

 Department of Design and Construction		SPECIFICATION BULLETIN	SB 26-008
Title: BYPASS PLAN			
Prepared: 6/1/2026		Approved: 6/1/2026	
Mohammad Mahmud, P.E. Date Director, Specifications		How Sheen Pau, P.E. Date Associate Commissioner – Infrastructure Design	

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 76.41 (3 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 76.41 – Bypass Plan
Add the new Section in Attachment 1 (3 pages)

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

SECTION 76.41 – BYPASS PLAN

76.41.1 INTENT

This section intends to list the requirements for developing a bypass plan for fluming and/or bypass-pumping to bypass flow of the sewers wherever flow capacity of upstream sewers is greater than ten (10) MGD (million gallons per day). The bypass plan will ensure, divert, or otherwise take care of and maintain the flow in the existing sewer, including all incidental work without separate payment.

76.41.2 SPECIAL EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT

The Contractor or subcontractor performing the Work under this section must, within the last five (5) consecutive years prior to the bid opening, have successfully completed a minimum of two (2) bypass projects of similar or greater scope and complexity.

76.41.3 SUBMISSION OF BYPASS PLAN

- (A) Prior to the start of Work, the Contractor must submit a fluming/bypass-pumping detail in accordance with **Subsection 10.13(B)** for the Engineer to review and approval. This fluming/bypass-pumping diagram must detail the Contractor's method to prevent debris, silt, and grease from migrating downstream during the cleaning operation. The Contractor must clean the downstream sewer if the debris, grease, oil, and silt from the cleaning are not captured and removed, at no additional cost to the City.
- (B) Prior to the start of any sewer work, the Contractor must submit to the Engineer an approved fluming and/or bypass-pumping plan ("Bypass Plan") as mentioned herein below. The Bypass Plan must:
 - (1) Be submitted to the Engineer thirty (30) calendar days prior to commencement of the Work and will be signed and sealed by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer (PE).
 - (2) Include a cover letter with project name, capital project ID, Contractor's name, address, and contact information, the PE's contact information, an emergency contact (available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, including holidays), and references/copies of all pertinent permits necessary for the implementation and operation of the Bypass Plan.
 - (3) Include an evaluation of the existing sewer system being bypassed in terms of flow capacity, condition assessment, and risks that may arise during construction whether by nature of the existing system, by the timing of construction during wet weather seasons, or by other nature.
 - (4) Include a detailed plan to flume or bypass existing flow that demonstrates:
 - (a) Maintenance of existing sewer flow when upstream pipe is flowing full (include maximum flow in cubic feet per second (cfs) that can be bypassed without surcharging upstream sewers). Bypass flow must be calculated as per **Section 76.41.3(B)(6)**.
 - (b) House connection pickup.
 - (c) Sizes of flume piping.
 - (d) Upstream and downstream damming (including how the dam or plug will be secured in place).
 - (e) Catch basins or temporary services for street drainage.
 - (f) Pump specifications, including size and type, hours of operation, power driven air circulating system, and overflow weirs if applicable.
 - (g) Temporary above-ground storage if applicable.
 - (h) Method(s) to prevent debris, silt, and grease from migrating downstream during any cleaning or construction operations.

- (i) An Emergency Plan that details the precautions and actions to be taken to protect the public health if bypass capacity is exceeded.
 - (j) Method to monitor the weather forecast and actions to be taken prior to, during, and after wet weather events.
 - (k) Flow monitoring installation and data collection for wet weather as per **Section 76.41.4**.
- (5) Use NYC DEP manhole IDs and sewer structure IDs for ease of reference.
- (6) Calculate bypass flow, in cubic feet per second (cfs), based on maximum capacity of upstream pipe to convey flow plus appropriate contingency at discretion of Contractor. The Contractor may request as-builts from Engineer or NYC DEP; however, field verification of any records used is required.
 - (a) If the Contractor anticipates flows to be excessive and beyond the ability of traditional fluming and/or bypass pumping, a written plan must be submitted stating such and specifying mitigation strategies to reduce risk. The plan must specify dry weather and wet weather flows to be bypassed and mitigation for the excessive portion of flow.
- (7) Ensure no sewer backup into homes or buildings because of the Work. Unless otherwise specified, the bypass must provide normal system functionality.
- (8) Ensure that water and wastewater services, both upstream and downstream of the Work, will function as normal and uninterrupted. No sewage will be allowed to overflow from manholes because of the Work. The Contractor will make every effort to minimize the impact of bypassing.
 - (a) The Contractor must clean the downstream sewer if debris, silt, and/or grease from any cleaning and/or construction operation are not captured and removed. The Contractor must secure equipment and materials on-site.
- (C) No sewer work will be performed before the Contractor receives written approval of the Bypass Plan from the Engineer.
- (D) If the Contractor or the Engineer determines at any point during the Work that the approved Bypass Plan is deficient in any aspect, the Contractor must update and resubmit the Bypass Plan for review and approval.
- (E) In accordance with the approved Bypass Plan, the Contractor must provide and construct flumes, temporary sewers, catch basins, dams, and other necessary facilities to maintain flow in existing sewers and provide conveyance of flow from house connections. The costs thereof must be deemed included in the prices bid for the various Contract items. No separate or additional payment will be made for this Work.

76.41.4 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CONTRACTOR

- (A) The Contractor will maintain fluming, and/or bypass pumping until such time that the Engineer inspects and approves, in writing, that portion of sewer that has been completed.
- (B) The Contractor will install, maintain, and regularly test at least one (1) level sensor in the downstream / upstream sewer(s) with an alarm to automatically trigger and alert the Contractor, the Engineer, and NYC DEP Field Operations of surcharging in real-time with the ability to gauge surcharge height relative to inner top of pipe. The Engineer and NYC DEP Field Operations will have access to real-time and historical flow monitoring data throughout the duration of the project and data will be provided to the Engineer and NYC DEP Field Operations on a regular basis, and at the end of the Work, if real-time data is unavailable or is unable to be transmitted and recorded by NYC DEP Field Operations.
- (C) The Contractor will provide written notice to residents directly affected by the bypass. The notice will include date and time for commencement of bypass and estimated date and time when bypass

operations will end. The notice will provide residents with a phone number that residents can call for reporting issues in the event of sewer backup, overflow, or flooding.

The Contractor is responsible to ensure that the system provides proper level of service and function throughout the duration of the Work. If a sewer overflows because of the Work, the Contractor must provide timely and appropriate clean up and disinfection of the area, homes, and/or buildings at the Contractor's expense. The Contractor must also immediately notify the Engineer and NYC DEP Field Operations and comply with all regulatory requirements.

76.41.5 PRICE TO COVER

The Contract price for Item No. 76.41BP – BYPASS PLAN must be a lump sum price and must include the cost of all labor, materials, plant, equipment and insurance necessary or required to prepare the Bypass Plan, including building examinations and do all other work incidental thereto all in accordance with the specifications and as directed by the Engineer.

76.41.6 PAYMENT

No payment for the Bypass Plan will be made until Bypass Plan is “satisfactorily” accepted and approved by the Qualified Professional and by the Department of Design and Construction.

Twenty-five percent (25%) of the lump sum price bid will be paid when the Bypass Plan is “satisfactorily” accepted and approved by the Qualified Professional and by the Department of Design and Construction.

The balance (seventy-five percent (75%)) of the lump sum price will be paid per month over the estimated duration of sewer work under the Bypass Plan.

Payment for Bypass Plan will be made under the Item Number as calculated below:

The Item Number for Bypass Plan has seven characters. (The decimal point is considered a character, the third character.)

(1) The first five characters must define Bypass Plan:

76.41

(2) The sixth and seventh characters must define Bypass Plan:

BP – BYPASS PLAN

(3) The Item Number together with Description and Pay Unit as provided in the Bid Schedule is provided below:

Item No.	Description	Pay Unit
76.41BP	BYPASS PLAN	L.S.