

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: May 2, 2005

SUBJECT: Cane Creek Extension Policy - Update

ATTACHMENTS: Yes

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

The Board of Commissioners requested that staff work with the Cane Creek Water and Sewer District Advisory Committee to update the extension policy. A copy of the policy which was approved by the Board in October of 1996 is attached. As the Board can see, there were several sections within this policy that pertain to our former system – the Mud Creek Water and Sewer District.

The Advisory Committee met on several occasions to review a draft provided by staff. Comments were solicited from the Town of Fletcher and Town of Mills River on the draft. Their suggestions were incorporated within this draft policy. The Advisory Committee approved the policy on March 17, 2005 and recommended the policy be sent to the Board of Commissioners for your approval.

On April 19, 2005, the draft policy was presented to the members of the LGCCA. They provided no additional comments.

COUNTY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION/BOARD ACTION REQUIRED:

I recommend that the Board approve the attached extension policy statement.

HENDERSON COUNTY SEWER POLICIES

- I. It is the policy of the Board of Commissioners that they will consider providing sewer lines in the unincorporated areas for economic development and public health or safety in conjunction with the Master Sewer Plan.
- II. When making the decision for the County's participation in sewer projects, the Board will look for a payback within a ten-year time frame. However, because of Policy Statement 1, the Board may consider paybacks up to twenty years. The Board of Commissioners will establish criteria for the consideration of projects for use in its Capital Improvements Program.
- III. In dealing with the municipalities, the Board may consider the extending of an interceptor line to the boundary of a municipality for those items described in Policy Statement 1. Arrangements must be made with the municipality for repayment of the County's investment should annexation occur. It is the responsibility of the municipalities to run interceptors and collector lines within their corporate boundaries.
- IV. The County may consider assisting the municipality with financial support for sizing the lines for future needs, taking into consideration proper flow calculations. The County may also consider assisting in the running of interceptor, through a municipality, if the County has plans to serve areas beyond the municipality's borders.
- V. It is the responsibility of each unit of government to seek its own treatment capacity. Municipalities may not utilize any capacity from Henderson County without providing for the payment to the County for its reserved amount.
- VI. The Board of Commissioners may consider the establishment of any type of special or service district as allowed by state law. These districts may include both the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County. The districts in incorporated or unincorporated areas will be the parties responsible for establishing funding for infrastructure investment.
- VII. All districts established by the County shall be self supporting. The Board of Commissioners will consider all available funding sources including, but not limited to, levying a property tax, availability fee, mandatory connections and sewer rate schedules.

Adopted October 7, 1996

DRAFT
HENDERSON COUNTY SEWER POLICIES
For the Cane Creek Water & Sewer District

- I. The Board of Commissioners will consider installing sewer lines in the unincorporated areas of the District for economic development purposes that will assist with the recruitment or retention of industrial firms or for public health and safety reasons. Such sewer projects should conform to the guidelines of the County Comprehensive Plan, Master Sewer Interceptor Plan, and/or be projects included in the County's Capital Improvement Plan.
- II. When making decisions concerning the County's financial participation in sewer projects, the Board will expect total project payback within a ten-year time frame. However, the Board may consider longer paybacks for the types of projects listed in Policy Statement I.
- III. The Board may consider extending sewer lines within incorporated areas of the District for those reasons listed in Policy Statements I and II.
- IV. The County may consider installing sewer lines inside the corporate limits of municipalities, if the County has plans to serve areas beyond the municipal borders with such sewer lines.
- V. When considering extending sewer lines within the corporate limits of municipalities, the Board will solicit comments from the governing body of the affected municipality. The County will consider these comments, as early as possible in the process, before approving sewer lines.
- VI. It is the responsibility of the municipalities within the District to construct collector lines inside their corporate boundaries for reasons other than industrial recruitment/retention and/or for public health/safety. Any sewer lines constructed by municipalities must be built to District standards. Following construction, municipalities must offer to donate the lines to the District. Municipalities may contract with the County to provide construction services.
- VII. The County may consider assisting municipalities with financial support for sizing sewer lines for future needs. In any case, proper flow calculations for future extensions shall be taken into consideration.
- VIII. The Cane Creek Water and Sewer District which is operated by the County shall be self-supporting. The Board of Commissioners will consider all available funding sources including, but not limited to, the levying of a property tax, the charging of availability and other appropriate fees, and the adjustment of sewer rate schedules.