

# Meeting Summary

SE Bend Septic to Sewer Advisory Committee  
Tuesday, June 20, 2017



CITY OF BEND

## Attendees:

### **Advisory Committee**

John Barnard  
Bethann Bicknase  
Rod Cathcart (absent)  
Frank Fiedler  
Sara Gilbert (absent)  
Dave Johnson  
Scott Johnson

Connie Murray  
Cheryl O'Donnell (absent)  
Geoff Perry  
Charlie Rowles  
Frank Turek  
Jen VanCamp

### **Staff & Consultant Team**

Tom Hickmann, P.E. Justin Mason, P.E.  
Susanna Julber Libby Barg  
Anne Aurand Brian Wilkinson, P.E.  
Skip Martin, P.E. Ron Hand  
Sharon Wojda Ryan Oster  
Melissa Bradley April Ott

### **City Council Liaisons**

Mayor Roats  
Councilor Livingston  
Councilor Campbell (absent)

## Meeting Notes:

### **Advisory Group Q&A**

- How do you determine 300 feet? As the crow flies? Is it a cascading situation?
- If your septic system fails and you have to pay to install the line to bring sewer to your home, would your neighbors need to reimburse you when they hook up?
- When you look at "leap-frogging", do you need to design the pipe just for your house or does it have to be deep enough for house that will need to hook-up in the future?
- What if my septic system hasn't failed? Am I required to hook up?
- How does this committee's work interact with the engineering design work? What are 30% design plans?
- There are City/County/State rules about hooking up to sewer. But what is the rational about why everyone should be on sewer?
- Reimbursement districts were common and most worked, but some blew up. Are there models we can look at?
- Do you charge a sewer SDC? Are those funds available for sewer hookups?
- Are there opportunities for grant money?

### **Meaty Questions: *Ours and Yours***

#### *Ours:*

- What are the financial solutions that best fit Bend and the neighborhoods?
- How do we build the system in the most economical way—including construction and ongoing maintenance?

- How can the solutions be applied to other unsewered areas?
- What are the leading benefits that drive sewerage SE Bend neighborhoods?
- What public values or principles should guide decisions?
- What portion of costs should be paid by property owners? By utility rate payers?
- How should Bend measure “cost effective” and “affordable” for property owners?

*Yours:*

- Where does the City stand on promises made when the area was annexed?
- Can we get a GIS map showing the SEI segments that are now complete, overlaid with area properties on septic systems?
- A lot of old reference documents have disappeared. Can you add a link of all the historical documents to the committee webpage?
- Are we solving the problem for our neighborhood or the whole city? The Committee role says, “SE Bend”.
- How was the City’s collection system paid for in the 1980s?
- Given that we are looking at 2-3 years before there will be pipe in the ground, what is being done now to alleviate people who have failing septic systems?

**Advisory Group Discussion: *What is Your Vision of Success?***

- ✓ We don’t repeat this again. The solution is incorporated in future UGB expansions.
- ✓ Solutions that are good for the next 100 years.
- ✓ Long-term solution. “Best of the Bad”—but lasts a long time. Puts Bend on solid footing.
- ✓ Something that considers people with fixed incomes so this doesn’t destroy people financially.
- ✓ Fiscal impact need to be solved and it needs to work.
- ✓ Viable solution that address people who are going to be financially devastated.
- ✓ The work gets started soon.
- ✓ An implementation pathway that’s not another 20 years.
- ✓ 10-years down the road we have infrastructure in the ground.
- ✓ It is a community shared responsibility to fix the problems.
- ✓ Something reasonable and practical.
- ✓ A schedule that can be put on paper. includes cost, financial plan and a policy that can be applied city-wide.
- ✓ Success would be if I have complete understanding of the problem and the solutions.