

	Department of Design and Construction	SPECIFICATION BULLETIN	SB 26-007
Title: SEWERS TO BE KEPT CLEAN; BYPASS FLOW OF SEWERS AND DRAINS AND TEMPORARY SERVICES; REMOVING AND ABANDONING SEWERS, WATER MAINS, ETC.			
Prepared: 6/1/2026		Approved: 6/1/2026	
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Date		Date	

APPLICABILITY:

- This Specification Bulletin (SB) is effective for projects advertised on or after 7/1/2026.

SUPERSEDEENCE:

- This SB supersedes the following SBs: **None.**

ATTACHMENTS:

1. *Section 10.13 (2 pages)*

REVISIONS TO THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION STANDARD SEWER AND WATER MAIN SPECIFICATIONS, DATED 8/8/2022:

All references contained below are to the New York City Department of Environmental Protection Standard Sewer and Water Main Specifications, Dated August 8, 2022. Said Standard Specifications are hereby revised as follows:

- a. **Refer** to Section 10.13 – Sewers To Be Kept Clean; Bypass Flow of Sewers and Drains and Temporary Services; Removing and Abandoning Sewers, Water Mains, Etc.
Delete in its entirety Section;
Substitute the revised Section in Attachment 1 (2 pages)

For questions regarding this bulletin, please contact Richard Jones, jonesri@ddc.nyc.gov.

10.13 SEWERS TO BE KEPT CLEAN; BYPASS FLOW OF SEWERS AND DRAINS AND TEMPORARY SERVICES; REMOVING AND ABANDONING SEWERS, WATER MAINS, ETC.

(A) INITIAL CLEANING AND SEWERS TO BE KEPT CLEAN AT ALL TIMES

- (1) The Contractor must immediately remove and dispose of all offensive matter prior to commencement of Work. During the course of the Work, and until the completion and acceptance thereof, the sewers, drains, basins, culverts, and connections built under this Contract must be kept thoroughly clean, including upstream and downstream flushing at least from one manhole on both sides, and must be free from all defects due to poor materials or workmanship.
- (2) All existing catch basins located in the streets in which sewers are to be constructed within the limits of the Contract must be cleaned and connections flushed. Cleaning must be performed after final restoration is completed and prior to the final inspection.
- (3) Unless otherwise specified, the cost of cleaning the existing catch basins and connections must be deemed included in the prices bid for all items of Work.

(B) BYPASS FLOW SYSTEM OF SEWERS AND DRAINS AND TEMPORARY SERVICES, ETC.

- (1) The Contractor must provide, at the Contractor's own cost, for the bypass flow system of the sewers, drains, temporary services, and watercourses that are interrupted during the course of the Work. The flow throughout the entire length of such sewers and appurtenances to be replaced by the Work to be done under this Contract must be maintained by the Contractor. The Contractor, as directed by the Engineer and at the Contractor's own cost and expense, must remove all bulkheads from the sewers with which the Work under this Contract will be connected.
- (2) Wherever the Work to be built under this Contract, or the trench in which it is to be constructed, follows the line and occupies the place of or intercepts any existing sewer, drain, culvert, basin connection, or house connection, the Contractor must connect the same with the sewer built under this Contract.
- (3) Where the Contractor's construction operation requires the cutting of house connection drains, or where house connection drains are inadvertently cut or broken, the Contractor must immediately restore service by installation of temporary pipe, pumping or fluming, or by permanent reconstruction as directed by the Engineer. Temporary house connection services provided in accordance with the above must be replaced by permanent construction before the backfilling of the new sewer to which the house connection drains are to be reconnected.
- (4) The costs of providing temporary services, including street drainage, must be deemed included in the prices bid for all items of Work.
- (5) At no time will the Contractor be permitted to use open troughs or use the trench as a flume.
- (6) Prior to starting construction, the Contractor must submit the Contractor's method of fluming to the Engineer. The Contractor must provide and construct flumes, temporary sewers, dams and other facilities necessary to divert or otherwise take care of and maintain the flow in the existing sewer, including all incidental Work without separate payment. The cost thereof must be deemed included in the prices bid for all items of this Contract or otherwise mentioned herein below as directed by the Engineer.
- (7) Wherever upstream sewers have flow capacity greater than ten (10) MGD (million gallons per day), fluming and/or bypass-pumping must be performed in accordance with **Section 76.41** or other methods submitted by the Contractor and approved by the Engineer in writing. Payment for this Work must be made under Item No. 76.41 – BYPASS PLAN.

(C) REMOVING AND ABANDONING SEWERS, WATER MAINS, ETC.

- (1) All sewers, water mains, drains, culverts, basins, basin connections, structures, and all portions of any watercourse in, through, or across any street or easement rendered unnecessary by the

construction of the Work herein contemplated must be removed or abandoned as indicated on the plans or as specified or directed by the Engineer.

- (2) In general, sewers, drains, culverts, basins, basin connections, manholes, etc., physically interfering with the construction must be removed and all others must be abandoned, except as otherwise noted on the plans or as specified or directed by the Engineer.
- (3) The cost of removing and abandoning existing sewers, water mains, drains, etc., including the breaking down and filling in of inlets, basins, manholes, valve chambers and other appurtenant structures, must be at the expense of the Contractor and must be deemed included in the prices bid for all items of Work. No separate or additional payment will be made for the removal and abandoning of existing sewers, water mains, drains, etc., including the breaking down and filling in of inlets, basins, manholes, valve chambers, and other appurtenant structures, unless there are specific items provided for in the Bid Schedule.
- (4) Unless otherwise specified, where inlets, basins, manholes, and other appurtenant structures are to be abandoned on existing sewers, drains, etc., the Contractor at the Contractor's own expense must bulkhead all pipe connection openings to existing structures, must remove all castings off existing structures, must break down existing structures to a depth four (4) feet below final grade, must break up the existing structures' bottom slab in such a manner as to prevent water from being trapped, and must fill in and compact the existing structures' entire openings in accordance with **Subsection 40.06.3** and as directed by the Engineer. Unless specific items are provided for in the Bid Schedule, the cost of this Work must be deemed included in the prices bid for all items of Work.
- (5) Unless otherwise specified, where water mains are to be abandoned, the Contractor at the Contractor's own expense, must remove all valves, hydrants, valve boxes and covers off mains, and must seal all ends of mains. In addition, valve chambers must have their heads and covers removed, must be broken down to a depth four (4) feet below final grade, must have bottom slab broken up in such a manner as to prevent water from being trapped, and must have the entire opening filled in and compacted in accordance with **Subsection 40.06.3** and as directed by the Engineer. Unless specific items are provided for in the Bid Schedule, the cost of this Work must be deemed included in the prices bid for all items of Work.
- (6) Wherever sewers, water mains, etc., are to be abandoned, the abandoned items must be hydraulically filled with an excavatable flowable fill or properly capped, or other method(s) submitted by the Contractor and approved by the Engineer in writing, in accordance with **Section 72.11**. Payment for this Work must be made under Item No. 72.11HF - HYDRAULIC FILL FOR ABANDONED SEWERS AND WATER MAINS.