July 22, 2021. The objective is for Customers to obtain a credit on their water bill in order to offset the upfront cost incurred for the LSL replacement. This will be a one-time credit that is non-transferable and ends with change of ownership or sale of the property.

The following procedures must be followed by Customers to be eligible for a credit for voluntary LSL replacement:

- LSL Replacements must be performed by a licensed plumber and in accordance with all applicable laws and codes. The Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) requires that full LSL replacement be performed. Partial replacements are not eligible for credit.
- Customers are required to complete the **Self-Report Your Service Line Material** form located at www.leadfreejc.com and submit to JCMUA including photos of the LSL to be replaced.
- Coordination with City of Jersey City and JCMUA must be performed to verify the existence of an LSL and all necessary permits must be obtained prior to replacement of the LSL.
- Following replacement of the LSL, the Customer is required to submit the following information to JCMUA:
 - Executed JCMUA Self-Report Your Service Line Material form;
 - Copies of closed permits as required to perform the LSL replacement;
 - Verification from a licensed plumber that the LSL has been replaced, including the cost to perform the work, quantities of material replaced, and proof of payment for the replacement work; and
 - Photographs of the existing lead service line before replacement and also the new service line.

The JCMUA will review the information provided by the Customer following voluntary LSL replacement. If it is determined that the Customer is eligible for a credit, the Board of Commissioners may approve a one-time credit of up to \$10,000 which will be applied to the Customer's future water service charges. Note that the credit cannot exceed the actual cost to complete the work. No credit shall be applied to users with delinquent water bills or property liens. This credit is non-transferable and ends with change of ownership or sale of the property where the lead service line was replaced. The application to obtain a credit for voluntary lead service line replacement is available at www.leadfreejc.com.