# Septic to Sewer Program Update

July 11, 2024





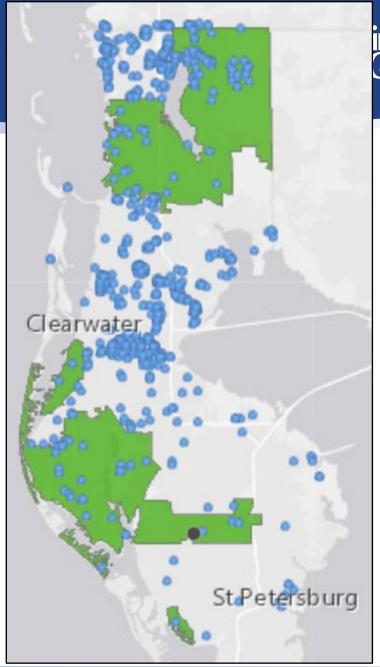


Jeremy Waugh, PE, Director of Utilities



## **Pinellas County Septic Systems**

- FDEP records indicate approx. 9,000 individual septic tank permits within County boundaries.
- 1,039 active identified within the PCU Sewer Service Areas.
- The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has delegated the permitting and inspection of Septic Systems to County Health Departments. <u>PCU does not inspect or permit Septic Systems.</u>
- Older septic systems (without newer advanced nutrient removal technologies), contribute to water quality issues in Florida waterways.
- FDEP encourages (where practical) conversion of onsite treatment systems (i.e. septic tanks) to public sanitary sewer connections.



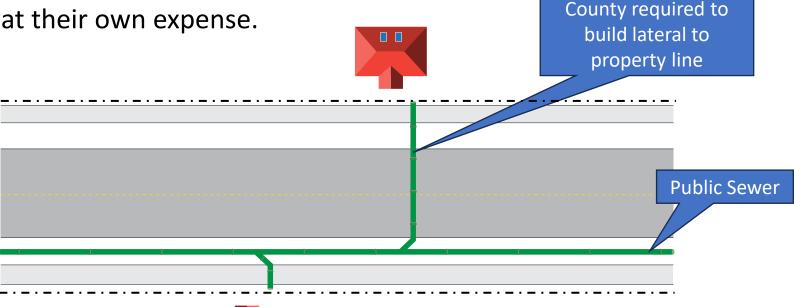


## **Pinellas County Code of Ordinances**



#### **Section 126.302 – Connection to Pinellas County Sewer System Required.**

- Existing ordinance requires property owners to connect to public sewer when within 100-ft at their own expense.
- Proposed Ordinance will allow PCU to build portion of the lateral from main line to the property line (or easement), <u>if the owner</u> <u>has submitted application for</u> <u>septic abandonment</u>



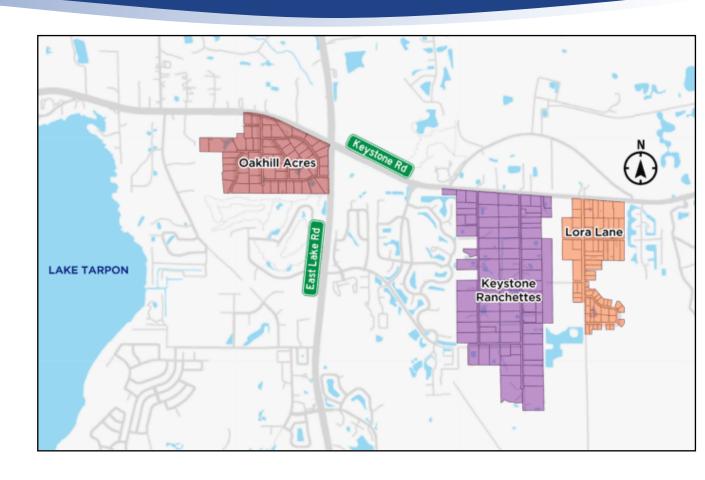
Proposed Ordinance Change is drafted.

## **Septic to Sewer Conversion CIP Project**



#### Phase 1 – Tarpon Springs Areas

- Engineering design and permitting of public sanitary sewer complete in Oct 2024 for 3 neighborhoods
- Total 201 Septic Systems
- Engineer's Estimate Cost \$32M
- ARPA (\$2.5M) Grants funding the design.
- Existing \$10M Florida Grant for private side abandonment of septic systems.
- PCU is working looking for additional Federal/State funding for remaining construction costs



## **Septic to Sewer Conversion CIP Project**

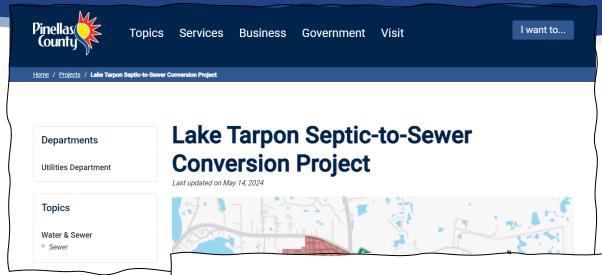


### Phase 1 – Tarpon Springs Areas

- Project has been in communication with residents for the past
  18 months
- Public Facing Project Website

https://pinellas.gov/projects/laketarpon-septic-to-sewer-conversionproject/

 June 2024 - Letter sent to community residents regarding project status and current funding challenges



#### Contact

For additional information, please call **(727) 350-7455** or email projectinfo@LakeTarponS2S.com.

## Frequently Asked Questions

#### What is the process to connect my home to the new sewer line?

The existing lateral pipeline that connects your home to your septic tank will be located and an appropriate location along the septic lateral will be selected as a connection point for a new sewer service lateral extension.