



Frequently Asked Questions **City of Cedarburg Sanitary Sewer Service Area Expansion**

Question: Is the City required to expand its current sanitary sewer service area?

Answer: No. The City's current sanitary sewer service area covers the entire City, including the City-owned property on STH 60 that may be developed into a business park. The City sewer service area also includes a significant amount of land in the Town, including Town Hall. Despite the assertions of City officials, their sewer service area does not need to be expanded to serve the proposed business park.

Question: So why does the City want to expand its sewer service area?

Answer: There are only two possible answers. Either the City intends on changing its policy of not providing sewer service outside the city limits or the City expects to annex more than 1000 acres from the Town over the next 20-30 years.

Question: Why does the City refuse to provide sewer service to the Town?

Answer: Despite the fact that providing sewer service to the Town could significantly reduce the tax burden on City residents, the City has rejected Town requests for sewer and water services. City officials oppose any economic development in the Town because they believe it could compete with City businesses and the provision of sewer and water services to the Town could aid Town development. The City has been trying to stop all development at Five Corners and hamper development throughout the Town by requiring Town property owners to seek permission from the City to divide their property.

Question: Will the sewer service area impact my ability to divide my property?

Answer: It could. The City could exercise its extraterritorial plat review authority to prevent you from dividing your property. The City has given itself the authority to approve or deny any land division of less than 35 acres within a three mile area of the city. The City may reject your land division solely because they **may** provide sewer service to your property in the future.

Question: Can the City of Cedarburg take my property?

Answer: If your property is added to the sewer service area and the City decides to run a sewer main along your property, the City could use eminent domain to condemn part of your property to install and maintain their sewer line even though you're a Town resident.

Question: If my property is added to the City's sewer service area, can the City guarantee that they will provide sewer service to my property?

Answer: No. The City has stated that it can't guarantee that they will provide sewer service. The City has no obligation to provide sewer service to properties in their sewer service area.

Question: What benefit is there to me as a Town resident to be included in the City sewer service area?

Answer: There doesn't appear to be any direct benefit to you as a Town resident or to the Town as a whole.

Question: Who should I call to ask more questions or share my concerns about the City's proposed sewer service area expansion?

Answer: You can contact the Town by calling 262-377-4509, the City of Cedarburg by calling 262-375-7600, or Bill Stauber of the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) by calling 262-547-6721. The City is expected to vote on expanding the service area on June 25th. If the City approves the expansion, SEWRPC will then consider the proposed expansion later this summer.