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*In CC
packets
1/23/09
Brynch*

Bernard F. Lynch
City Manager

TO: Mayor Edward Caulfield
And
Members of the Lowell City Council

FROM: Bernard F. Lynch, City Manager

DATE: January 23, 2009

SUBJECT: **MOTION OF 1/13/09 BY COUNCILOR RITA MERCIER
"REQUEST THE CITY MANAGER REPORT ON THE SEWER
BACK-UPS IN THE AREA OF THE 800's ON VARNUM
AVENUE".**

Regarding the above-mentioned motion, I have been in contact with Mark Young, Waste Water Executive Director. Mark has informed me that the Lowell Regional Wastewater Utility responded to sewer backups around the New Years Holiday at 860 and 880 Varnum Avenue and cleared a blockage in front of the homes.

The following week the section of sewer line along lower Varnum Avenue to 860 Varnum Avenue was televised and a heavy build up of grease in this section of line was discovered. The section of line was subsequently cleaned.

Wastewater Utility personnel are continuing efforts to televise and clean the upper section of the Varnum Avenue sewer line from 860 to the D'Youville Manor and Northwood Nursing Homes as this section of pipe also has a heavy build up of grease. Unfortunately cleaning of the line is weather dependent with the cleaning proceeding when the temperatures are above thirty two degrees.

It is expected that the sources of grease are the pizza establishment in the strip mall on Varnum Ave and D'Youville Manor and Northwood Nursing Homes. Wastewater personnel have been in contact with the pizza establishment to ensure that waste grease is disposed of in the proper manner and will work with the nursing homes to ensure that their waste grease disposal is also being conducted so as not to impact the Lowell sewer system.

If you have any further questions please call Mark Young at the Wastewater Utility (978) 970-4248.

Thank you.