# Sussex County Engineering Department

Sussex County Unified Sanitary Sewer District Proposed Expansion



Sherwood Forest North Area Public Hearing April 25, 2019



# **Proposed Expansion Area**



## **Existing County Infrastructure\***



<sup>\*</sup> No Pumpstation required



### **HOW WE GOT HERE TODAY**

- 1. The Engineering Department received multiple contacts from the community interested in central sewer, stating failing on-site septic systems.
- 2. In response, the Engineering Department mailed an initial Polling Letter on March 15, 2018 to all 167 parcels followed by a second targeted mailing to non responders on May 9, 2018. In total 120 responses were received.
- 3. The results from the polling were compiled and presented to County Council on March 12, 2019 reflecting 67 parcels in favor (40%) and 53 parcels opposed (32%).
- 4. Subsequently County Council authorized to hold the Public Hearing for the expansion of the Sussex County Unified Sanitary Sewer District as per Del. Code, Title 9 Chapter 6502.



## **NEXT STEPS**

- 1. A summary of the testimony given during tonight's Public Hearing will be presented to County Council at one of their regularly scheduled Council Meetings. The record will be closed after tonight's Public Hearing.
- 2. County Council will weigh the testimony and vote on a resolution whether or not to extend the boundaries of the sewer district.
- 3. If Council votes in favor of the expansion the Engineering Department will file a Notice-of-Intent to provide service with the State in 2020.
- 4. If approved in the State's Intended Use Plan, the County will be invited to apply for project funding.
- 5. Once an acceptable funding package is received and accepted by Council, the Department will proceed with design, bidding and construction of the infrastructure.
- 6. Service availability expected within 4-5 years.



### **Estimated Rates**

#### **Current Annual Service Charge:**

\$292.00/year per EDU (Equivalent Dwelling Unit); billed quarterly to connected customers (subject to change during the annual budget process).

#### **Annual Estimated Sewer Assessment Charge:**

\$633.00 (fixed for the term of the financing)

#### <u>System Connection Charge (SCC):</u>

**\$0.00** for existing homes the one-time SCC fee will be included in the financing. Any future connection will be charged the SCC fee in effect at that time, currently \$6,360.00.

#### **Estimated Annual Charge:**

\$292.00 (service charge) + \$633.00 (EDU) = **\$925.00** (based on estimated 2020 County-wide MHI)

#### **Estimated Connection Expense:**

Plumbing costs ±\$2,000 based on complexity and \$100 Permit Fee to Sussex County.



# ON-SITE SEPTIC SYSTEMS COST COMPARISON

- The Performance Standard Nitrogen (PSN-3) technology is in effect since November 2008 as per the Regulations Governing the Design, Installation and Operation of On-Site Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems.
- 2. The Regulations make a Class H Inspection mandatory prior to sale of an existing home.
- 3. All systems requiring any type of component replacement must be upgraded to PSN-3 technology.
- 4. On average PSN-3 technology increases the price of a replacement system by ~\$7,000 above normal replacement cost.
- 5. Systems with PSN-3 technology require mandatory operation and mainterion by a Certified Service Provider, with a cost in the range of \$300-\$400 per year.



# **Questions / Comments**

# Hook Up Procedure: Typical Gravity Connection

