

CECIL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
VILLAGE OF LAWRENCE SANITARY SEWER PROJECT

Frequently Asked Questions

- ***What is the Schedule for Sanitary Sewer Construction Work:***

Construction is projected to start in June 2023 and continue for 12 months (Mainline Sewer Installation, Testing of Sewers, and Restoration). Mainline sewer installation to proceed in June, a schedule showing projected construction by street is available on the Authority website and will be updated during construction.

The Treatment Plant will be constructed in parallel with the sanitary sewers such that the plant will be ready for customers to connect at the end of the 12-month timeframe (Projected in Summer 2024).

- ***Where can I view a map of the sanitary sewers?***

A key map showing the project area with the proposed sanitary sewer locations and laterals is available on the Authority website as well as the Authority office for review.

- ***Who can I contact regarding questions on the proposed sanitary sewer location as well as email complaints during construction?***

Please contact the Authority at 724-746-4848 x1 or lawrenceproject@ceciltownship.com and you will be contacted regarding any questions or complaints during construction.

- ***What preparations should Homeowner's complete just before Line Work?***

Any vehicles or materials being stored in the path of the proposed sanitary sewer installation work will need to be relocated by the Homeowner prior to construction. Contractor will be notifying residents when construction is imminent on a street.

Contractor has completed preconstruction videography of areas to be disturbed during construction, their scope of work requires restoration of areas disturbed to preconstruction conditions.

- ***Are there financial aid resources available for payment of tap fees and installation of my sewer lateral?***

There are federal and state resources available that residents can apply for funding through USDA (Federal) and PENNVEST (State), information is available at the Authority offices.

The USDA program has income requirements to be eligible to apply, residents aged 62 and older may also be eligible for grant funding.

The PENNVEST program offers low interest loans and is available to all residents to apply.

- **What am I required to do to abandon my septic tank?**

Authority will provide information on their website in future on this topic.

- **Where will the Authority be installing the sewer services to my property and what is a homeowner required to do to connect?**

The Authority sewer line contractor will be installing the sewer lateral to the edge of the public right of way or Authority Easement, refer to key map on authority website for approximate location.

Homeowners will be required to hire a third-party plumber and install sanitary sewer lateral from their structure to the portion installed by the Authority. Standard details for construction will be provided on the Authority website.

Each Homeowner will be required to pay a Tap Fee for service, this is typical of all Authority customers obtaining sewage service. The Tap Fee for this project has not been set to date, it is currently estimated at \$5,000.00. This tap fee is to be used for payment of a portion of the proposed project's mainline installation.

- **How will a Homeowner know when they are to connect to the new sewer system?**

Once construction of the mainline is complete and the proposed Treatment Plant is in operation, Homeowners will be provided a notice to connect letter from the Authority.

All Homeowners that have access to the new sanitary sewers are required to connect in accordance with Township Ordinance once notice is provided to connect.

- **What is the budget for this project? Did the Authority obtain funding from state agencies for construction?**

The project budget for the Village of Lawrence Sewage Facilities project is \$21.8M. A low interest loan from PENNVEST was obtained for partial funding of the project (\$18M); a federal appropriation received from Senator Casey (\$1M) and a grant from Washington County Local Share Account (\$300K). The remainder is being funding using Tap Fees obtained from the project and Authority capital reserve and a \$1M contribution from the Township to the project.

- **Will this project service any other areas?**

This specific project is proposed to serve new customers as well as existing customers and includes capacity for future customers. Existing customers in the surrounding area currently connected to the outdated Teodori treatment plant will be served by the new Lawrence treatment plant. The Teodori treatment plant will be demolished and replaced with a sewage lift station which will serve existing customers as well as a portion of the new customers to pump flows from the previous plant site to the new Treatment Plant.

- **What are the projected user rates?**

The Authority has implemented a 5-year rate increase to fund this project as well as fund debt service for the Miller's Run project as well as increased expenses for customers connected to the Canonsburg Houston Joint Sewer Authority. The projected rate for 2025 is a service fee of \$30 per month with a usage of \$8.50 per 1,000 gallons for residential users.

The Authority has a uniform rate for all customers in the Township, this fee applies to all customers (note that customers in the Miller's Run service area are subject to a debt service fee currently in place from a past bond issue).