

May 15, 2010

Dear Fernan Resident:

RE: Upcoming Sewer Improvements

The City's wastewater collection system is nearly 30 years old. Even a well maintained sewer system that is thirty years old begins to show wear and tear and there is a higher risk of failure of the system. The City Council has determined that is now time to replace equipment and parts of the sewer system to help improve the reliability. The improvements will be implemented in Phases.

Phase 1: Immediately, the City will provide the instructions on the electrical panel for emergency contacts if the alarm sounds or alarm light comes on. The electrical control panels will be locked and not accessible to the resident. There will be a period of time – 90 days when stopping or silencing the alarm will not be available to you until a service provider or City maintenance worker arrives. Service providers should arrive within 30 minutes after you contact them. Locking the electrical panel prevents any resident or unauthorized person from entering the electrical panel avoiding any accidental contact with high voltage equipment. If for some reason the service provider does not arrive within 30 minutes or you have need to silence the alarm immediately the City Council members will have keys to the electrical control boxes.

Phase 2: Within four months, the City's contractor should have the system improvements and maintenance completed. It will consist of moving the alarm and alarm silence switch to the outside of the control box so you can silence the alarm after you have called for service. As part of the contract the controls will be fully tested and worn parts will be replaced also.

Phase 3 Long term the City will be replacing the station pumps with a new pump and new controls. The existing pumps are not being manufactured anymore and are not being supported with spare parts. The City still has an inventory of pumps, control parts and spare parts. The City is testing a replacement system to determine how to proceed long term. The schedule of the replacement program will be determined at a later date.

We appreciate your patience during the implementation of sewer upgrades. We anticipate minimal impact to your day to day routine. If you have any questions or need further clarification or information as we proceed, don't hesitate to call our staff at 208-640-9530.

Sincerely,

Jim Elder, Mayor
City of Fernan Lake Village.