



Indian Waters Septic to Sewer Project Phase I Information Sheet

Future public meetings

- Residents will be notified via US Mail of upcoming public hearings. If we have your email on file you will receive a notice that way as well.
- The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 22 at 6:00pm.

How much will my monthly sewer bill be?

- Customers outside of the City limits pay:
 - \$20.85 base rate and \$6.95 per thousand gallons
 - Single family home ranges from 4,000-12,000 gallons per month. Making monthly costs range from \$48.65-\$104.25, in addition to water fees.
- Customers within the City limits pay:
 - \$16.67 base charge and \$5.55 per thousand gallons

Who is responsible for the costs involved?

Item	Responsible Party
Construction of the municipal wastewater collection system (grinder station)	City, grant and residents through the assessment
Physical connection to the system by each resident, including plumbing and electric	Residents (less any additional grants obtained)
Connection/Impact Fees	Residents (less any additional grants obtained)

What is the total project cost to the resident?

- Final project costs are not available currently. At the next meeting, June 22, there will be more definite numbers provided.

Why does the City charge County residents a 25% surcharge?

- City residents pay City property taxes (millage) which are used to pay for the costs of services provided by the City. The County surcharge is used to offset the City's expenses associated with servicing County residents. (i.e., City residents pay for City services with property taxes; County residents pay for City services associated with water through a surcharge).

Who maintains the system once it is installed?

- Each resident will be connected via a small pump station located on or adjacent to their property. The City maintains the pump station, ideally located within the right of way, and the low-pressure force main. The resident is responsible for electrical service to the pump station from the meter box and maintaining the gravity sewer lateral, leading to the pump station, on their property. If the station is located on the resident's property, an easement will be requested from the resident for the City to maintain the system.

Will I have to pay extra to remove my septic mound?

- Each resident will be provided a fixed dollar contribution to offset the cost of the physical connection to the system and abandon their existing septic system. Additional costs of the private property work, beyond the contribution would be the residents' responsibility.

Combination of lots (vacant lots)

- If a lot is buildable, it would be subject to an assessment for the construction of the infrastructure to provide sewer service.
- If an owner of a vacant lot adjoining their resident wishes to avoid the assessment on the vacant lot, a unity of title, which means no building on additional lot, would be necessary.

Annexation

- Annexation is not required as part of this project. However, it is something the residents might consider. There are several ways an annexation could take place.
- Voluntary – Properties that are contiguous to the City may petition the City at any time to annex.
- Involuntary – This is accomplished via a vote of the electors in a geographic area wishing to annex. If many of the residents want into the City, the area can be annexed. If the community is interested in this, the City would request a petition showing enough support to move forward.
- For consideration, the benefits/disadvantages of annexing
 - City residents do not pay the 25% surcharge on water/sewer. The savings will vary by the customer's water/sewer use but is estimated to be about \$200/yr.
 - The City charges a \$3,425.00 sewer connection fee to non-residents, this would be reduced by \$685.00 if annexed into the City.
 - The City provides twice per week garbage collection as well as once per week recycling, yard waste and bulk item pickup for \$15.99 per month, billed on the water/sewer bill.
 - The City has a contract with the Citrus County Sheriff's Department for enhanced police services. This is a community oriented policing contract.

- Fire – The City volunteer fire department is approximately 2 miles from the project area. The closest County stations are 6 and 8 miles away. There is a mutual aid agreement with the County. Except for minor type calls, annexing would not improve fire services but is cheaper as explained below.
- Taxes
 - The City Millage rate is 4.800. It is estimated with the typical homestead exemptions the City tax on a \$200,000 assessed home would be \$720.
 - The County Fire Rescue EMS tax, currently .5881 mils is not charged to City residents.
 - The County Fire Services MSBU, currently \$79/year, is not charged to City residents.
 - The County solid waste MSBU, currently \$25/year, is not charged to City residents.
 - Short term rentals
 - Allowed in the County.
 - Not allowed in the City unless the stay exceeds 90 days.