2018 Lockwood Water & Sewer District Wastewater PER Update

Public Meeting No. 1 September 12, 2018

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Presented by:





Public Meeting No. 1 Objectives:

- Review recent sewer progress and success
- Purpose of the PER process and evaluation study
- Overview of preliminary work
- Ranking criteria for future sewer service
- Additional items to be addressed
- Public input and questions







Why Prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER)?

- Develop tools for effective decision making
 - Project priorities
 - Project cost estimates
- Identify projects and costs for State and Federal grants and low interest loans (~3%)
- Address the needs of the community







Scope of PER

Assess Current Situation

- Existing System
- Planning area and demographics

Assess Future Situation

- Population projections
- Wastewater flow forecasts

Develop and Evaluate Alternatives

An environmental review will be part of this but will be conducted in 2020

Develop Implementation Plan

- Preliminary layout of sewer system
- Estimate project costs
- Establish preliminary implementation schedule



Water & Sewer District



Need for Project

- Lockwood was previously the largest un-sewered community in Montana
- 1998: Population was ~4,000
- Projected growth rate: 2.4%
- Major commercial growth was occurring near new Johnson Lane interchange
 - Flying J truck stop
 - 2 new banks
 - Fast food restaurants
 - Hotels wanted to build but reportedly were waiting for a sewer (Holiday Inn was built with septic)
 - Public input and questions





Need for Project

- 0.5 million gallons per day of wastewater generated and discharged through drainfields
- 25% drainfields had failed
- Non standard repairs being allowed
- Unsuitable soils and very small lots
- Drainfields are always a temporary solution
- Concern for groundwater contamination
- High nitrates





Agreement with City of Billings

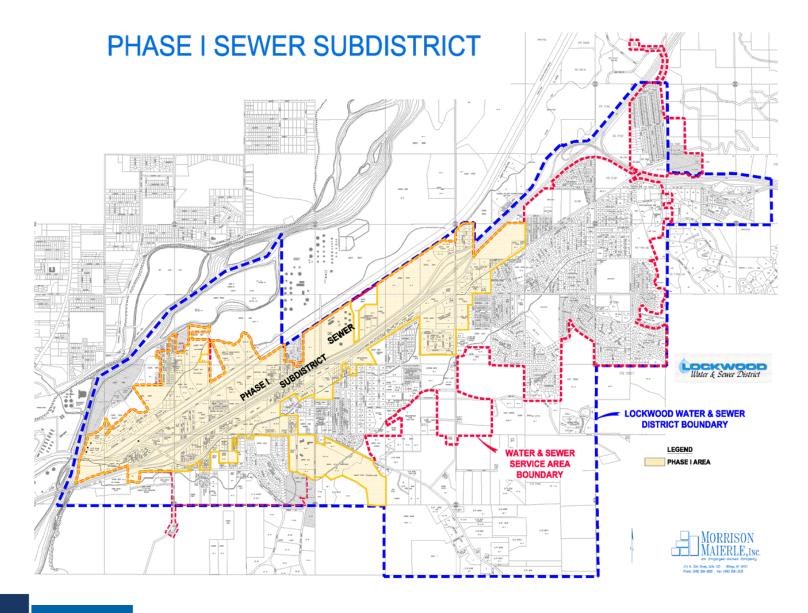
Treatment Options

- Evaluated building own system or connection to City of Billings
- Political considerations
- Cross the Yellowstone
- March 2008 Reached agreement with City of Billings to accept wastewater
- Complex agreement LWSD tests flows, meters, pays Reserve Capacity Fee









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Phase 1 Finances

Projected:

- Total Cost \$20,704,600
- GO Bond \$14,000,000 (*based on taxable value)
- STAG Grant \$6,704,600

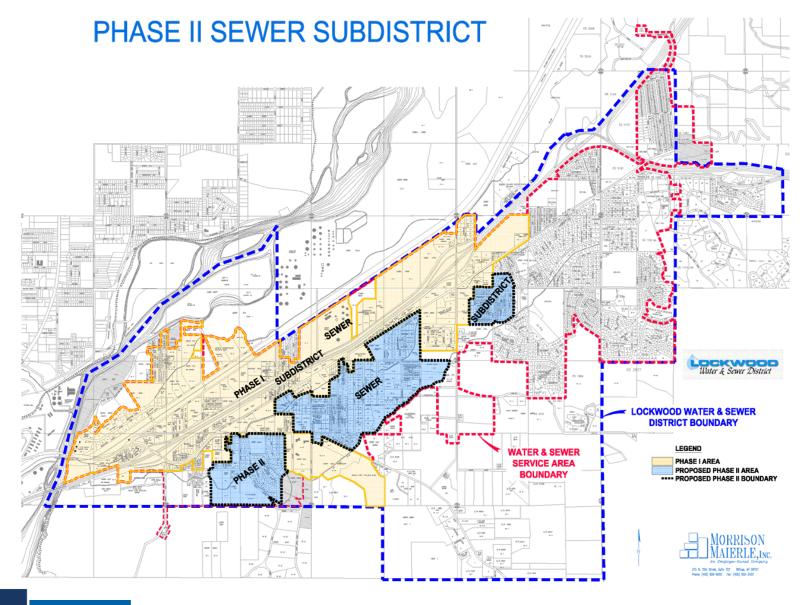
Actual:

- Total cost \$19,400,000
- TSEP Grant \$500,000
- ARRA Grant \$490,700
- STAG Grant \$6,704,600
- SRF Loan Forgiveness \$559,000
- Final Bond ~ \$11.2 M
- Savings on Bond Amount: ~\$2.8 M









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Phase 2 Approval

- After GO Bond failed, LWSD did extensive public outreach
 - Postcards
 - 7 separate "Neighborhood Meetings"
 - Morrison Maierle & 3rd party consultant
- Determine why and who voted no (areas)
- Identify areas of strong support who needed sewer
- Goal: Utilize funding that was obtained
- Area was refined; now will serve ~ 640 properties. Originally included 1020.









Phase 2 Sewer Funding

- GRANTS: \$2,740,380
 - USDA-RD \$1,890,380
 - TSEP \$750,000
 - RRGL \$100,000
- LOANS: \$6,000,000
 - USDA-RD \$ 3,000,000, 2.75% for 40 years
 - SRF \$3,000,000, 2.5% for 30 yrs
 - \$200,000 Loan Forgiveness
- LWSD \$3,000 (and more for Water CIP and paving shares)
- Yellowstone Co. \$785,555 (additional paving)







Phase 2 – Special Assessment Method

- Different than Phase 1 GO Bond
- Was based on input from public after the Phase 2 GO Bond failed
- Equal amount per each tax code favored in neighborhood mtgs
- Assessment updated annually with additional new subdivisions within boundary
- Pre-payment of assessment allowed







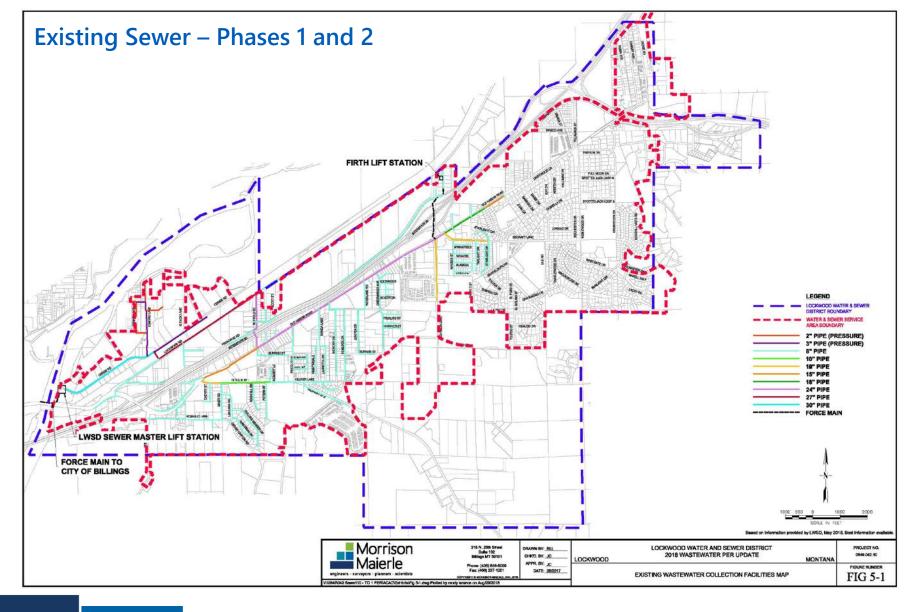
Maximizing Opportunities through Partnerships

- Coordination with Lockwood Water CIP
- MDU agree to move gas lines and use opportunity to upgrade
- Concrete lanes at Johnson Lane Intersection – Yellowstone Co.
- County culverts replaced Yellowstone
 Co. supplied and contractor installed
- County and LWSD combined funds to pave various streets in poor condition









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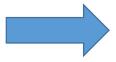
Water & Sewer District



Future Sewer Service Areas

- Service Area Delineation
- Population and Wastewater Flows

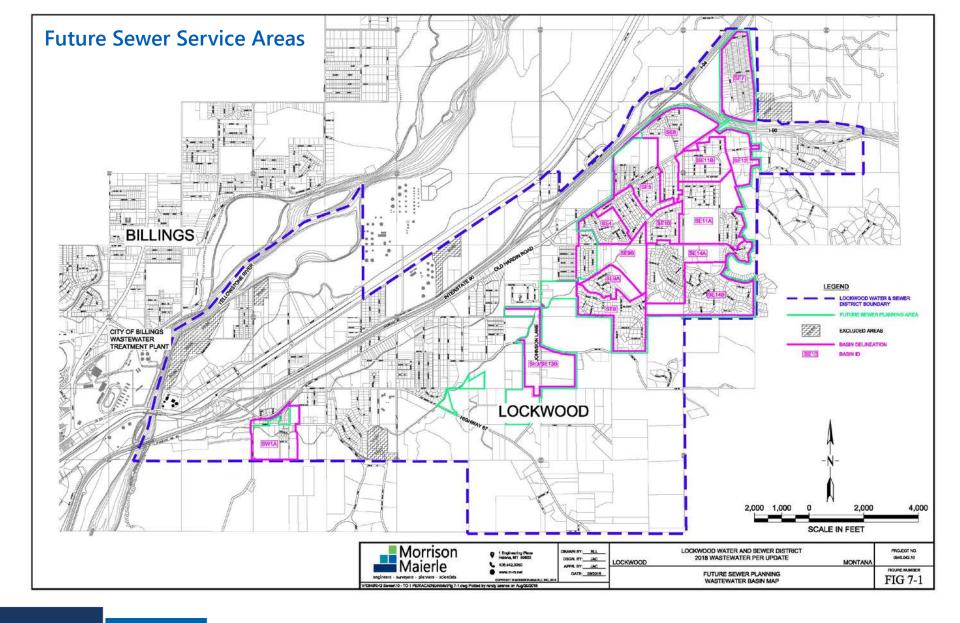
Major contributors
Zoning
Residential
Future Growth



Waster-water Flows





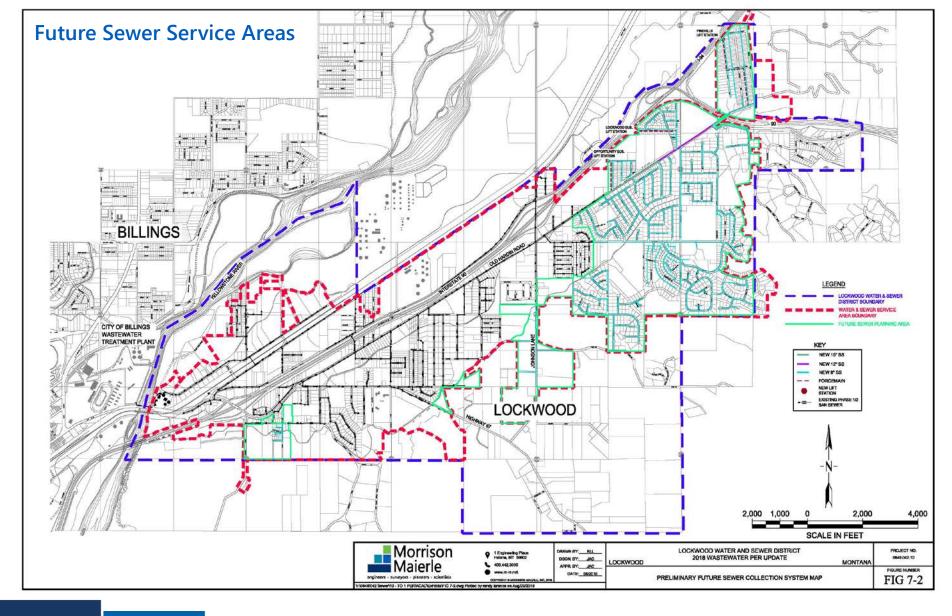


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Potential Future Sewer Phasing

- Areas that are currently unsewered were studied as part of the Future Sewer Planning Area
- Each area was analyzed to develop a preliminary cost estimate





Prioritization Criteria

- Project Affordability (Cost/Lot)
- Constructability Phasing
- Drainfield Conditions / Soil Suitability
- Public Support
- Growth Potential / Economic Development (Cost/gpd)





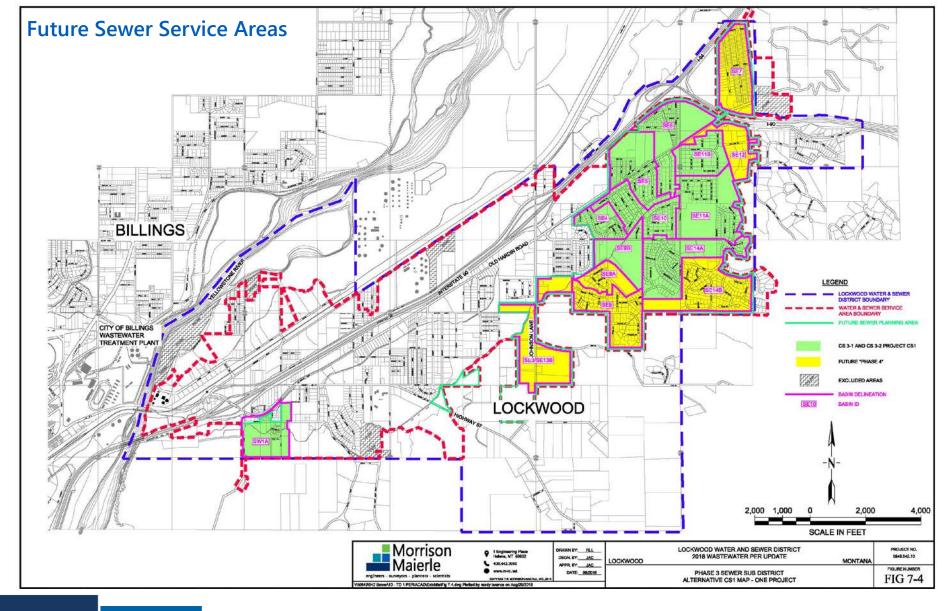


Phase 3 Planning Area

- The areas that were ranked highest were identified and prioritized as the "Phase 3" Planning Area
- Lower ranked areas were identified as a future "Phase 4"
- A Phase 3 planning boundary was established to allow for cost estimating and alternative analysis regarding project implementation (1 project or 2)
- Actual boundary would need to be established through a legal process that allows for public input





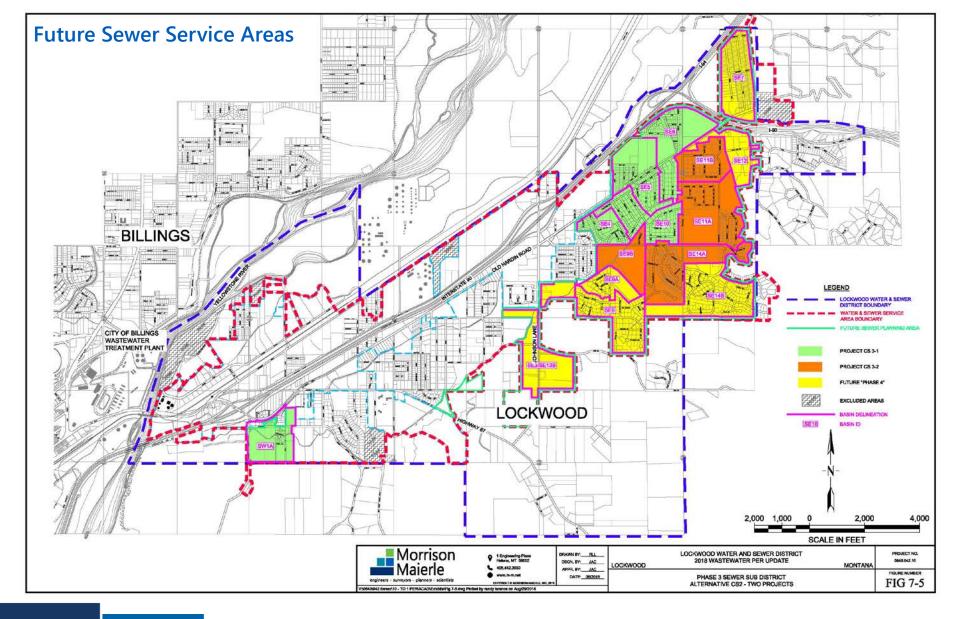


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Funding Programs for Planning and Construction Activities

Potential Funding Agencies

- Spring 2020 Montana Dept of Commerce (TSEP)
- Spring 2020 Montana Dept of Natural Resources and Conservation (RRGL)
- DNRC SRF Loan Program
- Monitor for other infrastructure funding that may become available





There is Help for Low Income Households

- Help paying for construction cost for service line and septic tank abandonment:
- USDA-RD Grants and Loans are available for very low income households.
- LWSD got a CDBG grant to help pay for services in targeted low income areas





Where Do We Go From Here?

- Finalize project prioritization and future service areas – taking into account public feedback
- Begin process to establish Phase 3 Boundary
- Complete environmental review, funding strategy and hold second public meeting on PER in early 2020
- Finish Preliminary Engineering Report
- Submit grant applications 2020
- Prepare for project implementation in 2021/2022







Thank You.



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