

Cathy Preis  
President

Joni Kaufman  
Vice President

Dawn Parkhurst  
Secretary

Craig Combs  
Director

Phil Gamick  
Director



June 15, 2023

Re: Sugar Bowl East and West Villages Sewer Extension Project

Dear Sugar Bowl Villager:

The Donner Summit Public Utility District (DSPUD) is beginning the process to extend the public sewer system to the remainder of the Sugar Bowl East and West Villages. Once completed, this will allow all residences in the East and West Villages to connect to the public sewer system and abandon their individual septic systems. This is the final step in fully connecting the entire Sugar Bowl community to the DSPUD's water and sewer systems. If you are receiving this letter, it is because your parcel does not currently have access to the public sewer system and will benefit from this proposed sewer extension.

### **Background**

In 2009, Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) approved <sup>1</sup> the annexation of the East and West Villages into DSPUD's service area to provide water and sewer services. The East and West Villages were first connected to the water system with the intent to connect to the sewer system in the future. The 2009 Annexation Agreement states that the properties would be required to connect to public sewer within 10 years or when septic systems fail, if treatment capacity is available. DSPUD completed an upgrade and expansion of its wastewater treatment plant in 2015. The wastewater treatment plant now has the capacity to treat wastewater from the East and West Villages. The next step to providing the Villages with sewer service is to extend the public sewer lines to parcels that do not have access to the public sewer so that they can connect.

### **Project Scope**

Public sewer lines will be constructed throughout the East and West Villages and sewer laterals will be installed from the public sewer pipe to the property line of each residential lot. DSPUD will be the lead agency for installation of the public sewer.

Individual property owners are responsible for the work on their property, including:

- DSPUD connection fees
- Private lateral pipe from the property line to the home
- Abandonment of any existing septic system

The included graphic outlines the benefits of public sewer and illustrates the homeowner's responsibilities.

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<sup>1</sup> A condition of approval of the 2009 annexation imposed by the Placer County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). Further, California Water Code 13281 requires the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) to prohibit the discharge of wastewater from existing individual septic tanks if sewer service is available and is within 200 feet of an existing or proposed dwelling unit. DSPUD's sewer ordinance reflects these state requirements.

**Project Costs**

Each property owner is responsible for the cost of work on their property. The installation of the public sewer will be paid for by the benefiting property owners through an assessment that can be paid for all at once or financed and placed on the annual property tax bill.

The assessment is established by forming an Assessment District. The first step to forming the Assessment District is the preparation of an Engineer’s Report that calculates the cost of the public sewer extension and apportions those costs to the benefiting properties. The DSPUD Board of Directors will review and approve the Engineer’s Report and direct staff to mail notices and ballots to the benefiting property owners. Property owners will indicate support or opposition to Assessment District formation on the ballot. The Board cannot form the Assessment District or impose assessments if the ballots submitted in opposition exceeds the ballots submitted in support of the assessments.

If the assessment is rejected by the property owners, then the extension of public sewer will not proceed as planned.

**Informational Meeting**

An informational webinar will be held for property owners on Thursday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. You may access the meeting by scanning the QR code or by going to [www.dspud.com/sugar-bowl](http://www.dspud.com/sugar-bowl) and clicking the Zoom link. At this meeting, the Project team will present information about timing, Assessment District formation, project design and construction, cost estimates, and other related details. Additional meetings will be scheduled as appropriate prior to the ballot initiative to form the Assessment District.

If you have questions prior to the meeting, please contact Steven Palmer directly at (530) 426-3456 or visit [www.dspud.com](http://www.dspud.com) and click the Sugar Bowl Sewer Extension Project link on the home page.

Sincerely,



Steven Palmer, PE  
General Manager



Informational Meeting  
Scan Code