

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Do I have to hook up?

Answer: No, each resident will have that choice.

Question: If I don't hook up, how much would I have to pay?

Answer: You would be required to pay the fixed cost which includes debt, but no water usage.

Question: If I don't hook up, why do I have to pay anything?

Answer: If approved by residents, it would be a general benefit public service, like road maintenance or public schooling. You have to pay these even if you don't drive or have any children in school.

Question: Are there hook up charges? Cost of laterals?

Answer: We are proposing that hook up charges and laterals up to 75+ feet beyond the road right-of-way be included in the project funding.

Question: If I don't hook up at first, how much will it cost later?

Answer: The exact figure would be dependent upon inflation rates, etc., but it could be in the range of \$500-\$1,200. It will depend on how far your house is off the road.

Question: Will there be water meters? And if so, how would they be read?

Answer: There would be water meters installed and they will be read via outside registers on each house.

Question: What would be the billing schedule?

Answer: Billing is planned to be quarterly – a set fee payment plus water usage based on your meter reading as per Town of Scriba rate schedule.

Question: Whom would I be paying?

Answer: Payments would be made to the Town of Scriba.

Question: Will I be able to shut off water to a residence (seasonally or in case of emergencies)?

Answer: Curb stops would be included in the project costs so that water can be shut off when needed. You must contact Town of Scriba Water Department to turn off or turn on water. There is a fee to turn on the water.

Question: Who would have control of the water district?

Answer: The Town has ultimate responsibility for administering all water districts within its boundaries.

Question: What if the project is voted down?

Answer: It will probably be a number of years before there is another chance for a

similar project and costs will likely increase significantly by then.

Question: How long are the funding offers good for?

Answer: The funding offers are good for two years. However, the application process is lengthy and needs to be started well in advance of this deadline.

Question: What effect will public water have on my taxes?

Answer:

1. There is no immediate effects since it is assumed that you already have usable water.
2. Property values are based on an analysis of property sales in your neighborhood for the past 3 years.
3. Any increase in property values will not be known until a market value has been established as sales are analyzed after the water district becomes a reality.
4. With anticipated growth due to the water district, the Town total assessment will increase.

Question: What are the next steps in the process?

Answer: With continued community interest, the district could then be formed by holding a public referendum (vote) to allow residents to choose whether to approve the new district. The referendum must occur no less than 60 days and no more than 74 after the public hearing.

Question: Who is eligible to vote?

Answer: To be eligible to vote based on current law, you must be a property owner in the proposed district and your name must be on the latest tax roll provided to the community by the County. If more than one name is on the tax roll, then each person listed can cast one vote.

Question: If you own multiple properties, how many votes do you get?

Answer: You only get to vote once regardless of number of properties owned within proposed district. Each voter listed on that deed can vote.

Question: If you are seasonal, can you vote?

Answer: If you own property in the proposed district and are listed on the deed, you may vote.

Question: How many votes will a business, corporation, or organization within the proposed district get?

Answer: Businesses, corporations or organizations that own property within the district can cast one vote, but only with a resolution authorizing a specific person to vote on behalf of the business, corporation or organization.

Question: If the district is approved, where do we go then?

Answer: Project will proceed to design, funding application must be completed, project will be bid and will proceed to construction.

Question: What would be the cost per foot of the laterals over 75 feet?
Answer: About \$8-\$12 per linear foot.

Question: Can homeowners install their own laterals over 75 feet?
Answer: Yes

Question: Are there material restrictions on laterals?
Answer: Yes, service laterals must be K-copper.

Question: If the contractor has to dig up your driveway, will the contractor repair the driveway?
Answer: Yes.

Question: What do you anticipate the water pressure will be?
Answer: Approximately 40-100 pounds.

Question: What will be the size of the lateral pipe?
Answer: Most likely one-inch but may vary depending upon the length of the lateral from the road to your house.

Question: Is there a regulation as to how far the water main must be from the road?
Answer: No, generally there is a right-of-way 25 feet on each side of the center of the road and the main is placed within that right-of-way.

Question: Where is the 75-foot lateral measured from?
Answer: The right-of-way on your side of the road.

Question: Will there be a reduction in homeowners' fire insurance rates?
Answer: There could be, but not until the insurance audit is performed by ISO.

Question: Can you put in a valve to switch back and forth from your present water system to public water?
Answer: No, to do so could lead to contamination of the public water system. Your current water supply would have to be completely separated from the public water supply.