



Mayor
Dan Sullivan

Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility

Engineering Division



Board Chair
Timothy M. Sullivan, Sr.

ROBOTS COMING TO A SEWER NEAR YOU

- DECEMBER 2012 SEWER MAIN INSPECTIONS -

Anchorage Water & Wastewater Utility will inspect Utility sewer lines in downtown Anchorage and areas of Government Hill through the month of December.

The inspections will require access to manholes located in the streets and along back lot property lines. Efforts to minimize impacts on residents and visitors to the areas will be made to ease conflicts when possible.

The Utility contracted with RedZone Robotics to perform the inspections. RedZone will place specialized robots into manholes to access Utility sewer lines. Called *SOLO*®, the robots are equipped with closed circuit television cameras and will provide virtual inspections of the interior of each sewer main. The *SOLO*® robot is the size of a firewood log and performs like a small submarine.

Each robot carries two cameras, one at either end, and navigates through sewer pipes, recording 360-degree video footage of the pipe's interior with 180-degree fisheye lenses. Image-interpreting software analyzes the video footage and flags potential problems. After the inspections are completed a detailed review of the video footage will be performed.

- STAYING AHEAD OF THE CURVE

The Utility has prioritized the inspection of roughly 20 miles of sewer main in the downtown and Government Hill areas. Gaining knowledge of the condition of the buried sewer mains the Utility owns¹, operates, and maintains is essential in order to schedule operations & maintenance, rehabilitation or replacement projects with as little impact as possible on Utility customers.

For More Information:

Contact Ed Sorenson, AWWU Project Manager564-2724 or 310-2916 (cell)

¹ A 2010 analysis estimates the replacement value of this portion of AWWU's sewer network to be \$3.14 billion.

