

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Trustees

THROUGH: Karen Crocker, Acting General Manager / Director of Parks and Recreation

FROM: Kate Nelson, Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: Report to the Board Regarding Grease Interceptor Policy
(Requesting Staff Member: Director of Public Works Kate Nelson).

**RELATED FY 2023
STRATEGIC PLAN**

**LONG RANGE PRINCIPLE #5 – ASSETS AND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

BUDGET INITIATIVE(S): The District will practice perpetual asset renewal, replacement and improvement to provide safe and superior long term utility services and recreation venues, facilities, and services.

**LONG RANGE PRINCIPLE #7 -
GOVERNANCE**

The District is a local agency that delivers exemplary recreational experiences and provides the highest level of water, sewer, and solid waste services while striving for fiscal and environmental sustainability through collaboration, civic participation, and transparency.

**RELATED DISTRICT
POLICIES, PRACTICES,
RESOLUTIONS OR
ORDINANCES**

Ordinance #2 - Sewer

DATE: September 11, 2024

I. RECOMMENDATION

II. BACKGROUND

IVGID’s Ordinance #2 includes a grease interceptor policy that is a direct result of Building Code Regulations, specifically the Uniform Plumbing Code.

Uniform Plumbing Code – UPC 2024

- *Section 1009.1 Where Required. Interceptors (clarifiers) (including grease, oil, sand, solid interceptors, etc.) shall be required by the Authority Having Jurisdiction where they are necessary for the proper handling of liquid wastes containing grease, flammable wastes, sand, solids, acid or alkaline substances, or other ingredients harmful to the building drainage system, the public or private sewer, or to public or private sewage disposal. A list of acceptable interceptor standards is referenced in Table 1009.1.*

IVGID Ordinance 2 – Sewer Section 11.03 Required Use of Grease Interceptors and Separators (Adopted on April 10, 2019, Resolution No. 1866)

- *Section 11.03.B. Grease Interceptors. Grease interceptors shall be installed for establishments where food is prepared or other establishments where grease is introduced into the drainage or sewage system in quantities that can affect sewer mains, effect wastewater treatment or have other negative impacts on the sewer system.*

Why IVGID Enforces the Regulations:

Oil and grease hamper the effectiveness of the wastewater conveyance, pumping and treatment systems throughout the District. Fats, oils, and grease (FOG) come from meat fats in food scraps, cooking oil, shortening, lard, butter and margarine, gravy, and food products such as mayonnaise, salad dressings, and sour cream.

FOG poured down drains accumulates inside sewer pipes, restricting flow as it builds up. Any type of grease, whether from businesses or residences, can cause serious issues such as raw sewage backups and overflows, known as Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs), which can lead to raw sewage entering homes, businesses, streets, and storm drains. SSOs also pose a significant risk to public health, as manholes can overflow into parks, yards, streets, and storm drains, allowing FOG to contaminate local waters, including drinking water sources. Exposure to untreated wastewater is a public-health hazard and SSOs are subject to fines from the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection and TRPA.

Restaurants, cafeterias, and fast-food establishments often spend tens of thousands of dollars annually addressing grease blockages, cleaning grease traps, and pumping out interceptors. In some cases, cities charge businesses for sewer pipe repairs and spill cleanups caused by blockages traced back to them. Additionally, some municipalities impose surcharges on wastewater bills if a business exceeds a specified discharge limit. These costs can be substantial.

National and Local Impacts:

Communities across the nation spend billions of dollars each year on activities such as unclogging or replacing grease-blocked pipes, repairing pump stations, and cleaning up costly and illegal wastewater spills. Excessive FOG in the sewer system also has a direct impact on local wastewater rates.

IVGID Public Works manages an ongoing hydroflushing program to clean and flush sewer mains. Certain areas of the District are known for recurring grease buildup. The following table outlines the costs of the hydroflushing program over the last five years:

Year	Labor & Equipment Costs
2019-2020	\$62,060
2020-2021	\$96,433
2021-2022	\$102,751
2022-2023	\$31,054
2023-2024	\$64,074

In addition to the hydroflushing costs, the District incurs annual expenses for grease removal at SPS #1 and for maintaining odor scrubbers at SPS #1 and SPS #10. The cost of grease removal at SPS #1 is approximately \$40,000 annually, and maintaining the odor scrubbers costs an additional \$18,000 per year.

IVGID also provides education materials to all customers regarding the FOG impacts and what not to do (example attached).

How IVGID Enforces the Regulations:

The IVGID Compliance Department reviews all new and remodel plans for restaurants, as well as business license renewals within the District. If a grease interceptor is required to bring the establishment into compliance with Ordinance #2 and the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC), Compliance will work with the property owner and tenant to issue a letter of intent (example attached).

The letter of intent allows property owners and tenants time to design, secure funding, obtain permits, and complete the required work. As shown in the example, IVGID does not require immediate construction; instead, we collaborate with property owners and tenants to develop a feasible timeline for implementation and follow up when milestones are due. Extensions are occasionally granted on a case-by-case basis, but the goal remains ensuring compliance with the regulations.

III. BID RESULTS

Not Applicable

IV. FINANCIAL IMPACT AND BUDGET

Not Applicable

V. ALTERNATIVES

Not Applicable

VI. COMMENTS

VII. BUSINESS IMPACT/BENEFIT

Not Applicable

VIII. ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter of intent Christmas Tree Village_extension
2. FOG Mailer Insert_For Print

IX. DECISION POINTS NEEDED FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Letter of Intent

Date: August 3, 2022
Date: November 27, 2023 Letter of Intent Extension Agreement for 2024
To: Penguin Properties, LLC
APN: 132-020-16, 132-020-17, 132-020-18, 132-020-19, 132-020-20
Address: 868 Tahoe Blvd (Christmas Tree Village)
From: Incline Village General Improvement District, Compliance Division
Subject: Wastewater Discharge Requirements

This letter is to inform you that your property known as Christmas Tree Village, at 868 Tahoe Boulevard, is currently out of compliance with the Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) Sewer Ordinance No. 2 Section 11.03, "Required Use of Grease Interceptors, Interceptors, and Separators."

IVGID is willing to work with you, as the property owner, to correct this issue. Currently, your property has several existing restaurants, with a new restaurant trying to open. Restaurants are a main contributor to fats, oils and grease (FOG) within sewer systems everywhere. FOG is extremely detrimental to the efficiency of sewer systems and the wastewater treatment process, and it has been well documented that the Christmas Tree Village contributes a large amount of FOG into the IVGID sewer system.

Currently there is an open Washoe County Building Permit, WBLD22-102736, for Happy Tiers Café. IVGID is requesting that, as a condition of this permit, you, as the property owner, sign this Letter of Intent, the purpose of which is to bring your property into compliance with IVGID Sewer Ordinance No. 2.

IVGID Sewer Ordinance No. 2 (Section 11.03) Requirements for all Washoe County Building Department Permits:

- Unit 21, Happy Tiers Café
 - Have a Nevada Licensed Professional Engineer provide IVGID with engineering requirements for an internal grease trap (interceptor) to be used for pretreatment for Unit 21 (Happy Tiers Café) only. This letter must be wet stamped by the licensed professional engineer and approved by the IVGID Engineering Manager for final approval.
 - Have the approved internal grease trap (interceptor) installed and inspected by IVGID Compliance Division within Unit 21.

- APNs 132-020-16, 132-020-17, 132-020-18, 132-020-19, and 132-020-20
 - The Property Owner and/or its assigned agents must obtain an approved Washoe County Building Department Building Permit for the installation of an engineered grease interceptor(s) for all properties that make up the Christmas Tree Village.
 - These approved grease interceptor(s) must be installed by a licensed contractor and approved by the IVGID Compliance Division no later than October 15, 2024.
- All work, materials, and cost are borne by the property owner of all parcels that make up the Christmas Tree Village facility.

The purpose of this Letter of Intent is to work with you, as the local property owner, and the businesses affected by the work, and allow time for design, permitting and construction of the required work, in order to be in compliance with IVGID Ordinances, while allowing Happy Tiers Café to obtain the necessary County building permits to open and operate.

IVGID values your business center and by working together, we are confident that we can bring your facility into compliance with all IVGID, County, and State requirements. Once this Letter of Intent is signed and notarized by the property owner, please return a hard copy to IVGID Compliance, 1220 Sweetwater Road, Incline Village NV 89451. For your convenience, we have notaries on staff who can assist you at no cost. Contact IVGID Engineering at 775-832-1267 to use this service.

By signing below, the property owner of Christmas Tree Village (APNs 132-020-16, 132-020-17, 132-020-18, 132-020-19, and 132-020-20) agrees to complete the work necessary to construct an approved engineered grease interceptor(s) to address the fats, oil, and grease produced by the businesses that occupy this property. It is agreed that work is to be completed no later than October 15, 2024.

Owner Agent of Property known as 868 Tahoe Blvd (Christmas Tree Village)

Print: TONY ROBINSON

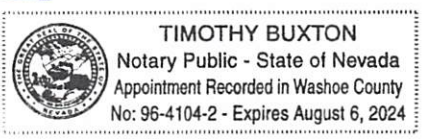
Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

State of NEVADA

County of WASHOE

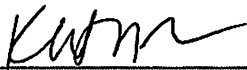
This instrument was acknowledged before me on November 27, 2023 by TONY ROBINSON as AGENT ^{AGENT} ~~Owner~~ of that property known as Christmas Tree Village, on behalf of whom this instrument was executed.

Notary Public: [Handwritten Signature] Stamp:



IVGID Engineering Manager

Print: Kate S. Nelson, P. E.

Signature:  _____

STOP THE CLOG: KEEP FATS, OILS, AND GREASE OUT OF THE SEWER SYSTEM!

Please do not pour fats, grease, cooking oil, chemicals, old medicine, or solvents down the drain. When disposed of in the District's wastewater system, these items can result in expensive damage and impact water quality after treatment.

Dispose of Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Safely:

You should only dispose of fats, oils and grease in the trash.

It is important to pour them into a fireproof, sealable container, let it cool, and then place it in your regular household trash. If you have larger amounts of used cooking oil, these can be recycled for free, simply contact the IVGID Waste Not Household Hazardous Waste Program at 775-832-1284 for information.

Why It Matters:

When poured down a drain, FOG forms thick layers inside sewers and constricts flow, causing backups. Clogged sewers lead to downtime, costly cleanup, repairs, and public health concerns due to sewer overflows on public property.

Safe Medication Disposal:

Avoid flushing medications; they're not removed during wastewater treatment. Contact local pharmacies for prescription medication take-back programs or the IVGID Waste Not Household Hazardous Waste Program at 775-832-1284.



Thank you for your cooperation!

Incline Village Public Works Department
Compliance Division
775-832-1224



DETÉN LA OBSTRUCCIÓN: ¡MANTÉN LAS GRASAS Y ACEITES FUERA DEL SISTEMA DE ALCANTARILLADO!

Por favor no depositar ninguna clase de grasas, aceites, químicos, medicinas vencidas o solventes de drenaje por las alcantarillas. Cuando se depositan esta clase de desechos en el alcantarillado puede causar daños altamente costosos y también afecta la calidad del agua después del tratamiento.

Disponga de Grasas y Aceites (FOG) de forma Segura:

Solo debe desechar grasas y aceites en la basura. Es muy importante depositar estas sustancias en un contenedor aprueba de incendios y que sea sellable; dejelos enfriar y pongalos en la basura. Si usted tiene cantidades más grandes del aceite de cocina usado, éstos pueden ser reciclados gratis, simplemente ponerse en contacto con el programa de Waste Not Household Hazardous Waste 775-832-1284.

¿Por qué es importante?

Por que cuando desechamos estas sustancias por las alcantarillas ellas forman una capa gruesa que obstruye el flujo normal. Las alcantarillas obstruidas son un gran problema para las empresas municipales no solamente por el alto costo del mantenimiento sino para la salud publica.

Desecho seguro de medicamentos:

Nunca deseche de medicamentos por el inodoro; estos no son removidos atravez del tratamiento del agua, sino que permanecen en diminutas cantidades en el agua. Las farmacias ofrecen seguras opciones para desechar medicinas vencidas.



¡Gracias por su cooperación!

Incline Village Public Works Department
Compliance Division
775-832-1224

