KRISTEN ATHA
Director

COLUMBUS WATER & POWER

Recreated on September 17, 2026

RULE AND REGULATION NO. 22-01
Division of Sewerage and Drainage Department of Public Utilities

SUBJECT: SEPTIC TANK ELIMINATION PROGRAM

Pursuant to the authority granted under Columbus City Code Section 1147.23, the Director of the Department of Public Utilities hereby adopts, establishes, and publishes this rule and regulation to be effective at the earliest date allowed by law. This rule and regulation is in addition to any established requirements that have not been superseded or rescinded by this or any previous act.

This rule and regulation supersedes Division of Sewerage and Drainage Rule and Regulation No. 17-01, published October 21, 2017, in the Columbus City Bulletin #42.

APPLICATION:

This regulation specifies the requirements and provisions of the septic tank elimination program of the City of Columbus.

DEFINITIONS:

Applicant: the owner of record of an eligible property who applies for participation in this program.

Eligible Property: existing single family or duplex residential structure in the City of Columbus that is not connected to the sanitary sewer system.

GENERAL REGULATION:

1. If the City builds a main line sewer using capital improvement funds or a private main line sewer has been dedicated to the City per Columbus City Code 1141.12, the owner of any eligible property that is going to connect to the sewer may apply to participate in this program.

2. Property owners connecting to a private sewer that has not been dedicated to the City of Columbus per Columbus City Code 1141.12 may apply to participate in this program to defer the system capacity charge and receive a no-interest construction loan. Written permission from the sewer owner is required to tap an undedicated, private sewer per Columbus City Code 1141.08. Any costs charged by the owner of an undedicated private sewer are not deferrable under this program.

3. To be eligible to participate in the program, the Applicant must sign a promissory note with the City of Columbus which will be secured through a recorded mortgage against the property. The amount of the promissory note will be the total amount of the deferred charges and/or the private plumbing loan (See 4 and 5 below).

4. If the application is approved by the City, the Applicant may defer payment of the following charges to connect to the sanitary sewer system until the property is sold, is transferred, is no longer a private residence, or the maturity date for the mortgage is reached, whichever occurs first:

    a) Front footage fee as specified in Columbus City Code 1137.01, applicable only to sewers constructed by the City of Columbus.

    b) System capacity charge as specified in Columbus City Code Section 1147.17.

    The mortgage maturity date shall be established 99 years from the date the mortgage is signed by the Director of Public Utilities.

5. The Applicant may also enter into a three-party contract with a licensed sewer contractor of the applicant's choice and the City of Columbus. Pursuant to this contract, the City will provide a no-interest loan of up to $10,000 toward the cost of the installation of the service lateral, abandonment of the Home Sewage Treatment System (HSTS), and other work necessary as part of the lateral installation. The loan will be due when the property is sold, is transferred, is no longer a private residence, or the mortgage maturity date is reached, whichever occurs first.

6. The City is under no obligation to subordinate the mortgage; however, the City will evaluate subordination requests in accordance with the subordination procedures and policies for the Septic Tank Elimination Program developed by the Department of Public Utilities.

APPROVED: JOHN NEWSOME, P.E.
ADMINISTRATOR
DIVISION OF SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

APPROVED: KRISTEN ATHA
DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

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