

To Woodridge Lake Sewer District Taxpayers

Enclosed is the official notice informing you of a special meeting of WLS D taxpayers on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am in the Woodridge Lake Clubhouse. This is an important meeting and we urge you all to attend. While the attached notice appears complex due to the legal wording required, the meeting has three primary purposes:

1. To re-appropriate \$176,000 from last year's budget to the current year's budget. This is for work on our Facilities Plan Update that was not spent during the last fiscal year due to timing issues but will be expended this year.
2. To consider a major expenditure of \$983,000 to reduce the large amount of inflow and infiltration (I/I) in our collection system (\$529,000) and to install a control and monitoring system (SCADA) at our pump stations and plant to monitor flows, spot sources of I/I and reduce the potential for back-ups and overflows (\$454,000). However, as \$459,625 of the expenditure on I/I was approved as part of the 2012/13 Budget at the May 26, 2012 Budget meeting, the resolution calls for taxpayers to approve the SCADA expenditure of \$454,000 plus an additional \$69,375 for the I/I remediation work for a total of \$523,375.
3. To approve the financing of the \$983,000 expenditure through a loan of that amount from the state's Clean Water Fund at 2% over 20 years. The wording in the authorization provides the District with the flexibility to seek financing from other more attractive sources if available. We anticipate being able to inform you at the meeting that DEEP has pre-approved the District for the Clean Water Fund loan.

In addition to asking you to approve the resolutions, the District will use this opportunity to update you on its important work on its Facilities Plan Update.

#### Background

Past public meetings, mailings and Breezes articles (see the current issue of Breezes) have kept you abreast of the District's work on its Facilities Plan Update and its efforts to come into compliance with the 1989 Consent Order from DEEP to operate our facility with a limit of 100,000 gallons per day (gpd) of wastewater flow. The District averaged 105,000 gpd of wastewater flow (50,000 gpd of effluent and 55,000 gpd of I/I) during the past 2 years (2010 and 2011) with sewer connections to 677 properties. There are an additional 200 properties that could potentially connect to the system bringing the potential of additional effluent flows between 14,800 and 22,200 gpd. Thus, the total build-out of the system could approach 127,200 gpd if we don't reduce the estimated 55,000 gpd of inflow and infiltration in the system.

We conducted tests on our disposal fields this Spring that demonstrated to our consultants and the District that our fields are capable of disposing of more than the 100,000 gpd that is now permitted. It will be our task in the coming months to get DEEP to accept our conclusions. Whether we upgrade and continue to operate our existing plant and disposal fields with DEEP's approval or build a pipeline to ship our wastewater to Torrington (our two alternatives), it is in our economic interest to reduce the flow of wastewater into our collection system and to be able to monitor flows to spot the sources of I/I and prevent back-ups and overflows.

### The Meeting

At the meeting on October 27, we will present an update of the work done over the past six months on our Facilities Plan Update. This will include a review of our Disposal Field Test results and other developments including our study on flows and pollutant loadings.

We will take you through our analysis of the I/I remediation work and the SCADA system (control, data acquisition and monitoring of the collection system) projects and why we are recommending taxpayers approve these major expenditures.

We will explain where we are with DEEP on the Clean Water Fund loan, what it will cost and how it will work. We will provide information on the impact on taxpayers in the District resulting from this expenditure.

We will have our legal counsel at the meeting to talk you through the resolutions and to answer any questions.

The District is entering a critical phase of its work on the Facilities Plan and it is in every taxpayer's interest to stay informed and vote on the important issues that the District faces in the operation of its wastewater control facility.

See you on October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Woodridge Lake Sewer District Board of Directors