



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Public Records Division

Manza Arthur
Supervisor of Records

September 19, 2025
SPR25/2765

Robert Bamberg

VIA EMAIL

Dear Mr. Bamberg,

I have received your letter appealing the response of the City of Revere to your request for records.

I have directed a member of my staff, Clare Eberman, Esq., disposition of this case. If in the interim you receive a satisfactory response to your request, please notify this office immediately.

Any further correspondence concerning this specific appeal should refer to the SPR case number listed under the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Manza Arthur". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Manza Arthur
Supervisor of Records

cc: Ashley Melnik

From: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com
To: [SEC-DL-PREWEB](#)
Subject: Public Records Appeal - Robert Bamberg vs City of Revere, MA
Date: Friday, September 19, 2025 8:49:29 AM
Attachments: [City Of Revere Request And Response.docx](#)
[Email_1_AshleyMelnik_RevereCityClerk.mht](#)
[Email_2_AshleyMelnik_RevereCityClerk.mht](#)
[Reason For Appeal.docx](#)

To Whom It May Concern,

Please see attached documents as part of my appeal for information from the City of Revere.

- [City_Of_Revere_Request_And_Response.docx](#) – letter detailing my request and written response from the city.
- [Email_1_AshleyMelnik_RevereCityClerk.mht](#) – email archive of original request and response.
- [Email_2_AshleyMelnik_RevereCityClerk.mht](#) – email archive of original request and amended response.
- [Reason_For_Appeal.docx](#) – letter outlining why I am appealing the city’s decision.

If you have any problems reading these attachments, or need any additional information from me, I can be reached via email at robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com, or by phone at 339-242-7710. If possible, I’d like to receive confirmation from the state that it has received and is considering my appeal.

Thank you,

Robert Bamberg

Robert Bamberg
Email: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com
www: <http://www.pcphoneconnections.com>

September 19, 2025

Supervisor of Records
Secretary of the Commonwealth
1 Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Robert Bamberg, and I have filed an information request with my local city government in Revere that has been denied. I am asking that the state override their denial and allow me access to the information I have requested. The information below, documents email conversations I had with Revere City Clerk Ashley Melnik regarding my request and the city's response(s).

Thank you,

Robert Bamberg

On Thursday, August 28, 2025, I submitted the following information request to Revere City Clerk Ashley Melnik via email.

Dear Ashley,

My name is Robert Bamberg, and I am a Revere resident and homeowner living at 8 Alden Ave in the Point of Pines. We met earlier today at your office regarding my request for information.

I am looking to obtain detailed maps showing all city, state, public and private utility lines that run through the Point of Pines. Specifically I am looking for maps that include Delano Ave, Alden Ave, and Bickford Ave, along with a span of the Lynnway that abuts each of these 3 streets. Please reach out on my behalf to all entities that might control release of this information.

I understand that I should receive city controlled information within 10 days of this request. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Regards,

Robert Bamberg

That original information request was amended that same day to specify copies of requested data from before and after completion of new Alden Mills Firehouse in the Point of Pines Revere, MA.

Dear Ashley,

Thank you again for your recommendation. I just filed information requests with both DCR and MassDOT.

As part of my Public Records Request to MassDOT (P001904-082825), I was asked to provide incident dates on the information I was requesting. As I identified in my request to them, I would like to get maps of the area both before and after construction of the new Alden Mills Firehouse.

If possible, I'd like to amend my original information request with the city to be for detailed utility maps of the area from before and after construction of the new Alden Mills Firehouse. Please let me know if you have any questions, or need me to do anything further.

Thank you,

Robert

On Tuesday, September 2, 2025, I received the following response from Revere City Clerk Ashley Melnik.

The City of Revere does not have any records responsive to your request.

Very truly yours,

See attached email conversation 'Email_1_AshleyMelnik_RevereCityClerk.mht'. Note: this file should be viewable in any web browser.

After first telling me that the city had no records to share, I later received the following updated response from Revere City Clerk Ashley Melnik.

Dear Robert:

Please consider this email a revised response to your request. The Engineering Office administrative assistant first indicated to me that there are no records responsive to your request. However, the City Engineer sent a follow-up reply (see email chain below) indicating that there are records, but are being withheld. Citing exemption (n) of the Massachusetts Public Records Law, it is the City's position that the disclosure of infrastructure plans of the City of Revere would likely jeopardize public safety.

Pursuant to 950 CMR 32.08(2) and Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 66, §10(b) this response may be appealed to the Supervisor of Public Records within 90 days.

Very truly yours,

See attached email conversation 'Email_2_AshleyMelnik_RevereCityClerk.mht'. Note: this file should be viewable in any web browser.

From: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 12:46 PM
To: 'Ashley Melnik'
Subject: RE: Response - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Dear Ashley,

Please clarify your statement, "The City of Revere does not have any records responsive to your request.". Does the city not possess such records, or is the city unwilling to share these records? Please advise.

Regards,

Robert Bamberg

Robert Bamberg
Email: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com
www: <http://www.pcphoneconnections.com>

From: Ashley Melnik [<mailto:amelnik@revere.org>]
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 11:49 AM
To: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com
Subject: Response - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

The City of Revere does not have any records responsive to your request.

Very truly yours,

[Ashley E. Melnik, CMC](#)

City Clerk · Clerk of Council · Justice of the Peace
Clerk to the Zoning Board of Appeals
281 Broadway
Revere, Massachusetts 02151
781-286-8160



{In Massachusetts, the term "public record" is broadly defined to include all documentary materials or data created or received by any officer or employee of any governmental unit, regardless of physical form or characteristics, unless it falls under one of the statutory exemptions to the Public Records Law. G. L. c. 4, § 7(26). Consequently, email is subject to the disclosure, retention, and maintenance provisions as required by law. G. L. c. 66}.

From: Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 11:40 AM
To: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>; Nicholas Rystrom <nrystrom@revere.org>
Subject: Re: (Revised Scope) Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Correct.

Best Regards,

Francesca Scalese
[Engineering Department](mailto:fscalese@revere.org)

City of Revere
319 Charger Street
Revere, MA 02151
Office - 781-286-8152
fscalese@revere.org

From: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 11:35 AM
To: Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>; Nicholas Rystrom <nrystrom@revere.org>
Subject: RE: (Revised Scope) Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Hi Francesca:

To confirm, there are no plans that show the underground utilities as requested. These plans appear to only show roadways.

Thank you,

Ashley

From: Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 11:23 AM
To: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>; Nicholas Rystrom <nrystrom@revere.org>

Subject: Re: (Revised Scope) Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

I have attached all plans available for 8 Alden Avenue. Thank you.

 [Subdivision Plan of Land Park Divisions Opposite Delano Ave and Alden Ave Alden Mills Fire Station Lynnway 09181936.pdf](#)

 [LC843 Lucia Ave Italia Ave Alden St 021966.pdf](#)

 [LC302 22840A Bickford Ave Alden Ave 123050.pdf](#)

 [Block Plan 040 Rice Ave Harrington Ave Goodwin Ave Chamberlain Ave Delano Ave Lynnway Alden Ave 1.pdf](#)

 [LC953 Bickford Ave Alden Ave Lynnway Lancaster Ave 012073.pdf](#)

 [LP 153 Lynnway Alden Ave Delano Ave State Hwy Dec 31 1996.pdf](#)

Best Regards,

Francesca Scalese
[Engineering Department](#)

City of Revere

319 Charger Street
Revere, MA 02151
Office - 781-286-8152
fscalese@revere.org

From: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>

Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 9:18 AM

To: Nicholas Rystrom <nrystrom@revere.org>; Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>

Subject: RE: (Revised Scope) Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

OK, I'll let the requester know that there are no records responsive to that portion of the request just yet. Do you know a typical time frame as to when "as-builts" become available?

From: Nicholas Rystrom <nrystrom@revere.org>

Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 8:54 AM

To: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>; Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>

Subject: RE: (Revised Scope) Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Ashley,

FYI, we don't have as-built utility plans yet

Nick



Nicholas J. Rystrom, P.E.
City Engineer – Tree Warden
Engineering Department
Email: nrystrom@revere.org
Phone: (781) 286-8153

From: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 8:51 AM
To: Nicholas Rystrom <nrystrom@revere.org>; Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>
Subject: (Revised Scope) Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Hi Nick and Francesca:

Revised request for utility map comparisons of before and after construction of the new fire station.

Thank you,

Ashley

From: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com <robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 4:45 PM
To: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>
Subject: RE: Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Dear Ashley,

Thank you again for your recommendation. I just filed information requests with both DCR and MassDOT.

As part of my Public Records Request to MassDOT (P001904-082825), I was asked to provide incident dates on the information I was requesting. As I identified in my request to them, I would like to get maps of the area both before and after construction of the new Alden Mills Firehouse.

If possible, I'd like to amend my original information request with the city to be for detailed utility maps of the area from before and after construction of the new Alden Mills Firehouse. Please let me know if you have any questions, or need me to do anything further.

Thank you,
Robert

Robert Bamberg
Email: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com
www: <http://www.pcphoneconnections.com>

From: Ashley Melnik [<mailto:amelnik@revere.org>]
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 3:10 PM
To: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com
Subject: RE: Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

For state records, I would recommend filing a request with DCR and MassDOT.

<https://www.mass.gov/forms/dcr-public-records-request>
<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/submit-a-public-records-request-to-the-department-of-transportation>

Ashley E. Melnik, CMC

City Clerk · Clerk of Council · Justice of the Peace
Clerk to the Zoning Board of Appeals
281 Broadway
Revere, Massachusetts 02151
781-286-8160



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From: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com <robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 2:10 PM
To: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>
Subject: Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Dear Ashley,

My name is Robert Bamberg, and I am a Revere resident and homeowner living at 8 Alden Ave in the Point of Pines. We met earlier today at your office regarding my request for information.

I am looking to obtain detailed maps showing all city, state, public and private utility lines that run through the Point of Pines. Specifically I am looking for maps that include Delano Ave, Alden Ave, and Bickford Ave, along with a span of the Lynnway that abuts each of these 3 streets. Please reach out on my behalf to all entities that might control release of this information.

I understand that I should receive city controlled information within 10 days of this request. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Regards,

Robert Bamberg

Robert Bamberg

Email: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com

www: <http://www.pcphoneconnections.com>

From: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 4:29 PM
To: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com
Cc: Sheryl Pelletier
Subject: RE: Revised Response - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

You can file your appeal via email: pre@sec.state.ma.us.

Instructions for filing an appeal: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/divisions/public-records/public-records-law/appealing-a-denial.htm>

From: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com <robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 4:25 PM
To: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>
Cc: Sheryl Pelletier <spelletier@revere.org>
Subject: RE: Revised Response - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Dear Ashley,

This is a problem for me. As I previously reported to Revere Building Inspector Benjamin DeChristoforo, problems with the new firehouse construction were causing the earth around my home to move. This movement, that made my home shift and sometimes jump during the construction, continues today to cause my home to vibrate and shake when heavy loads pass along the Lynnway outside the new Alden Mills Firehouse. This includes MBTA buses that pass by several times an hour.

A large crack that has opened in the street in front of my home, now appears to be extending through my driveway. Additionally, my home's foundation shows signs of stress from the shifting earth. As I explained to both Mr. DeChristoforo and my local Ward 5 City Councilor Angela Guarino-Sawaya, these problems will only get worse over time, and I worry about major structural damage to my home.

I spoke with Mr. DeChristoforo after first reaching out to National Grid with my concerns. During firehouse construction there have been at least two natural gas leaks directly in front of my home that resulted in the smell of natural gas being present in the air, and required emergency overnight repair. The technician from National Grid who came out to my home to investigate my latest concerns was able to show me where my gas line came in from the street, and assured me that the large street crack now damaging my driveway was not caused by National Grid Lines.

Please advise on how I might be able to work with the city to gain access to the information I have requested. I would not be asking for this information if the city addressed my concerns during construction project. I also would not require this data if the city were willing to investigate and resolve the problems I continue to see.

If the city is unwilling to work with me, with your help I'd like to make an appeal to the Supervisor of Public Records for this information. I'd like you to include this email as reason for my appeal. Please let me know if there are any additional steps I need to take to begin the appeal process.

Thank you,

Robert Bamberg

Robert Bamberg

Email: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com

www: <http://www.pcphoneconnections.com>

From: Ashley Melnik [<mailto:amelnik@revere.org>]

Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 12:52 PM

To: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com

Subject: Revised Response - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Dear Robert:

Please consider this email a revised response to your request. The Engineering Office administrative assistant first indicated to me that there are no records responsive to your request. However, the City Engineer sent a follow-up reply (see email chain below) indicating that there are records, but are being withheld. Citing exemption (n) of the Massachusetts Public Records Law, it is the City's position that the disclosure of infrastructure plans of the City of Revere would likely jeopardize public safety.

Pursuant to 950 CMR 32.08(2) and Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 66, §10(b) this response may be appealed to the Supervisor of Public Records within 90 days.

Very truly yours,

[Ashley E. Melnik, CMC](#)

City Clerk · Clerk of Council · Justice of the Peace

Clerk to the Zoning Board of Appeals

281 Broadway

Revere, Massachusetts 02151

781-286-8160



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From: Nicholas Rystrom <nrystrom@revere.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 12:24 PM
To: Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>; Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>
Cc: Christopher Ciaramella <cciaramella@revere.org>
Subject: RE: (Revised Scope) Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Ashley,

Additionally, the City maintains the following:

Alden Ave

8” sanitary sewer line
10” water distribution line
10” stormwater collection line

Lynnway

12” sanitary sewer line
10” water distribution line

As a matter of public safety, we cannot provide the related utility plans.

Additionally, the requestor will have to contact MWRA for information about any MWRA water infrastructure in Lynnway and MassDCR about any stormwater infrastructure in Lynnway. We cannot disseminate information related to the infrastructure of other agencies.

Nick



Nicholas J. Rystrom, P.E.
City Engineer – Tree Warden
Engineering Department
Email: nrystrom@revere.org
Phone: (781) 286-8153

From: Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 11:40 AM
To: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>; Nicholas Rystrom <nrystrom@revere.org>

Subject: Re: (Revised Scope) Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Correct.

Best Regards,

Francesca Scalese
[Engineering Department](mailto:fscalese@revere.org)

City of Revere

319 Charger Street
Revere, MA 02151
Office - 781-286-8152
fscalese@revere.org

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To: Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>; Nicholas Rystrom <nrystrom@revere.org>
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Hi Francesca:

To confirm, there are no plans that show the underground utilities as requested. These plans appear to only show roadways.

Thank you,

Ashley

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 [Block Plan 040 Rice Ave Harrington Ave Goodwin Ave Chamberlain Ave Delano Ave Lynnway Alden Ave 1.pdf](#)

 [LC953 Bickford Ave Alden Ave Lynnway Lancaster Ave 012073.pdf](#)
 [LP 153 Lynnway Alden Ave Delano Ave State Hwy Dec 31 1996.pdf](#)

Best Regards,

Francesca Scalese
[Engineering Department](#)

City of Revere

319 Charger Street
Revere, MA 02151
Office - 781-286-8152
fscalese@revere.org

From: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 9:18 AM
To: Nicholas Rystrom <nrystrom@revere.org>; Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>
Subject: RE: (Revised Scope) Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

OK, I'll let the requester know that there are no records responsive to that portion of the request just yet. Do you know a typical time frame as to when "as-builts" become available?

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Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 8:54 AM
To: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>; Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>
Subject: RE: (Revised Scope) Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Ashley,

FYI, we don't have as-built utility plans yet

Nick



Nicholas J. Rystrom, P.E.
City Engineer – Tree Warden
Engineering Department
Email: nrystrom@revere.org
Phone: (781) 286-8153

From: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>

Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 8:51 AM

To: Nicholas Rystrom <nrystrom@revere.org>; Francesca Scalese <fscalese@revere.org>

Subject: (Revised Scope) Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Hi Nick and Francesca:

Revised request for utility map comparisons of before and after construction of the new fire station.

Thank you,

Ashley

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Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 4:45 PM

To: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>

Subject: RE: Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Dear Ashley,

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As part of my Public Records Request to MassDOT (P001904-082825), I was asked to provide incident dates on the information I was requesting. As I identified in my request to them, I would like to get maps of the area both before and after construction of the new Alden Mills Firehouse.

If possible, I'd like to amend my original information request with the city to be for detailed utility maps of the area from before and after construction of the new Alden Mills Firehouse. Please let me know if you have any questions, or need me to do anything further.

Thank you,
Robert

Robert Bamberg

Email: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com

www: <http://www.pcphoneconnections.com>

From: Ashley Melnik [<mailto:amelnik@revere.org>]

Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 3:10 PM

To: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com

Subject: RE: Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

For state records, I would recommend filing a request with DCR and MassDOT.

<https://www.mass.gov/forms/dcr-public-records-request>
<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/submit-a-public-records-request-to-the-department-of-transportation>

Ashley E. Melnik, CMC

City Clerk · Clerk of Council · Justice of the Peace
Clerk to the Zoning Board of Appeals
281 Broadway
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From: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com <robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 28, 2025 2:10 PM

To: Ashley Melnik <amelnik@revere.org>

Subject: Request for Information - Detailed maps showing all city, state, and public/private utility lines

Dear Ashley,

My name is Robert Bamberg, and I am a Revere resident and homeowner living at 8 Alden Ave in the Point of Pines. We met earlier today at your office regarding my request for information.

I am looking to obtain detailed maps showing all city, state, public and private utility lines that run through the Point of Pines. Specifically I am looking for maps that include Delano Ave, Alden Ave, and Bickford Ave, along with a span of the Lynnway that abuts each of these 3 streets. Please reach out on my behalf to all entities that might control release of this information.

I understand that I should receive city controlled information within 10 days of this request. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Regards,

Robert Bamberg

Robert Bamberg

Email: robert.bamberg@pcphoneconnections.com

www: <http://www.pcphoneconnections.com>

September 19, 2025

Supervisor of Records
Secretary of the Commonwealth
1 Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you to appeal my information request that was denied by the City of Revere, MA 02151.

On Thursday, August 28, 2025 I submitted an information request to the City of Revere, MA 02151 for copies of detailed maps showing all city, state, public and private utility lines that run through the Point of Pines area of Revere, specifically in the area of my home at 8 Alden Ave. On Tuesday September 2, 2025 the city responded that it did not have any records responsive to my request. After asking for clarification, I was sent a revised response letting me know that my request had been denied for public safety reasons.

I made this request as part of my investigation to learn what is causing my home to vibrate and shake when heavy loads pass over areas of the Lynnway and possibly Alden Ave. It is my contention that these disturbing movements are the direct result of infrastructure changes made to support the newly constructed Alden Mills Firehouse.

As I explained to Revere Building Inspector Benjamin DeChristoforo, Revere Ward 5 City Councilor Angela Guarino-Sawaya, Revere Superintendent DPW/WSD Christopher Ciaramella, and Revere City Clerk Ashley Melnik, the recent construction of the new Alden Mills Firehouse in the Point of Pines is now causing the earth around my home to move. This movement, which caused my home to shift and sometimes jump during the construction, continues today to cause my home to vibrate and shake when heavy loads pass along the Lynnway outside the new Alden Mills Firehouse.

A large crack that opened in the street in front of my home during the new firehouse construction now appears to be extending through my driveway. Because the crack extends from an area in the street where National Grid had to make multiple emergency overnight gas leak repairs during construction, I also called National Grid. The technician who came out to my home told me that the street crack was not from one of their lines and suggested I contact the city.

The city has largely ignored my requests for help with this matter, and instead provided me with a Notice of Claim Form that I should use if I believed my home was damaged during construction of the new firehouse. Additionally, I was told that it was the responsibility of the homeowner to investigate any such claims, which is why I made my request.

Thank you for considering my appeal,

Robert Bamberg

For more information on my original information request and city responses, please see email conversation documents 'Email_1_AshleyMelnik_RevereCityClerk.mht' and 'Email_2_AshleyMelnik_RevereCityClerk.mht'. These are HTML based documents that should be viewable in any web browser.