

**DRAFT - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)**  
**Phase 1A - Wastewater System and Associated Watermain Improvements**  
**City of Oronoco, MN**  
**February 2021**

The intent of this FAQ is to provide brief answers to residents, business owners and property owners that will be impacted by the proposed wastewater system and associated watermain distribution improvement project. Additional information regarding easement acquisition will be provided to property owners directly impacted by proposed easements and a separate FAQ is planned for the construction phase of the project.

**1. Why does the City of Oronoco need a sewer system?**

*The City of Oronoco is the largest unsewered City in Minnesota. The City has a significant number of subsurface treatment systems (SSTS) that are either failing to meet current standards or are near the end of their expected service life. Oronoco is in an area with Karst geology and groundwater sensitivity to pollution is high to very high, meaning contaminants can reach the water table in hours to months. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), Olmsted County and the City of Oronoco are concerned about groundwater / surface water contamination and public health in Oronoco and the MPCA is requiring Oronoco address failing SSTS. An agreement between the three entities was executed in 2015 that requires Oronoco to have a compliant wastewater system in place by 2023. In addition, Oronoco is situated in an area that has significant growth potential. The best way to responsibly serve both existing development and future growth is through the construction of a municipal wastewater collection, conveyance, and treatment system. Additional information regarding this question is available on the City's website within the 2013 Community Assessment Report the 2017/2018 Regional Wastewater Study and the 2018 Oronoco Regional Wastewater Facility Plan and related documents.*

**2. Has the City explored all options to provide sewer to the residents of Oronoco?**

*Yes, the 2013 Community Assessment Report, the 2017/2018 Regional Wastewater Study and the 2018 Oronoco Regional Wastewater Facility Plan all looked at the options to provide Oronoco with wastewater treatment. Options that were evaluated included subsurface treatment systems, community drain fields, regionalization of wastewater treatment with surrounding communities (most notably Rochester and Pine Island) and the construction of a wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) in Oronoco. These options were discussed at numerous public information meetings, public hearings, Oronoco City Council meetings and Oronoco Sewer & Water Committee meetings. Ultimately in the summer of 2019, the Oronoco City Council voted to move forward with the design of a WWTF and associated sanitary sewer collection and conveyance system to serve the City of Oronoco and Oronoco Estates Mobile Home Community.*

**3. Where is Oronoco in the development of the wastewater system project?**

*The City has completed the following milestones associated with the development of the proposed wastewater system improvements:*

- *Completed a Regional Wastewater System and Associated Watermain Improvement Facility Plan that was approved by the MPCA.*
- *Prepared Feasibility Reports for all proposed Phase 1A Wastewater System and Water Distribution Improvements.*

- *Developed a Point to Non-Point phosphorous credit trading project. The project generates phosphorous credits via proposed riverbank stabilization improvements at two locations on the Middle Fork Zumbro River within Oronoco.*
- *Prepared an Antidegradation Alternatives Analysis to document that the proposed WWTF discharge will achieve and maintain the highest possible quality in surface waters of the state (Minn. R. 7050.0250). This document was approved by the MPCA in conjunction with the issuance of the City's NPDES Permit.*
- *Oronoco became the first city in the State of Minnesota to accept Regulatory Certainty and voluntarily agree to construct a biological nutrient removal (BNR) treatment system to reduce nitrogen in its discharge while the state is still working on a standard for this pollutant.*
- *Successfully completed an Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) .*
- *Completed a Wetland field delineation of the project area and report that have been approved by jurisdictional agencies.*
- *Completed an Oronoco Comprehensive Plan review and formally updated its Future Land Use Plan.*
- *A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) / State Disposal System (SDS) Permit has been issued for the Oronoco Wastewater System by the MPCA.*
- *Completed the required Archaeological evaluations of the project Area of Potential Effect (APE) including a Phase I Archaeological Survey and an Architectural History Analysis that have been approved by State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).*
- *Completed preliminary design of the proposed wastewater system and associated watermain improvements and subsequently began final design on all components of the project. WWTF 90% construction plans, project manual and bidding documents and associated MPCA forms were submitted for MPCA review on December 22, 2020. City Engineer (Stantec) is currently about 80% complete with the sanitary sewer collection, conveyance and watermain improvement design and construction plans, project manual and bidding documents. Stantec intends to complete this component of the project plans and will submit them to the MPCA for review in March 2021.*

**4. What funding has Oronoco secured for the wastewater system and associated water distribution project?**

- *Oronoco has been placed on the State's Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF) and Clean Water Revolving Fund (CWRF) Project Priority List (PPL) and 2021 Intended Use Plan (IUP). These actions qualify Oronoco for a low interest loan (likely 1 to 2%) over a 20- or 30-year term along with related grant funding. These loans will allow Oronoco to finance the "Local Share" of the project costs and the City plans to repay the loan with fees to be assessed to benefiting property owners in Phase 1A, 1B and 1C of the project and potentially user rates if needed.*
- *Oronoco completed application and is in position to receive \$7M in Point Source Implementation Grant (PSIG) Funding.*
- *Oronoco secured \$3M in funding through the 2017 and 2018 Bonding Bill and most recently \$24.027M in state grant funding through the 2020 Bonding Bill.*

**5. Will my parcel be served with gravity sewer or low pressure sewer?**

*There are approximately 87 developed parcels to be served by low pressure sewer. These parcels are predominantly located along the following streets and areas:*

- *NW Oronoco including All properties along: 1<sup>st</sup> Street NW, West Center Street, and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW.*
- *Stolps Cove Area including All properties along: 1<sup>st</sup> Place SW and 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW between 1<sup>st</sup> Place SW and 6<sup>th</sup> Street SW.*
- *Downtown Oronoco South of the Zumbro River including only properties along: 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SW, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SW, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE.*
- *Downtown Oronoco north of the Zumbro River including only properties along: 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW and two parcels east of the east termination point of 1<sup>st</sup> Street NW and one parcel on the south of 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW and adjacent to Oronoco Park.*

*See figures 14-22 in the Phase 1A Wastewater, Sanitary Sewer and Water Improvement Feasibility Report available on the City's website for an illustration of the parcels to be served with low-pressure sanitary sewer.*

#### **6. What is a low pressure sewer system?**

In simple terms, a low pressure sewer system consists of a grinder station that intercepts wastewater that flows out of your home and pumps it through a 1.25-inch diameter forcemain pipe to a lateral forcemain pipe located in the roadway right-of-way. The grinder station is a self-contained pump station with a small storage reservoir that is buried in the ground and is typically located near your home and existing septic tank. The grinder station is powered with a 30-amp electric service from each home and is provided by the homeowner. The 1.25-inch forcemain is horizontally directional drilled or trenched (depending on depth to bedrock) from the street to the grinder station. The gravity sanitary sewer pipe (typically 4 or 6-inch in diameter) between the home and the grinder station will also be replaced to minimize the chance of groundwater infiltration into the sewer system. The City's contractor will install the grinder station and associated piping and repair all construction related impacts to lawns, driveways, sidewalks, and landscaping on private property. Additional information on how low pressure sewer systems work is available on grinder pump manufacture websites such as E-One, Zoeller Pump, and others.

#### **7. Will my parcel be served with municipal water?**

There are approximately 120 parcels to be provided with municipal water service as part of the Phase 1A project. These parcels are located along the following streets and areas:

- *NW Oronoco including All properties along: 1<sup>st</sup> Street NW, West Center Street, and 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW.*
- *Stolps Cove Area including All properties along: 1<sup>st</sup> Place SW and 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW between 1<sup>st</sup> Place SW and 6<sup>th</sup> Street SW.*
- *Woodsvew 3<sup>rd</sup> Addition including only parcels along: Tree Top Lane SW and Forest Lane SW.*
- *Downtown Oronoco South of the Zumbro River including only properties along: 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SW, 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SW, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE.*
- *Downtown Oronoco north of the Zumbro River including only properties along: Minnesota Avenue South (4 parcels); 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue NE (1 Parcel) and 1 parcel located west of the western point of termination of 1<sup>st</sup> Street NW.*
- *Northern Oronoco including parcels along 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW between 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW and the TH 52 overpass bridge.*

*See figures 14-22 in the Phase 1A Wastewater, Sanitary Sewer and Water Improvement Feasibility Report available on the City's website for an illustration of the parcels to be served with municipal water service.*

**8. How much of my sewer / water service will be constructed as part of the City project?**

*Gravity sanitary sewer and water service pipe will extend from the sewer / water main located in the street, alley, or permanent easement to a point 5-feet short of each parcel property line. The property owner will then be required to hire a licensed plumber / utility contractor to complete the installation of the sewer / water service pipe from the property line to the home / business.*

*Low Pressure Sanitary Sewer Services will be constructed from the lateral sewer forcemain in the street right-of-way all the way to each individual home. Each property owner receiving this type of sewer service will be required to grant a permanent easement for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the low pressure sewer system. If this permanent easement is not granted, the low pressure sewer service will be terminated 5-feet short of the property line and the property owner will be required to complete the low pressure sewer system construction at their cost.*

*Project construction of low pressure sewer systems also includes pumping and abandonment of the existing subsurface treatment system (SSTS).*

*The scope of construction for parcels proposed to receive a low pressure sewer system differs significantly from parcels proposed to gravity sewer service pipe. The difference between the proposed scope of project construction for the two types of systems is a result of what state agencies will fund. Low pressure sewer system construction on private property is eligible for state funding because large low pressure systems with uniform pumping facilities are needed to efficiently design, construct and be maintained as part of the municipal sanitary sewer system. Note: The City of Oronoco will maintain all low pressure systems (including grinder stations) that are built as part of the project.*

**9. Will my street be reconstructed as part of the project and will I be assessed for the cost of the street reconstruction separately?**

*A significant number of streets in the older parts of Oronoco will be impacted by utility trenching operations and will require reconstruction as part of the project. Streets, driveways, culverts, and ditches impacted by construction will be reconstructed as part of the project to match preconstruction conditions or better. State funding will not allow significant street or drainage improvements in conjunction with the project such as roadway widening, storm sewer construction, etc. The estimated cost to repair / reconstruct roadway and drainage systems impacted by construction has been included in the project cost and associated fees are to be assessed to benefiting properties. The proposed fees to be assessed to benefiting property owners are the same for all properties regardless of whether a given street is reconstructed as part of the project or if it is not impacted.*

**10. What is a special assessment?**

*A special assessment is a charge imposed for an improvement that benefits the property. The special assessment is added to the parcel's property tax until the improvement project has been paid for. Special assessments are administered based upon Minnesota's 429 Statute.*

**11. Do the fees to be assessed to benefiting property owners for sewer service differ based upon what type of sewer service each parcel will receive, where the parcel is located or what the property value of the parcel is?**

*The total fee assessment for a given parcel is determined by which utility improvements the parcel receives (wastewater, water or wastewater and water) multiplied by the number of equivalent residential units (ERU) that is assigned to the given parcel.*

*Proposed wastewater / water fees to be assessed to benefiting properties are the same, regardless of property value, property age or location, or what type of sewer service (gravity or low pressure) is proposed to serve a given parcel.*

*The number of ERU to be assigned to a given parcel is determined based upon the following policy:*

- a. A single-family home is considered one ERU regardless of its size, property value or the amount of wastewater it generates.
- b. Existing Commercial, Light Manufacturing and Institutional properties (churches, public buildings) will be charged based upon a ratio of the actual average metered monthly water usage measured in December, January and February of 2022 to the estimated average flow of 5,000 gallons per month for a typical Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). For example, a commercial property that uses an average of 12,000 gallons per month would be charged  $12,000 / 5,000 = 2.4$  ERUs.
  - i. Properties with limited or no water usage during the water usage measurement period will have an average monthly usage calculated by using other water usage data as determined appropriate by the City Engineer.
  - ii. Parcels with calculated ERUs of 1.0 are to be charged (PIF=\$2,240 + SAC= \$850 + Lateral Sewer = \$2,870 for a total based on current estimates of \$5,960 per ERU). Parcels with over 1.0 ERU would be charged as noted above for their first 1.0 ERU; all additional ERUs would be charged only (PIF=\$2,240 + SAC= \$850 for a total based on current estimates of \$3,090 per ERU).
- c. No commercial, light manufacturing or institutional property will be considered less than 1.0 ERU.
- d. Undeveloped, platted commercial lots will be considered 1.0 ERU.
- e. Duplex or triplex residential properties, individual apartment units, mobile homes, individual tiny homes, and any other high-density residential living unit will be considered 0.8 ERU per unit.

Residential properties located in the newer subdivisions with existing Community Wastewater Treatment Systems (CWTS) will be considered 1 ERU and assessed the same fees as residents on individual or cluster Subsurface Treatment Systems (SSTS). No credit or consideration will be given to previous fees paid by the developer or property owners. No fee assessment credits or waivers in the allotted time permitted to connect to the sewer system will be offered for parcels with new Individual Subsurface Treatment Systems (ISTS). All parcels will be treated equally.

**12. What are the property owners' obligations after the City project has been completed to finish construction of the sewer / water service to my parcel?**

*Water Service recipients:*

- Complete City water service connection permit, purchase and install City Water Meter.
- Complete construction of the water service by extending the pipe from the curb stop and box located 5-feet inside the right-of-way to the existing home or business.
- Abandon existing well in accordance with Olmsted County requirements.

*Gravity Sewer Service recipients:*

- Complete sanitary sewer service connection permit and construction of the gravity sewer service pipe by extending the pipe from 5-feet inside the right-of-way / alley or permanent easement to the existing home or business.
- Pump and abandon the existing subsurface treatment system in accordance with Olmsted County requirements.

*Low Pressure Sewer System recipients:*

- Provide 30-amp electric service from the home electric control panel to the grinder station. Some homes may be required to expand their existing electric panel to accommodate a new 30-amp service.
- Pay monthly electric costs to operate grinder station.

*Note:*

- Undeveloped parcels that receive a sanitary sewer / water service are not required to do any construction until the owner chooses to develop the property.
- Decommissioning of the Community Wastewater Treatment Systems (CWTS) within the River Park, Cedar Woodlands 1 & 2 and Riverwood Hills Subdivisions will be included in the Phase 1A Lateral Sewer project costs and will be completed by the City's contractor.
- The owners of the Oronoco Crossings and Cedar Woodlands 3 will be required to decommission their existing CWTS at their sole cost as required by the respective Development Agreements.

**13. Is connection to the proposed wastewater and / or water distribution system mandatory?**

*Yes, connection to the wastewater system and water distribution system services is mandatory. The State of Minnesota has provided funding of approximately 80% of the project costs and mandatory connection is the State's expectation. The connection requirement will be included in the pending City Wastewater / Water Ordinance.*

**14. When will proposed sanitary sewer / water service be available for my property and how long from when the wastewater system is operational do I have to complete my connection to the systems?**

*Sanitary Sewer / water service is planned to be available for connection by residents beginning in fall of 2023. Property owners will be required to complete their connection within a period of time to be determined by the City Council or the property owner will be subject to additional charges. The duration provided to property owners to complete connection to the wastewater / water service pipe after it is available to them has not been determined, but a 12 to 18-month duration is recommended.*

**15. Will undeveloped lots within the Phase 1A project boundary be served with sanitary sewer / water services?**

*Undeveloped Parcels (that have a separate Olmsted PARID Number) that are deemed to be developable for one or more residential or commercial units and are adjacent to the*

*proposed Phase 1A sanitary sewer collection and / or water distribution system will be provided with a sewer and / or water service stub and will be assessed the associated project fees. Related policies follow:*

- Undeveloped parcels that are not immediately adjacent and have access to an existing paved roadway or alley are NOT considered to be developable parcels for the purpose of considering if these lots should be provided a sewer / water service. As a result, these parcels will not be served as part of the Phase 1A improvements unless the property owner voluntarily opts into the project by submitting to the City a written / signed petition by March 31, 2021. Property owners who voluntarily opt into the project will be served with sewer or water and will be assessed for these improvements.*
- No option will be given to undeveloped property owners to be removed or excluded from sewer and water service improvements to be constructed with the project or the associated fees / assessment.*
- No distinction or fee adjustment shall be made for parcels that are to be served with low pressure sewer (future grinder station / small diameter forcemain) and parcels to be served with gravity sewer. Parcels that are intended to be served with a low-pressure sewer system will only receive a sewer forcemain stub to the property line; no grinder stations will be constructed as part of the project. The grinder station will be constructed at the property owner's expense when the parcel is developed in the future.*
- The three undeveloped parcels east of 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW (Parcels 1, 2 and 3 illustrated on Figure 14 of the Feasibility Report) will not be served with either sewer or water services as part of the Phase 1A improvements. The rationale for not providing sewer / water service stubs to these parcels is that there is existing watermain and sewer forcemain under 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW and existing sewer / water service stubs to all adjacent developed parcels. As a result, excavation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NW street is not required as part of the Phase 1A improvements. Sewer and water service stubs to each undeveloped lot may be installed in the future when needed. However, the property owners of these parcels may voluntarily opt into the project by submitting to the City a written / signed petition by March 31, 2021. Property owners who voluntarily opt into the project will be served with sewer or water and will be assessed for these improvements.*

*Undeveloped parcels (that have a separate Olmsted PARID Number) that are deemed to be developable for multiple units and are adjacent to the sanitary sewer collection / water distribution system will be provided with one (1) sewer and water service stub and will be assessed project fees for 1 ERU. If the parcel subdivides and develops in the future the applicable sewer and water fees in place at that time will be applied and the current project assessment will be credited against the future fee calculation. The property owner may petition the city to provide additional sewer and water services to the property. (See question / answer No. 17 for additional information).*

*Undeveloped lots that are platted, graded and are adjacent to the sanitary sewer collection system (but not built upon) will be provided with a sewer / water service stub (if necessary) and will be assessed project fees. (Examples: Oronoco Commercial Park*

*lots along Minnesota Avenue South – parcel No. 077789, 077790 and 077791 and Oronoco Crossings parcel No. 081695 through 081699).*

*Undeveloped lots that are platted and have a sanitary sewer stub connecting to an existing Community Wastewater Treatment System (CWTS) will be assessed all wastewater system project fees. (Examples: platted lots in the Riverwood Hills, Cedar Woodlands, River Park, and Oronoco Crossings Subdivisions).*

**16. Will all developed parcels within the Phase 1A project boundary be served with sewer / water?**

*All developed residential & commercial parcels with or without existing water / septic facilities will be served with municipal sanitary sewer & water as long as the parcels are adjacent to the sanitary sewer and water distribution systems.*

**17. I am the owner of a large parcel that could likely be split / subdivided. How many sewer / water services will be provided to my lot? Could I request additional sewer / water service connections for my lot?**

*Developed parcels that have the potential to be subdivided for the development of additional future lots shall only be provided with one (1) sewer / water service to serve only the existing building unit.*

- Property owners who intend to subdivide their parcel and wish to have future lots served with sewer and water may opt into the project if the City receives a written / signed petition from the property owner by March 31, 2021. Property owners who voluntarily opt into the project will be served with sewer or water and will be assessed the associated fees for these improvements.
- If the property owner chooses to opt into the project and requests additional sanitary sewer and water services for a particular parcel, the City does not guarantee future lot splits or subdivisions will be approved nor will the City review whether potential future lot splits conform to City Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances. The parcel owner is required to make their own evaluation of these requirements prior to choosing to opt into the project.
- Property owners who choose not to opt into the project will be solely responsible for all future cost to excavate the street and extend the sewer / water service from the sanitary sewer / water main to the property line, including engineering and construction inspect work. The property owner will also be charged all fees in place at the time of connection with payment due in full, at the time a utility permit to connect to City Utilities is issued by the City. Property owners are cautioned that these future costs will likely be significantly higher than the fees currently proposed for assessment.

**18. Are there funding assistance options for work on private property associated with water service construction, gravity sewer service construction, well abandonment, septic system abandonment?**

*There are several options for financial assistance for water service construction, gravity sewer service construction, well abandonment, septic system abandonment for individuals who meet certain program requirements. These programs generally include:*

- Clean Water Partnership loans – Provides low interest loans administered through City of Oronoco and funded through the Public Facility Authority.



- USDA - Rural Development's Section 504 Loan and Grant Program.
- Olmsted County Housing and Redevelopment Authority - Emergency Loan Program.
- Olmsted County SWCD State Cost Share Well Sealing Program.

This program had funding and was used by many property owners in Oronoco to partially fund the abandonment of existing wells. Oronoco will work with the SWCD to see if additional grant funding can be secured to restart this program to assist in funding well abandonments in 2023 and 2024.

*The City of Oronoco will explore agency grant and loan programs over the next few years and will provide additional information to Oronoco residents regarding which programs currently have funding available along with information about the programs, how to apply, and who may be eligible for help.*

**19. Will I be asked to grant the City of Oronoco an Easement to facilitate construction of some component the Project?**

*All property owners proposed to receive a low pressure sanitary sewer service will be asked to donate (no compensation) a permanent easement over their parcel for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the system. A permanent easement dedication is a requirement to utilize state funding.*

*In addition, the proposed sanitary sewer construction will require the acquisition of approximately 26 temporary construction easements and 35 permanent utility easements. Property owners of parcels impacted by construction in which an easement will be needed will be contacted by representatives from Stantec (Oronoco's City Engineer). Stantec and City of Oronoco staff will mail information to property owners discussing the need for the proposed easements, property owner rights and information on easement acquisitions, easement documents, an easement survey exhibit and an offer letter summarizing how the proposed compensation for the easement was calculated.*

**20. Will there be additional correspondence from the City to residents and property owners before the proposed project is bid and before construction commences?**

*Yes, the City plans to proactively address resident questions and concerns regarding the proposed wastewater and water system project improvements or other items. The City has scheduled Public Improvement Hearing for March 22, 2021 at 6:30 PM at City Hall. In addition, a Public Open House is scheduled on March 23, 2021 from 10 AM to 6 PM at Oronoco City Hall for residents who wish to review project related documents and figures or speak with the City Engineer and City Staff / Officials. Additional Public Information Meetings and correspondence are tentatively planned between now and the fall of 2021.*

**21. What are the estimated monthly utility fees for the proposed Wastewater System and the existing Water System?**

*Oronoco tentatively plans to use the proposed wastewater utility rate structure originally presented in the Facility Plan and which also closely resembles the City of Rochester utility rate structure for 2022. **The proposed Wastewater rate structure is:***

*\$20 per ERU per month + \$5 per 1,000 gallons of use.*

*This equates to \$45 / month if using 5,000 gallons or \$35 / month if using 3,000 gallons.*

*Utility Rates are expected to increase approximately 3 to 5% per year (similar to Rochester and other communities)*

**The 2021 Water Utility Rates structure is:**

*(\$18.28 base charge + \$5.00 well fee + 0.81 State surcharge) ERU per month + usage rates based upon the following criteria: (under 5,000 gallons) \$3.16 per 1,000 gallons or (above 5,000 - 10,000 gallons) \$3.57 per 1,000 gallons, or (above 10,000 -15,000) \$4.08 per 1,000 gallons, or (above 15,000 - 25,000) \$4.08 per 1,000 gallons.*

*Typical monthly residential charge for a 3,000 gallons per month user is \$33.57 / month.*

**22. When will the remaining parts of Oronoco be connected to the sewer / water system?**

*Phase 1B includes all parcels in Oronoco City Limits not served by sanitary sewer in Phase 1A and also includes the Cravath Subdivision (currently in Oronoco Township). Parcels in Phase 1B are tentatively planned to be served by the wastewater system in ~2030.*

**23. Will future development be required to connect to the wastewater / water system, and will they pay their fair share of the infrastructure costs?**

*Yes, all future development will be required to connect to the sanitary sewer / water system and is included in the Phase 1C improvements that which are anticipated to occur over the next 20 years. All future development will be required to pay the wastewater system Plant Investment Fee (PIF) and the Sewer Availability Charge (SAC) and the water system Water Availability Charge (WAC). All of these fees will be based upon the number of acres proposed for development. In addition, the developer will be required to pay for 100% of the lateral sewer construction costs needed to serve the proposed development.*

**24. Will the City offer any credit against the proposed project fees to be assessed to property owners who are connected to an existing Community Wastewater Treatment System (CWTS) or have newer or compliant Subsurface Treatment Systems?**

*No, all properties will be assessed the same fees and no credits or allowances will be offered.*

**25. Will the CWTS's within the newer subdivisions be abandoned as part of the City wastewater project?**

*Decommissioning of the Community Wastewater Treatment Systems (CWTS) within the River Park, Cedar Woodlands 1 & 2 and Riverwood Hills 1-4 Subdivisions will be included in the Lateral Sewer project costs and will be completed by the City's contractor. The owners of the Oronoco Crossings and Cedar Woodlands 3 will be required to decommission their existing CWTS at their sole cost as required by the respective Development Agreement.*

**26. How can I get additional information regarding the project?**

*Please visit the City of Oronoco website under the "Community" heading – "Wastewater Project" or the following link: <https://www.oronoco.com/index.asp?SEC=9FF06188-BB72-456D-8865-7A0EE2DCC317> to find additional information regarding the project. You can also contact City Engineer Joe Palen directly at Stantec Phone (507) 529-6036 or Email: [joseph.palen@stantec.com](mailto:joseph.palen@stantec.com) with your questions and concerns.*