

## Questions & Responses from GLSD Monthly Board Meetings and Emails to District Staff/Board

Why is the GLSD not interested in doing a survey of the proposed sewerage areas?

Sometimes survey results are not representative of how the public truly feels as they are heavily dependent on response percentage, and the results are public information meaning people are uncomfortable with that lack of private communication. A survey of the proposed areas is not required of the GLSD as part of the sewerage process. The GLSD has held public informational meetings to gather feedback and has asked residents to reach out to provide direct comment to the GLSD staff. It is also a way for the GLSD to speak with residents to answer questions and continue to put out accurate study information.

Why does the GLSD meeting dates/times change monthly?

At most of our GLSD meetings we have the District engineer, legal counsel, partner organization staff, or others acting in a professional capacity joining in our meetings. Having these meetings during the workday has for decades been a standard operating procedure of the GLSD. Additionally, we have 3 commissioners who also have busy schedules and sit on other boards and/or travel for work. We do our best to accommodate the schedules of all involved with our monthly meetings.

Are there studies that show projected overall nutrient load reductions into Sunnyside if Area 8 is sewerage?

We have no studies that look at nutrient loading into Green Lake from septic systems specifically.

Are there current studies of septic systems around the GLSD that show systems are not functioning?

There are no studies of systems within the GLSD but there is concern about the advanced age of many of the systems.

If septic systems are a concern, why doesn't the GLSD require them to replace or upgrade?

The GLSD does not have statutory enforcement ability to address failing septic systems.

What is the timeline for sewerage to begin?

No projects have been approved for sewerage at this time. The GLSD board hopes to accept a final version of the Feasibility Study in spring. Timelines for sewerage any of the potential areas could come at that time. There have been no timelines discussed at this point as the District evaluates issues such as ages of septic systems and landowner support in each area.

What is the benefit the GLSD hopes to derive from sewerage these areas?

The goal in sewerage any of the areas evaluated in the study is to protect the lake and groundwater, while providing the service the GLSD was created for.

What revenue will the GLSD gain if the proposed areas are sewerage?

The GLSD has never evaluated potential future revenue as it is unlikely the board would approve all areas evaluated for sewerage. Areas that do move forward with sewerage would likely change dramatically in parcel count due to the joining/combination of parcels. Additionally, potential sewerage projects would likely occur over a period of many years in which sewer user rates would likely change. With so many unknown factors, it would not be possible to get a realistic, usable estimate of future revenue.

Additionally, the special assessments imposed if the project is approved would only go towards recouping the District's costs of sewerage the areas. If the District's actual costs are lower, the special assessments would be reduced to reflect the actual costs of the project.

What are the administration fees outlined in the study costs?

The administration fees cover the GLSD expenses incurred in sewer projects such as maintenance of assessment records and the associated software, mailings, audits, financial advisement, ongoing legal costs, etc. These administrative soft costs are difficult to estimate and calculate exact figures, so GLSD has only used conservative approximations.

Has the GLSD looked for outside funding to offset the special assessments?

Yes, and the effort will continue to be ongoing. The GLSD has talked with representatives from various state agencies such as the Department of Housing and Urban Development along with some regional entities such as the Senior Rural Development Specialist for the Great Lakes Community Action Partnership. So far, all funding opportunities have been linked to low-income areas. Additionally, last January the GLSD sent letters to all our local and state politicians requesting consideration for state budget surplus funds to help offset the cost of the proposed sewer infrastructure. There was minimal response to this request with only Representative Dallman providing suggestions for funding opportunities.