

# Ellendale Water District Discussion

## Community Meeting

August 16, 2017



# Project Timeline

1. Sussex County received 50 eligible petitions seeking the creation of a water district in the proposed boundary
2. Today: Community Informational Meeting
3. September: County Council will vote to establish a proposed boundary
4. September: Confirm cost estimate and develop user rate based on final boundary
5. October: Host Public Hearing on the proposed boundary, present user rate and explain referendum process
6. November: Hold referendum vote

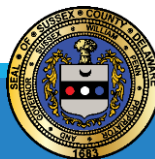
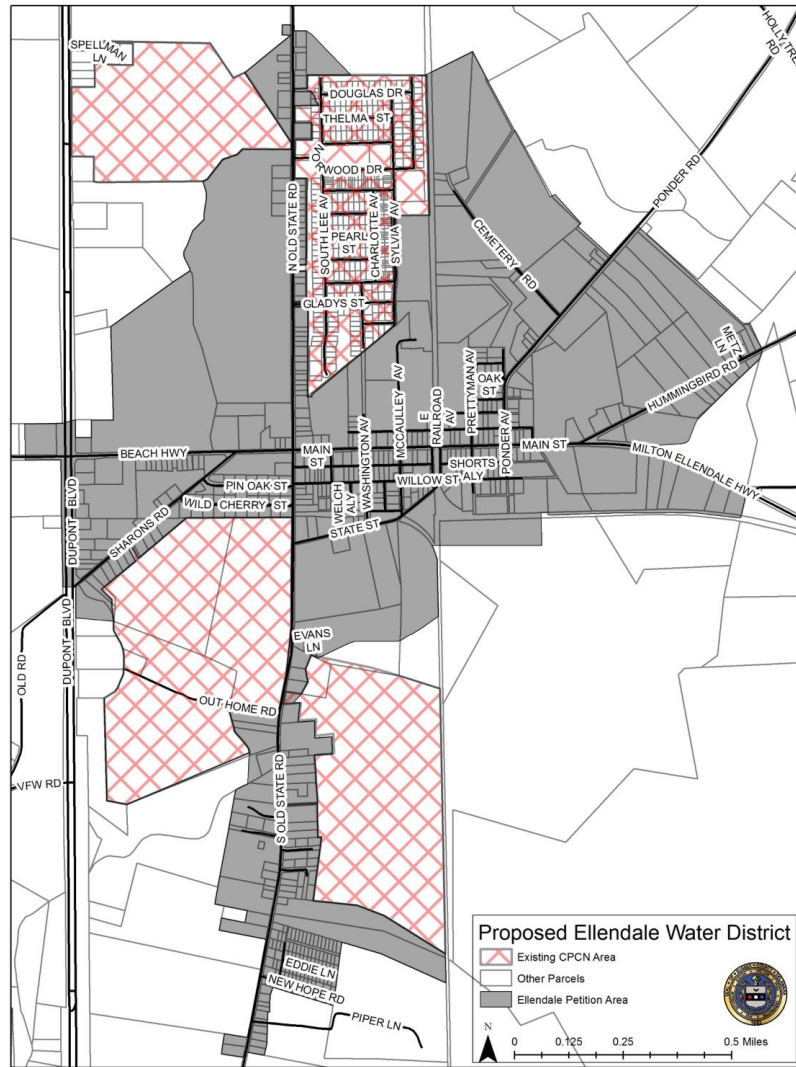


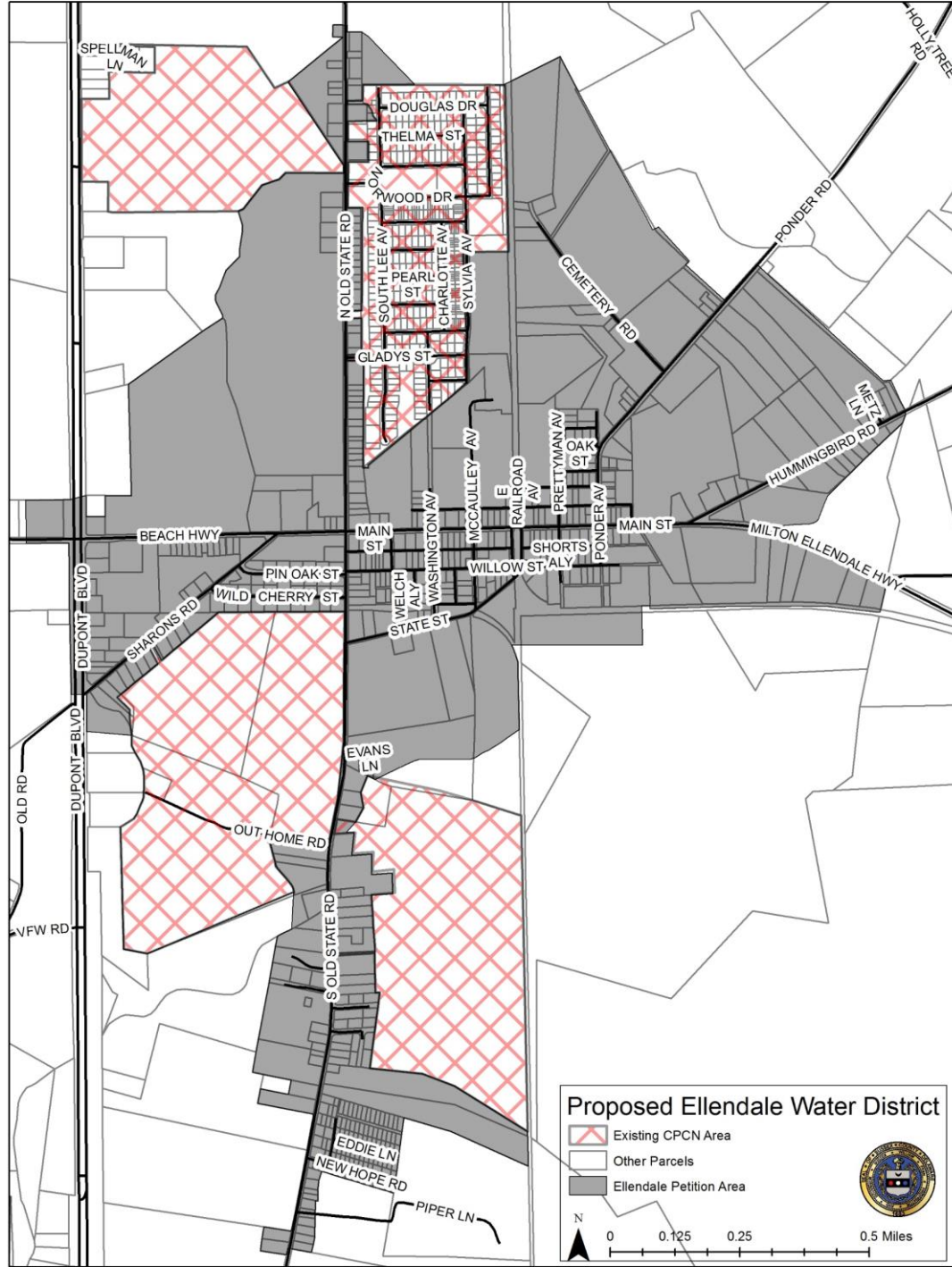
# Project Outline & Details

- Sussex County has met with a number of stakeholders in the community including the Town Council, representatives of the Fire Company and other community leaders.
- Sussex County will go through the referendum process of establishing a water district as the sufficient number (50) of petitions have been received.
- Sussex County will contract with Artesian Water Company to supply the water to customers.
- Federal/State funding will require individual water meters for all customers.
- Artesian Water Company will provide meter readings to Sussex County.
- Sussex County will bill individual customers based on meter readings.
- Artesian Water Company to perform maintenance on hydrants, valves and water main and all general operations & maintenance.



# Proposed Water District Boundary





# Water District Costs

- Combined State, DWSRF & USDA capital funding package with an average user rate not to exceed \$400 per year for the average consumer.
- Estimated average household cost:
  - \$360 – consumption (based on 150 gallons per day per customer)
  - \$40 – front footage cost\*\*
  - Total: \$400 per year (on average)
- Sussex County has established baseline cost estimate with Artesian Water Company @ \$6.58/1000 gallons for bulk supply.
- Sussex County will perform individual water utility billing based on meter readings @ \$6.58/1000 gallons.

\*\*Non-profits such as churches and fire companies do not pay front footage costs



# Q&A – private wells

County Code does not regulate non-domestic wells and the County will not seek any changes to the non-domestic wells. Homes will be required to connect to the new water district for domestic purposes (e.g., kitchen and bathrooms).

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**Q:** *What happens to the existing private, non-domestic wells and/or agriculture wells?*

**A:** There are a few options that will vary depending on the property owner's decision.

Option #1: Connect to the new “Ellendale Water System” and a licensed plumber will abandon existing private well.

Option #2: Connect the residence to the new “Ellendale Water System” for domestic use only (e.g., kitchen and bathroom); replumb the water piping to separate domestic system and non-domestic system; certify the separation; maintain private well for non-domestic use (yard, garden, geothermal, etc.).

**Q:** *Will a resident be permitted to install a non-domestic “aka” an agriculture well for non-domestic use (yard, garden, car washing, etc.)?*

**A:** Yes. So long as the resident is connected to the “Ellendale Water System” for domestic use and the private well is utilized for non-domestic use.



# Q&A – Ellendale Fire Company



**Q:** *What effect will the new water district have on the existing Ellendale Fire Company's non-domestic well?*

**A:** The County will not seek any change to the Fire Company's non-domestic well and the Company will be allowed to use the well for non-domestic purposes. Any domestic purposes (e.g., kitchen and bathrooms) will be required to connect to the new water district.

**Q:** *Will the Ellendale Fire Company be consulted for the design of the water lines and fire hydrants?*

**A:** Yes. The fire hydrants will be designed to Company standards and the Fire Company will be consulted on the system layout.





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## Questions & Comments

