

Gleneden Sanitary District PO Box 96 Gleneden Beach, OR 97388 541-764-2475

## Tax Authorization for Existing Infrastructure

- Gleneden Sanitary District is asking for voter approval of a 5-year tax levy of **up to** \$0.77 per \$1,000 of assessed value to provide funding for a seven-year capital plan on the **existing** sewer system.
- Capital spending would include replacement and upgrades to **existing infrastructure**. The sewer system is aging and substantial expense is expected to be incurred over the next 5-7 years to continue to provide reliable service.
- Without this revenue, the District would need to immediately raise user rates above and beyond <u>normal standard increases for operational costs</u>. This would amount to a significant increase.

## The projects in the existing seven-year capital plan <u>do not</u> include the new wastewater treatment facility. This plan is still 5-7 years out from completion.

- 1. Why are we asking for money?
  - a. Cover projected costs of high priority pump station replacements from the District's Master Plan. The District has developed a long-range capital spending plan (5-7 years) for replacement of aging collection systems infrastructure.
    - i. Pump Station Replacements
      - 1. Current pump stations needing replacement were built between 1975-1976
      - 2. The District currently has 16 pump stations, 11 of which will need replacement in upcoming years based on priority status
      - 3. Like most infrastructure in the US, ours is deteriorating
    - ii. Upgrade telemetry & control systems
      - 1. Current control & telemetry systems are 25+ years old and have become outdated
      - 2. Current pump station controls cannot be repaired any longer because parts are no longer available due to age
      - 3. Telemetry systems control the sewer alarms which prevent sewer spills and are a vital part of state compliance



- 2. What other funding options have been considered?
  - a. <u>Price increases-</u> base rate could increase 40-50% based on rate study projections of the current Master Plan.
  - b. <u>Use Bond approval to raise capital</u> Long term, this would not be the most cost-effective option as it could become necessary to fund the Waste Water Treatment Facility in 5-7 years. A Bond levy does come with placement fees and interest expenses.
- 3. What are the benefits of choosing a Local Tax Option to raise funds for existing capital?
  - a. Tax payments are deductible on personal income taxes.
  - b. Spreads funding over all potential property owners in the District which would include all unimproved lots. An estimated 20% of the District (375 lots) have no sewer connection
  - c. The Board of Directors could elect to assess less than the maximum rate of \$0.77 per \$1,000 of assessed value if estimated costs were less than projected.
  - d. Keeps user rates that are paid monthly at a reasonable price with reasonable increases for operational costs.

## Questions or comments? Please join our Board meetings on March 13<sup>th</sup> or April 10<sup>th</sup> at 4pm - held at the District office or virtually.

## A community outreach meeting will be scheduled and details will be posted on the District website.