



REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
CITY OF INDEPENDENCE
August 13, 2020

Department Utilities

Director Approval Terence Lybarger

AGENDA ITEM Consider authorizing City staff to bid out connection to the sanitary sewer main in the 300 block of Westminster and assess the cost back to the property owners.???

SUMMARY RECOMMENDATION Approve City staff to bid sewer connections.

BACKGROUND In 2012 the City was made aware of an issue with the private sewer line in the 300 block of Westminster Place, former City Manager Micky Webb and Utilities Director Terry Lybarger met with all of the property owners and came to an agreement that if the City installed a new sewer main in the alley behind the affected properties the property owners would connect to the new main line at their own expense. The City installed the new sewer main line in 2013 and since that time 3 of the 9 properties have connected. On February 6, 2020 the City sent letters to the property owners advising them that they needed to connect by April 1, 2020. With the pandemic occurring, on May 11, 2020 another letter was sent extending the deadline to August 1, 2020. There have been no new connections as of August 10, 2020. If the Commission approves bidding this work out, we will send a follow up letter advising the property owners that the City is taking action to connect their property to the City's sanitary sewer system and that the cost will be assessed to their property. If the property owners will complete a Sewer Assistance Application, a portion of the costs could be provided as a grant. Another option would be to assess the balance of the costs over a ten-year period.

BUDGET IMPACT We will not know the budget impact until the project is bid, which would be funded from the water/sewer fund which would be reimbursed if the assessments are paid.

SUGGESTED MOTION I move to authorize City staff to bid out connection to the sanitary sewer main in the 300 block of Westminster Place and assess the cost back to the property owners.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Copies of Letters sent on February 6, 2020
2. Sample of Letter sent May 11, 2020 extending the deadline to August 1, 2020 (was sent to all property owners).
3. Proposed letter to be sent advising the property owners the City will be taking action to connect their property to the City's sanitary sewer system.