

Shannon W. Holmes  
*Public Works Director*

Martha O'Rourke  
*Project Manager*

Almira Johansson  
*Administrative Assistant*

Chuck Raymond  
*Waste Reclamation Facility*



330 Bennett Street  
Livingston, MT 59047  
Phone: (406) 222-5667

[www.livingstonmontana.org](http://www.livingstonmontana.org)

Hal Haefs  
*Water / Sewer*

Craig Hahn  
*Streets*

Rich Stordalen  
*Solid Waste*

Dan Busch  
*Parks*

December 9, 2021

Hello Green Acres Residents,

Thank you to everyone who was able to make it to our community meeting on December 8th. We had a great discussion and valuable input from all who attended. This letter summarizes the meeting, provides all the documents we reviewed, and gives you **one week** to respond with your choice of sewer alignment. Please vote with your choice of alignment (street or backyard) **by Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**. Please only one vote per residence.

1. Update on Grant Funding & Project Expansion: Late last week, the City (City Manager, the City's grant writer, Lisa Lowy, and Matt McGee) met with the Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) staff to discuss our application for \$600,000 toward the sewer main extension for Green Acres. We were told that the City of Livingston actually cannot qualify for these grant funds due to population and poverty levels and suggested we pursue the second round of American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) monies. This was tough news since we had already prepared our application for the CBDG. The other issue with ARPA funds is that they must be spent in a way to benefit ALL of the City of Livingston residents. Therefore, should we receive the second round of ARPA funds of 2 million dollars, it would not be fair to use it only for the Green Acres sewer system.

As such, our City Manager requested we expand the sewer project to encapsulate ALL the remaining properties on septic systems that have been newly annexed into the City for the ARPA grant money. This would include the Montague subdivision just to the east of Green Acres and other properties in this area. This unfortunately will push our anticipated project schedule back due to a need to design much more sewer main and begin communications with those residents. The project schedule will now be dictated by this ARPA grant. We will proceed with the assumption we will be receiving this money.

2. The approximately 70 additional properties with septic systems that are going to be added to this project will still be included in the payback for the Brookstone sewer main. Any water improvement costs that are decided upon for Green Acres will only be added to Green Acres resident SID costs.

3. The two sewer alignment options for Green Acres were presented: Option 1 in the streets and option 2 in the backyard. Both alignments were compared side by side. Please find attached the two alignments with the alternative comparison table.
4. Many questions were asked during the meeting. Please find attached the Q&A sheet from the meeting.

A couple notes on the sewer alignments:

- Street Alignment (Alt. 1): The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requires 10 feet of horizontal separation between a water main and a sewer main. Depending on where a water main is located in the street, the new sewer main may not be down the center of the street but may be off to one side.
- Backyard Alignment (Alt. 2): Many residents do not know where their actual property lines are. In some cases, some properties may need to give more than 10-feet of their backyard for the sewer main access easement depending on how the fence and house were built in relation to the true property lines.

Please remember, the cost to connect your home to the sewer main is separate from the SID cost. This is because the plumbing inside your house and all the way to the sewer main is considered private in Livingston. All plumbing connections must be made by a licensed plumber. I did promise a list of local contractors and plumbers, but will have to send this out in a separate email. It would be a great idea to connect with a contractor and plumber to discuss your options for connection to the proposed sewer main.

Once we have a decision of sewer alignment, we can start our discussions on water and street improvements. There are many options from minimum improvements that we would highly recommend, the maximum improvements of completely new water mains and paved streets with curb and gutter, and then everything in between.

Our round 2 ARPA application is due January 16<sup>th</sup>, and we should have notice of results by the end of March. We hope to have the project completely designed and ready to go out for bidding when we hear that we (hopefully) are awarded the \$2 million grant.

As always, please do not hesitate to call with any questions.

Sincerely,

**City of Livingston**  
*Public Works Department*