

ORDINANCE NO. 15,688

AN ORDINANCE to amend the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, 2000, adopted by Ordinance No. 13,827, passed June 5, 2000, as heretofore amended, by amending Sections 118-300 and 118-302, relating to the Private Property Protection Program.

Be It Ordained by the City Council of the City of Des Moines, Iowa:

Section 1. That the Municipal Code of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, 2000, adopted by Ordinance No. 13,827, passed June 5, 2000, as heretofore amended, is hereby amended by amending Sections 118-300 and 118-302, relating to the Private Property Protection Program, as follows:

Sec. 118-300. Established.

- (a) The city council finds, determines, and declares it to be conducive to the health, welfare, safety and convenience of the city and its residents that a subsidy program be established to reimburse property owners for qualifying plumbing work which removes sources of infiltration and inflow from the private sewer system and which protects properties adversely affected by excessive flows in the sanitary sewer collection system. The city has allocated from the sanitary sewer user fee revenues a sum sufficient to provide a subsidy, as described in section 118-301, to property owners who elect to make qualifying improvements to their property as described in section 118-302. The amount of the private property protection program subsidy shall be equal to 100% of the cost of the qualifying improvements performed by a licensed plumber and shall not exceed \$1,500 per property.
- (b) For purposes of this article, the term "property owner" or "owner" shall mean the owner of record of a property or the party in possession thereof under lease or contract who paid the eligible costs for the qualifying improvements applicable to the property, and who is responsible for payment of municipal utility charges against the property, including water service charges, sanitary sewer service charges, solid waste collection service charges, and stormwater management charges.
- (c) For purposes of this division, the term "property" shall mean those properties within the corporate boundaries of the city of Des Moines for which there is an account with the Des Moines Water Works that is currently being billed for sanitary sewer service fees.
- (d) For purposes of this division, the term "licensed plumber" shall mean those persons who are certified or licensed plumbers in conformance with chapter 26 of this Code.

Sec. 118-302. Qualifying improvements.

- (a) The private property protection program will provide a maximum of a \$1,500 subsidy as a reimbursement for 100% of the cost actually paid by the property owner for any materials and labor for the qualifying improvements to existing structures on private property.
- (b) The work must have been performed and completed between the dates of January 1, 2017 and June 30, 2023.
- (c) The property improvements deemed qualifying for subsidy from the private property protection program are limited to the installation of backwater valves, the disconnection of roof leaders from the sanitary sewer service, the installation or redirection of a sump pump to discharge flows from foundation drains and area drains to a non-sanitary sewer outlet such as a rain garden, storm sewer, or the ground surface.
- (d) A completed private property protection program subsidy application form must be submitted by June 1, 2023 and prior to commencement of the work for which the applicant desires to receive reimbursement in order to determine if the proposed work qualifies for a subsidy and if there are sufficient funds in the program. The application must be approved before work is begun in order to be eligible for reimbursement. The account for the sanitary sewer fee charges on the property must be current as to payments at the time of application.
- (e) Upon completion of the work and no later than August 31, 2023, the applicant must submit to the Department of Public Works documentation of the cost of the qualifying improvements which must include a copy of an itemized invoice from a licensed plumber or plumbing firm that identifies the work performed and a copy of the full payment.
- (f) The work must be performed by a licensed plumber.
- (g) A property for which the maximum subsidy amount has been reimbursed by the City is not eligible for additional subsidies under this program, regardless of a change in ownership or use, until at least 10 years have passed since the last date of issuance of the prior subsidy.
- (h) The amount of funding for this program will be capped at an annual basis at an amount recommended by the director in the Public Works Department operating budget and as approved by the city council. To the extent that program funds are available, subsidies shall be provide to qualified applicants in the order in which completed applications are received.

Section 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication as provided by law.

FORM APPROVED:

Ann DiDonato, Assistant City Attorney

T. M. Franklin Cownie, Mayor

Attest:

I, Diane Rauh, City Clerk of the City of Des Moines, Iowa, hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of an ordinance (Roll Call No. 18-1285) passed by the City Council of said City at a meeting held July 23, 2018 signed by the Mayor on July 23, 2018 and published and provided by law in the Business Record on August 10, 2018. Authorized by Publication Order No. 10426.

Diane Rauh, City Clerk