

Frequently Asked Questions

- If sewer service is run to my neighborhood, will I be required to hook up?
 - Property owners will only be required to hook up to sewer if their existing septic system fails or if the property develops/redevelops.
- What is the timeframe for the project?
 - Survey & design – Spring/Summer 2024
 - Bidding – Fall 2024
 - Construction early 2025
- How long with the process take per section?
 - Depending on the size of each area, total work is anticipated to be completed by mid-2026.
- Who will pay for the cost to fill existing septic tanks?
 - All costs to decommission existing tanks is the responsibility of the property owner. Septic decommission costs are estimated at \$2,000 - \$5,000.
- Can the City provide recommendations to homeowners on what contractors to use in hooking up to sewer?
 - The City cannot provide a recommendation for contractors to use, however Pierce County Public Works has a list of approved sewer contractors. Pierce County does not specifically recommend these contractors; however, they do confirm contractors on their list are licensed and bonded for this type of work. See link <https://pals.piercecountywa.gov/palsonline/#/reports/utilContractorReport>
- If they install sewer in my neighborhood, will they put in risers and laterals and cleanouts to property line?
 - Sewer stubs will be run to the property line.
- What is the projected cost to the homeowner to have the sewer hooked up?
 - Very conservative estimates are \$20,000 - \$36,000, cost varies by Area requirements and charges, and the property sewer connection layout. This compares to typical septic system replacement costs of \$40,000-\$60,000.
- What is the monthly charge for sewer service?
 - 2024 Pierce County Sewer monthly charge is \$61.57.
- Why do homeowners have to pay to hook up, only to be charged to use the system?
 - Hookup fees are to cover the capacity of the system - the infrastructure that is already in place. The monthly fees are for ongoing system use and maintenance.
- Are there low interest loans available?
 - A popular organization that residents have used for low interest loans for this type of work is Craft3. See link to website: [Clean Water Washington: Finance Septic Replacement | Craft3](#)