



## March 2017 Update: San Isidore Sewer

The City of Wagga Wagga is currently seeking feedback from residents and the broader community about whether or not San Isidore should be connected to Wagga Wagga's sewerage network.

This second round of consultation is being conducted in light of new information about external funding available and the cost to the City.

San Isidore was identified by the State's Regional Water and Waste Water Backlog Program as one of 71 areas to be eligible for capital investment funding and the City pursued and was successful with a Restart NSW funding application to cover 35% of the \$4M estimated cost of the planning and construction required to complete the connection.

The City will still need to cover the remaining \$2.57M within the existing budget.

### How will it work?

If the project was to proceed, San Isidore's sewerage system will connect to Wagga Wagga's conventional sewerage system at Ashmont via a new pumping station and rising main.

This will require the installation of gravity sewer mains within the village area which will transport effluent from the residential properties to the pump station.

If this project was successful City officers would seek to have the system operational by 2020.

### What will it cost?

#### Cost to all ratepayers:

Even with the \$1.43M State grant the City will still need to find \$2.57M to fund the capital cost. This money will need to be found within the existing budget and will have to be at the expense of other projects and services.

If San Isidore is connected it is estimated that

### Timeline

**March 2015:** NSW Government announced \$110 million in Restart NSW funding for regional infrastructure projects, to help clear a backlog of projects in country towns affected by ongoing water quality and sewerage problems. San Isidore was identified by the program as a potential candidate for funding.

**March 2016:** After initial consultation with residents and encouragement from Restart NSW Councillors resolved to push ahead with a detailed funding application for a San Isidore sewerage system.

**September 2016:** Staff advised that the funding application for funding was successful and will cover 35% of the \$4M capital cost to connect San Isidore to the sewerage network.

**March 2017:** Second round of consultation

**24 April 2017:** Councillors to consider whether or not to accept State funding and to re-allocate funding within the budget \$2.57M to pay for the remaining 65% cost of the project.

the ongoing maintenance costs would equate to around an extra \$8 a year for every Wagga Wagga rate payer connected to sewer.

As per previous village sewer projects the City would seek to waive the requirement for households within 75 metres of a sewer network to connect to the system if they have an existing septic system, or on site management system (OSMS).

However, at the termination of their current OSMS license, residents will be required to connect to the City's sewer network.

To encourage participation of connection to the system, the City has previously waived section 64 and section 68 fees if owners connect within the first 12 months of availability of the system.

- Section 68 – permit to carry out works – Currently \$1358
- Section 64 – fee for development of sewer – Currently \$3833.71

#### Private Connection costs:

Costs to decommission and install necessary plumbing required to connect to the public system are the responsibility of the property owner. Costs would vary depending on private plumbing costs and your properties requirements, such as existing plumbing condition and distance to connection point.

#### Ongoing charge:

An annual residential sewer charge would apply to properties in San Isidore if they were connected to the sewerage system. This charge would be in

addition to land rates, and is currently set at \$474 per dwelling unit. This charge will be reviewed annually.

#### What are the benefits?

Some of the benefits of connecting to a conventional sewerage system include:

- Low to no associated health risks
- Low to no associated environmental risks
- Low to no odour problems
- Maintenance is funded by council
- Small yearly costs compared with large costs of installation, repair, renewal and maintenance of on-site systems
- Waste water is treated off site
- Possibility of further subdivision and local growth as identified in Wagga Wagga City Council's Spatial Plan 2013-2043

#### Want to know more?

Call 1300 292 442 or email [communityengagement@wagga.nsw.gov.au](mailto:communityengagement@wagga.nsw.gov.au)

