



## Legislation Text

---

**File #:** 1253-2021, **Version:** 1

---

The Department of Public Utilities, Division of Sewerage and Drainage has a need for a Sewer Root Control program to kill root growth in sanitary sewer lines 6” to 36” in diameter and inhibit root re-growth. The Division of Sewerage and Drainage has determined that the chemical diquat dibromide is the most effective at treating roots in sewers. It is approved by the United States EPA for this use and classified as non-carcinogenic and not considered a volatile compound. Further, diquat dibromide has little or no effect on treatment plant processes, therefore, making this chemical preferred for use in the Division’s Root Control program. The Division has further determined that other chemicals are not acceptable for use in this program as being either non-effective or containing metam sodium which has been classified by the US EPA as a likely carcinogen.

Duke’s Root Control, Inc. is the only contractor licensed and registered to apply diquat dibromide otherwise known as Razorooter II, and that Razorooter II is a patented technology. Duke’s Root Control, Inc. has been identified by the Division of Sewerage and Drainage as the only commercial applicator licensed by the manufacturer to apply Razorooter II and registered with the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Duke’s Root Control, Inc. has the capacity and capability to perform this program. This ordinance is being submitted in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapter 329 of City Code relating to Sole Source procurement.

The Division of Sewerage and Drainage wishes to enter into a service agreement from date of execution by the City of Columbus to and including December 31, 2021.

**SUPPLIER:** Duke’s Root Control, Inc., EIN #75-3026801, D365 #010159, Expires April 29, 2022

The company is not debarred according to the Excluded Party Listing System of the Federal Government or prohibited from being awarded a contract according to the Auditor of State Unresolved Findings for Recovery Certified Search.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The Division of Sewerage and Drainage has allocated \$110,000.00 for sewer line root control program services in the 2021 budget.

\$47,139.65 was spent in 2020  
\$150,000.00 was spent in 2019

To authorize the Director of Public Utilities to enter into an agreement with Duke’s Root Control, Inc. for Sewer Root Control Services in accordance with Sole Source provisions of the City Code for the Division of Sewerage and Drainage, and to authorize the expenditure of \$110,000.00 from the Sewer Operating Sanitary Fund. (\$110,000.00)

**WHEREAS**, the Sewer Maintenance Operations Center has a need for a Sewer Root Control program to kill root growth in sewer lines and inhibit root re-growth, and

**WHEREAS**, Duke’s Root Control, Inc. provides the Division with these services, and

**WHEREAS**, the Division of Sewerage and Drainage has determined that the chemical diquat dibromide is the most effective at treating roots in sewers. It is approved for use by the United States EPA for this use and classified as non-carcinogenic and not considered a volatile compound. Further, diquat dibromide has little or no effect on treatment plant

processes, therefore, making this chemical preferred for use in the Division's Root Control program, and

**WHEREAS**, the Division has further determined that other chemicals are not acceptable for use in this program being either non-effective or containing metam sodium which has been classified by the US EPA as a likely carcinogen, and

**WHEREAS**, Duke's Root Control, Inc. is the only contractor licensed and registered to apply diquat dibromide otherwise known as Razorooter II, and that Razorooter II is a patented technology, and

**WHEREAS**, Duke's Root Control, Inc. has been identified by the Division of Sewerage and Drainage as the only commercial applicator licensed by the manufacturer to apply Razorooter II and registered with the Ohio Department of Agriculture, and

**WHEREAS**, Duke's Root Control, Inc. has the capacity and capability to perform this program, and

**WHEREAS**, this ordinance is being submitted in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapter 329 of City Code relating to Sole Source procurement, and

**WHEREAS**, the Division of Sewerage and Drainage wishes to enter into a service agreement from date of execution by the City of Columbus to and including December 31, 2021, and

**WHEREAS**, it has become necessary in the usual daily operation of the Department of Public Utilities, Division of Sewerage and Drainage, to authorize the Director of Public Utilities to enter into contract for Sewer Root Control Services with Duke's Root Control, Inc.; now, therefore

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the Director of Public Utilities be and is hereby authorized to enter into a service agreement with Duke's Root Control, Inc., 1020 Hiawatha Boulevard West, Syracuse, NY 13204-1131, for Sewer Root Control Services, in accordance with the relevant provisions of Chapter 329 of City Code relating to Sole Source procurement, for the Division of Sewerage and Drainage.

**SECTION 2.** That the expenditure of \$110,000.00 or so much thereof as may be needed, is hereby authorized in Fund 6100 Sewer Operating Sanitary Fund in object class 03 Services per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

**SECTION 3.** That the funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are hereby deemed appropriated, and the City Auditor shall establish such accounting codes as necessary.

**SECTION 4.** That the City Auditor is authorized to make any accounting changes to revise the funding source for all contracts or contract modifications associated with this Ordinance.

**SECTION 5.** That this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.