

ORDINANCE NO. 761

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ROLLING HILLS ESTATES,
CALIFORNIA, AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 13.08
(SEWER SERVICE SYSTEM) OF THE ROLLING HILLS
ESTATES MUNICIPAL CODE**

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROLLING HILLS ESTATES ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. General Findings. The City Council finds as follows:

A. The City of Rolling Hills Estates (City) has adopted Rolling Hills Estates Municipal Code (RHEMC) Chapter 13.08 pertaining to the regulation of its public sewer system, which adopts by reference the Los Angeles County (county) sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance, codified as Division 2 of Title 20 of the Los Angeles County Code.

B. The City desires to update Chapter 13.08 to clarify that the most current version of the county sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance, including the applicable fees and charges, is adopted by reference, with the exception of specified changes.

C. The City also desires to update Chapter 13.08 to reflect that while the public sewer system is owned by the City, it is operated and maintained by the county sewer maintenance district and that all such operational matters, including connection permits, are administered by the county sewer maintenance district.

SECTION 2. Environmental Review. The City Council exercises its independent judgment and finds that the enactment of this ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") under the State CEQA Guidelines (Chapter 3 of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations beginning at Section 15000), specifically: Section 15060(c)(2), because the proposed ordinance will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment and Section 15061(b)(3), because the proposed ordinance is covered by the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. The proposed ordinance amends certain regulatory procedures related to the public sewer system and any potential projects that result in new sewer service will receive individualized CEQA review at a later time. As such, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the enactment of this ordinance may have a significant adverse effect on the environment. Therefore, the adoption of this ordinance is exempt from CEQA.

SECTION 3. Amendment to Chapter 13.08 of the Municipal Code. RHEMC Chapter 13.08 (Sewer Service System) is amended and restated as set forth in the attached Exhibit A.

SECTION 4. Severability. If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this ordinance, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this ordinance, and each section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion

thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 5. Summary. The City Council determines that it is not feasible to prepare a fair and adequate summary of the proposed ordinance and orders that a display advertisement of at least one-quarter of a page be published in accordance with Government Code section 36933(c). The approved display summary of this ordinance is attached as Exhibit B.

SECTION 6. Publication. The City Clerk is directed to certify the adoption of this ordinance and cause the summary to be published in the manner required by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2026.

Frank V. Zerunyan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lauren Pettit, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM

Donald M. Davis, City Attorney

EXHIBIT A

AMENDED AND RESTATED

Chapter 13.08 - SEWER SERVICE SYSTEM

13.08.010 – County sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance (SSIWO) and associated fees adopted by reference.

- A. The Los Angeles County (county) sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance, codified as Division 2 of Title 20 of the Los Angeles County Code, as such ordinance may be amended from time to time, and except as amended by this chapter, is adopted as the sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance of the city.
- B. A copy of the current county sewer and industrial waste ordinance will be maintained by the office of the city clerk for examination by the public.
- C. If any provision of the county sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance conflicts with any provision of the city's municipal code, the provisions of the municipal code will prevail.
- D. The fees and charges established by Los Angeles County under the county sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance, as amended from time to time, will apply to this chapter; provided, however, the city council may, by resolution, adjust any of the fees or charges imposed under the county sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance.

13.08.020 - SSIWO—Definitions.

Whenever any of the following words or terms are used in the county sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance, each such word or term will be construed to have the following meaning unless the context indicates the county code definition is applicable:

"Board" means the city council.

"County engineer" means the city engineer.

"County health officer" means the city health officer, including any officer, employee, or agent of the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health acting under contract or agreement with the city to perform health officer functions.

"County of Los Angeles" means the city of Rolling Hills Estates except where the county of Los Angeles is a correct notation due to circumstances.

"County sewer maintenance district" means the area of the county sewer maintenance district within the city of Rolling Hills Estates.

"Ordinance" means an ordinance of the city of Rolling Hills Estates, except in such instances where the reference is to a stated ordinance of the county of Los Angeles.

"Public sewer" means all sanitary sewers and appurtenances thereto, lying within streets or easements dedicated to the city, and operated and maintained by the county sewer maintenance district.

"Trunk sewer" means a sewer under the jurisdiction of a public entity other than the city of Rolling Hills Estates.

13.08.030 - SSIWO—Modifications.

The following described sections of the county sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance are amended or repealed as follows:

A. Section 20.28.050 of the county sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance is amended to read as follows:

"The city engineer may recommend that the council approve an agreement to reimburse or agree to reimburse a subdivider, school district, an improvement district formed under special assessment procedures, or person for the cost of constructing sanitary sewers for public use where such sewers can or will be used by areas outside of the proposed development; and to establish a reimbursement district and collection rates as described in the agreement under the provisions of this chapter and in accordance with applicable state law."

B. Section 20.32.150 of the county sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance is amended to read as follows:

"In the event the city engineer determines that the property described in the application for a permit is included within a sewer reimbursement district which has been formed by the council in accordance with Section 20.28.050, the charge for connecting to the public sewer will be as set forth in the agreement established under that section."

C. Section 20.32.280 of the county sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance is amended by adding the following paragraph:

"All monies collected under this ordinance for sewer maintenance are to be submitted directly to the county sewer maintenance district for inclusion in the maintenance district's funds."

D. Section 20.32.690 of the county sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance is amended by adding the following paragraph:

"In the event the damaged public sewer is not in a county sewer maintenance district, the violator must reimburse the city within 30 days after the city has provided an invoice for the cost of repairs. The amount, when paid, will be deposited in the city treasury."

13.08.040 - Connection—Permit—Required.

No person may make any connection to any public sewer without first obtaining a permit to do so from the county sewer maintenance district.

13.08.050 - Sewer laterals—Construction in and along private property other than property to be served—Easement required.

Whenever any person proposes to construct a sewer lateral, in and along private property other than the property to be served by the sewer lateral, the applicant must obtain and file with the city manager a certified copy of a recorded instrument of conveyance granting an easement for such sewer lateral.

13.08.060 – Private sewer laterals—inspection, maintenance, and repair.

A. The owner of any property served by a private sewer lateral shall maintain such lateral in good condition and free from leaks, defects, or conditions that may cause infiltration, inflow, blockage, or discharge to the public right-of-way or public sewer system.

B. A leaking or defective private sewer lateral that causes or contributes to a discharge to the public right-of-way or public sewer system is hereby declared a public nuisance.

C. If the city engineer determines that a private sewer lateral is leaking, defective, or otherwise causing or contributing to a discharge, nuisance, or adverse impact to the public sewer system or public right-of-way, the city may require the property owner to:

1. Conduct an inspection of the private sewer lateral, including CCTV inspection if appropriate; and
2. Repair, rehabilitate, or replace the private sewer lateral within a specified time.

D. The city may, upon reasonable notice and in accordance with applicable law, enter the property to verify compliance or perform necessary inspections

13.08.070 – Violation; penalty.

Any person violating any provision of this chapter, or any condition or limitation of a permit issued under this chapter is subject to the applicable remedies and penalties that may be imposed under this code, including but not limited to: Chapter 1.24 (General Penalty); (b) Chapter 1.25 (Administrative Citations); and Chapter 8.12 (Public Nuisances). The remedies provided in this section are cumulative and not exclusive.

Exhibit B

**Summary for Publication (Gov. Code §36933(c)(2))
Ordinance No. 761**

Pursuant to Government Code section 36933(c), the following is a summary of an ordinance introduced on April 14, 2026, and scheduled for adoption on April 28, 2026 by the Rolling Hills Estates City Council.

A certified copy of the full text of the ordinance is posted and available for review in the City Clerk's Office at 4045 Palos Verdes Drive North, City of Rolling Hills Estates, California and on the City's website at <https://www.rollinghillsestates.gov/publicnotices>. This ordinance will be effective on the 31st day following its adoption and after posting and publication as required by law.

ORDINANCE NO. 761

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROLLING HILLS ESTATES, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING AND RESTATING CHAPTER 13.08 (SEWER SERVICE SYSTEM) OF THE ROLLING HILLS ESTATES MUNICIPAL CODE

This ordinance amends and restates Chapter 13.08 to the Rolling Hills Estates Municipal Code pertaining to the public sewer system owned by the City of Rolling Hills Estates, and operated and maintained by the Los Angeles County sewer maintenance district. This ordinance adopts by reference the Los Angeles County sanitary sewer and industrial waste ordinance, codified as Division 2 of Title 20 of the Los Angeles County Code, including applicable fees and charges, except as revised by Chapter 13.08.

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS:
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS:
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS:

Lauren Pettit
City Clerk