

Evaluation of sewer laterals and suspension of sewer flow from properties destroyed in Tubbs Fire

City Council Meeting
February 6, 2018

Jennifer Burke,
Deputy Director – Water & Engineering Resources

Lori Urbanek,
Deputy Director – Capital Projects Engineering



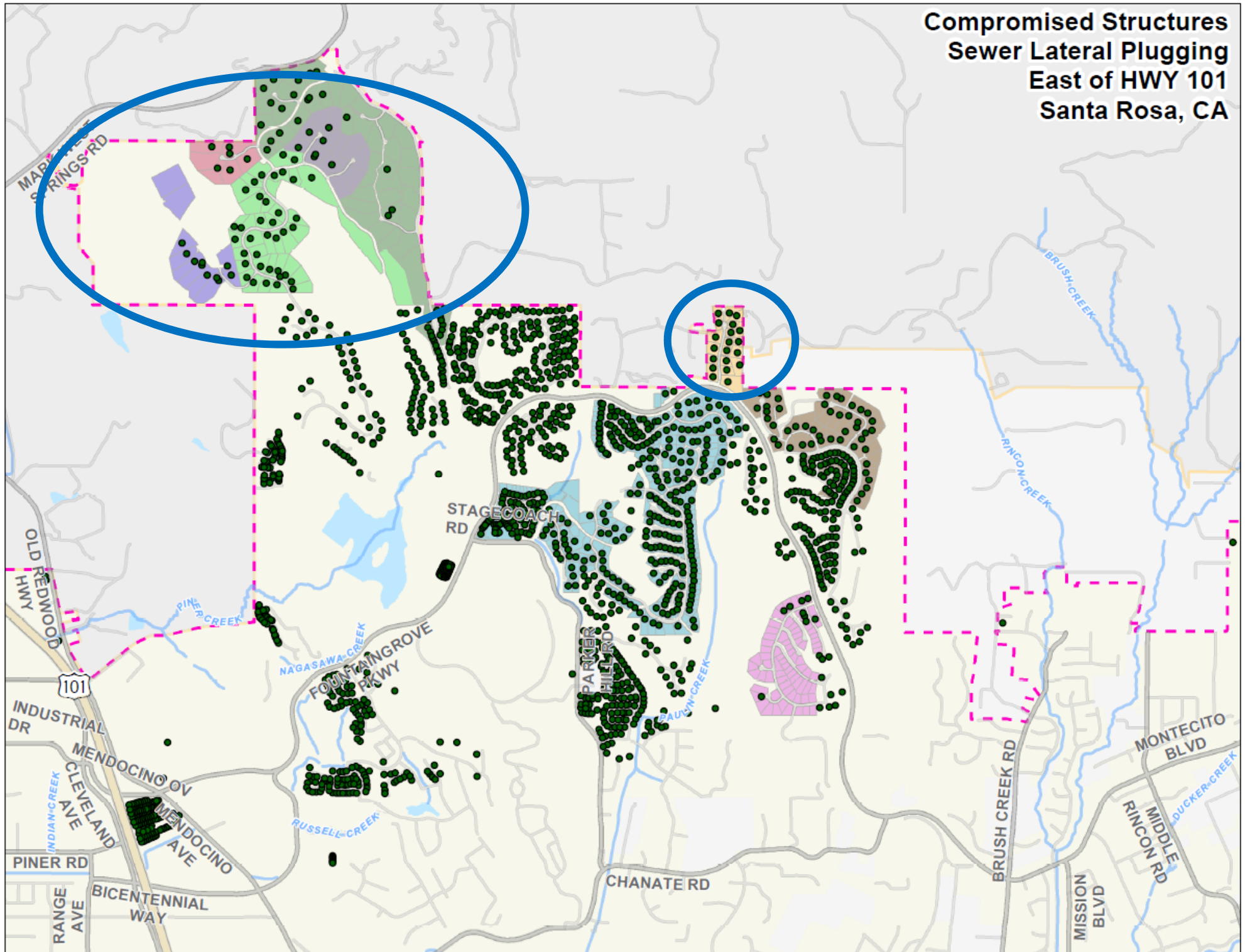
Santa Rosa Water | Our Future in Every Drop

Background

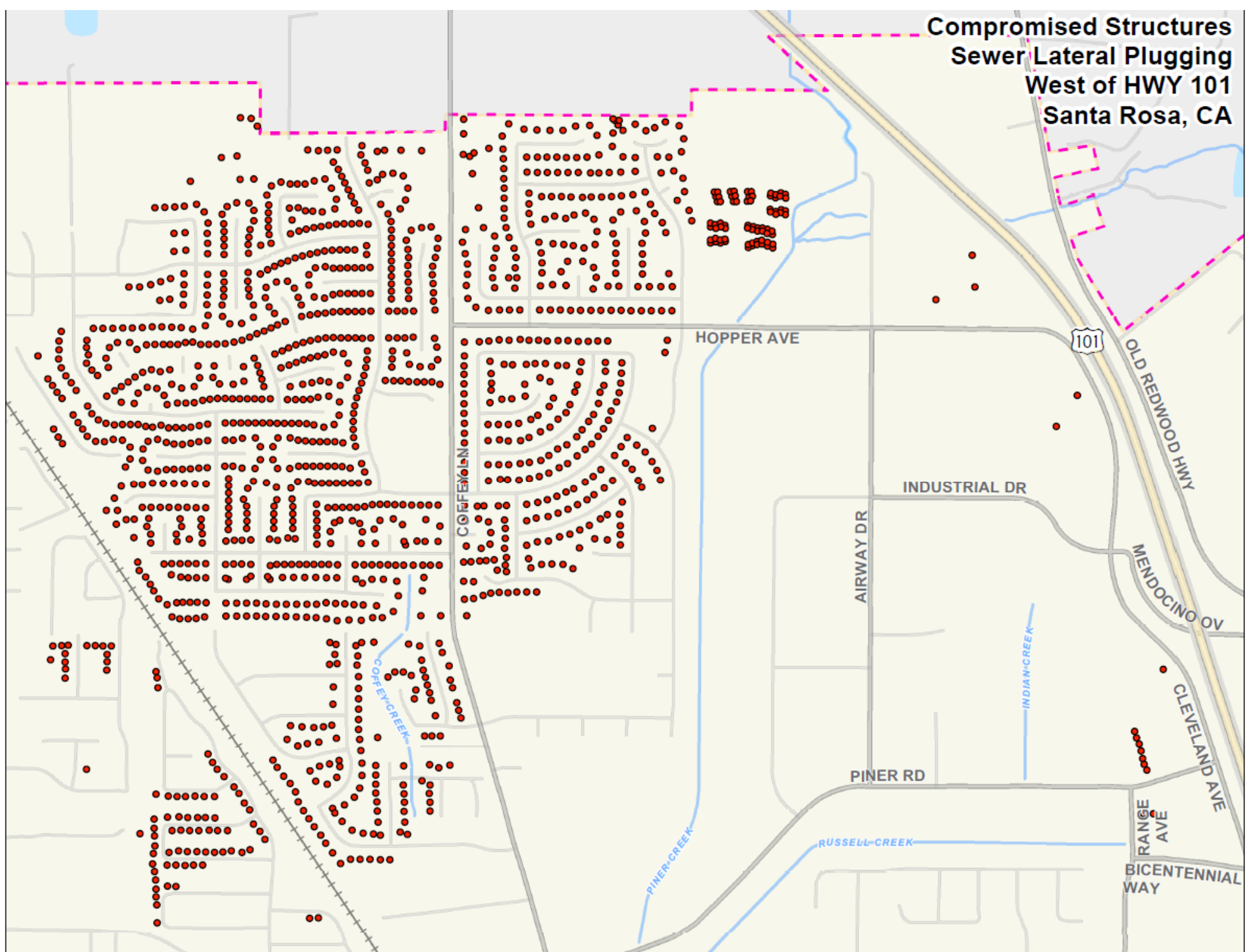
- Approximately 3,000 residential and commercial properties destroyed in Tubbs Fire
- Sewer laterals likely damaged, broken and/or leaking
- As part of debris clean-up, sewer laterals will be plugged



Compromised Structures
Sewer Lateral Plugging
East of HWY 101
Santa Rosa, CA



**Compromised Structures
Sewer Lateral Plugging
West of HWY 101
Santa Rosa, CA**



City Code - Sewer

- City Code Section 15-04.035 – Sewer customers responsible for maintaining sewer laterals free of breaks, leaks and obstructions
- City Code Section 15-06.140 – Water Director right to immediately suspend discharge, after notice and opportunity to respond, that interferes with operation of Treatment Plant



Debris Clean Up

- Army Corps implementing debris clean-up which includes sewer lateral plugging
- City coordinating closely with Army Corps
- Clean-up to continue throughout winter



Threat to Sewer System

- Storms to date have been minor with limited rainfall and duration
- Additional staff time and resources have been needed to address sewer flow in Fountaingrove during storms
- Staff concerned about potential for extended periods of rain with higher intensity storms



Sewer Lateral Plugging

- City efforts will augment Army Corps and private efforts to plug as many laterals as quickly as possible in the high risk areas of Fountaingrove
- City efforts will be done as cost-effectively and expeditiously as possible with minimal impact to the private properties
- City will send letters to all property owners providing two weeks to respond with alternate sewer lateral plugging plan



Sewer Lateral Plugging

- City solicited proposals for high risk portion of Fountaingrove area
- Bids were opened January 31st
- Contract to be considered by Council as a separate item on February 6th
- Funds available in Wastewater CIP contingency



Recommendation

It is recommended by the Water Department that Council, by resolution, authorize the Director of Santa Rosa Water, his staff and his delegates limited access to enter upon damaged or destroyed properties within the City located in the Tubbs fire area in order to evaluate and determine whether it is necessary, and where determined it is necessary, to immediately suspend the user's discharge into the City's Public Owned Treatment Works by the temporary plugging of the sewer lateral to prevent discharge to the Public Owned Treatment Works (POTW).

