**Wellington City Sewer Improvements Summary**

**Public Hearing – November 1, 2017**

The Wellington City Sewer is comprised of several different kinds and ages of pipe, that vary in their functionality, current condition, and expected future service life. These pipe types include the following:

* Vitrified Clay Pipe – Primarily in the main city center part of the system
* Concrete Pipe – Primarily the east end of Main Street
* PVC Pipe – Typically the “newer” parts of the system, and interspersed with other types

Clay Pipe was primarily installed prior to 1970, with a design life of 50 – 60 years. Most of the clay pipe in the system shows systematic problems with roots in joints, offset joints, cracked pipes, sags with standing water, and holes in the pipe. Once compromised, clay pipe is difficult to repair without replacing the pipe. These conditions make the lines more difficult to clean and maintain, increase exfiltration of the sewage into the ground, and increase the frequency and likelihood of sewer backups.

Concrete sewer pipe is susceptible to severe corrosion. The full length of the concrete pipe in Main Street from ~1200 E to Coal Creek Rd shows severe corrosion and surface damage to the pipe. In several places the pipe has completely eroded, and cavities are forming in the surrounding soil. This mode of failure constitutes an emergency situation due to the potential for sink holes and cave-ins of the road above the pipe.

Most of the newer PVC pipe in the system is in acceptable condition. However, there are few isolated sections of PVC sewer that are suffering from pipe failures due to poor installation. These areas show systematic offset joints, severe sags with standing water, blocked laterals, and blockages from roots in the joints. These conditions also increase cost of maintenance and increase the probability of sewer backups, and exfiltration of sewage into the surrounding ground.

**Alternatives for Improvements:**

The following list includes options for approaching the improvements.

1. Do Nothing:
   1. Symptoms may include line collapse, sink holes, backups, escalating maintenance costs
   2. Cost of repairs will only go up with time
2. Emergency Repairs only:
   1. Repairs in Hwy 6
   2. Cost Estimate ~$1.5M
3. Emergency Repairs + Failing Clay Pipe
   1. Includes the main “core” of the City Center, in addition to a few isolated lines farther out.
   2. Cost Estimate ~$6.1 M
4. **All Significant Failed Pipes (Proposed Option)**
   1. **Cost Estimate ~$7.3M**
5. All Significant Failed Pipes + Complete 2” Overlay of Impacted Paved City Streets
   1. Cost Estimate ~$10.4 M

**Project Funding Considerations:**

1. Wellington Median Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) - $37,438
   1. 1.4% of MAGI - $43.68/month
   2. The funding agencies use MAGI to determine eligibility for some level of grant funding
   3. Current Rates - $28
2. Proposal for Sewer Funding – Based on Alternative 4 above:
   1. ~$2,000,000 DWQ – Grant
   2. ~$1,500,000 DWQ – Loan (0%)
      1. DWQ Total - $3,500,000
   3. ~$2,500,000 CIB – Grant
   4. ~$1,342,918 CIB – Loan (0%)
      1. CIB Total - $3,842,918
   5. Overall ~61%/39% (grant/loan)
3. **Resulting Rates ~$46/mo (~$18 increase)**