

**BUREAU OF PUBLIC WORKS
REGULAR MEETING
555 Main Street, Hartford
Wednesday, November 19, 2025**

Present: Commissioners John Avedisian, William DiBella, David Drake, Joan Gentile, Allen Hoffman, Dominic Pane, Alvin Taylor, Calixto Torres and District Chairman Donald Currey (9)

Remote

Attendance: Commissioners Richard Bush, Byron Lester, Pasquale Salemi and James Woulfe (4)

Absent: Commissioners John Bazzano, John Gale, James Healy, Gary Johnson, Maureen Magnan and Bhupen Patel (6)

Also

Present: Commissioner William DiBella
Commissioner Jackie Mandyck
Commissioner Christopher Tierinni
Scott W. Jellison, Chief Executive Officer
Christopher Stone, District Counsel
John Mirtle, District Clerk
Christopher Levesque, Chief Operating Officer
Kelly Shane, Chief Administrative Officer
Susan Negrelli, Director of Engineering
Dave Rutty, Director of Operations
Robert Schwarm, Director of Information Services (Remote Attendance)
Mike Curley, Manager of Engineering
Jason Waterbury, Assistant Manager of Engineering
Carrie Blardo, Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer
Victoria Escoriza, Assistant Administrative Officer and Special Assistant
Shereese Rodgers, Assistant Manager of Budget and Analysis (Remote Attendance)
Haider Nawaz, Budget Analyst
Matt McAuliffe, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)
Kevin Sullivan, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)
Elizabeth Tavelli, Independent Consumer Advocate (Remote Attendance)

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hoffman at 5:35 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

**INDEPENDENT CONSUMER ADVOCATE COMMENTS & QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO
AGENDA ITEMS**

Elizabeth Tavelli, ICA, had no comments or questions.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

On motion made by Commissioner Gentile and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of October 27, 2025 were approved. Commissioners Drake and Pane abstained.

Commissioner Taylor entered the meeting at 5:39 PM

Commissioner Salemi exited the meeting at 5:40 PM

Commissioner DiBella entered the meeting at 5:45 PM

Commissioner Taylor exited the meeting at 5:46 PM

Commissioner Taylor entered the meeting at 5:50 PM

**FISCAL YEAR 2026 - REVISIONS TO DISTRICT SEWER USER CHARGE RATES AND
OTHER SEWER CHARGES**

To: Bureau of Public Works for consideration on November 19, 2025

In accordance with Section S12j of the District's Ordinances, sewer use unit charge rates shall be determined annually in conjunction with adoption of the District Budget. The 2026 budget in support of sewer operations calls for a sewer user charge rate to remain unchanged at \$5.90 per ccf or 0.0% change effective January 1, 2026.

Additionally, in support of the 2026 budget and in accordance with Section S12l of the District's Ordinances, the monthly sewer customer service charge per connection will change from \$9.00 to \$12.50 or 38.9% change effective January 1, 2026.

There will be an Administrative Review Fee for work performed by the Utility Services department, Engineering, Real Estate, Environment, Health & Safety, and others related to customer requests. The Administrative Review Fee includes, but is not limited to, the following individual services: availability and capacity analysis, assessment calculation, permit applications for non-domestic sewage wastewater discharges (including, but not limited to, individual permits, Significant Industrial Users, Categorical Industrial User Wastewater to a POTW, Food Service Establishment Wastewater, Groundwater Remediation Wastewater, Miscellaneous Industrial User (MIU) Wastewater, Vehicle Maintenance Wastewater), encroachment permits, abandonment of infrastructure, Engineering/Environmental surveys and documentation requests; this fee will be \$670.

The Annual Wastewater Discharge Compliance Fee of \$150 for all permitted wastewater discharges categorized as non-domestic sewage discharges, including but limited to, individual

permits, Significant Industrial Users, Categorical Industrial User Wastewater to a POTW, Food Service Establishment Wastewater, Groundwater Remediation Wastewater, Miscellaneous Discharges of Sewer Compatible (MISC) Wastewater, Vehicle Maintenance Wastewater will be split into 12 monthly increments at a billing rate of \$12.50. The charge is related to costs associated with annual administration and review of discharge monitoring reports, verification of discharges and inventorying and management of customer data.

Following the cost trend for the sewer user charge rate, it is recommended the BOD and COD rates remain unchanged at \$0.70 per pound or effective January 1, 2026. In addition, the suspended solids strength charge will also remain unchanged at \$0.58 per pound effective January 1, 2026. These unit charges, which apply to high flow users, low flow/high strength users and non-municipal tax-exempt users, are for the following:

Liquid flow charge rate based on sewer flow in hundreds of cubic feet (CCF).

1. BOD (biochemical oxygen demand) strength charge rate based on pounds of BOD for the concentration of BOD exceeding 300 milligrams per liter (mg/l); AND/OR
COD (chemical oxygen demand) strength charge rate based on pounds of COD for that concentration of COD exceeding 700 mg/l.
2. Suspended solids strength charge rate based on pounds of suspended solids for that concentration exceeding 300 mg/l.

In accordance with Section S12p of the District's Ordinances, sewer user charge Late Filing/Sewage Evaluation Fees will remain at \$250.00 for the 2026 budget.

Additionally, Section S12x of the District's Ordinances provides for the Special Sewer Service Charge (a.k.a. Clean Water Project Charge), primarily for payment of principal and interest on certain bonds and loans which proceeds are used to finance the costs associated with the Clean Water Project and going forward, the Integrated Plan. The Special Sewer Service Charge is set annually in conjunction with adoption of the District Budget. Effective January 1, 2026, said charge shall be \$4.87 per hundred cubic feet (ccf), an increase from \$4.57 in 2025, to be uniformly applied and to be proportional to the quantity of water used by District customers who utilize the District sewer system and are furnished water directly by the Metropolitan District. The Special Sewer Service Charge shall appear separately on the water bills of the District.

Liquid Waste Discharge Fee (other than Acceptable Septage): A fee is required as part of the approval from MDC for its acceptance, by whatever means, of the discharge of liquid waste other than Acceptable Septage, as provided by §S13b of the District's Sewer Ordinances. For example, but without limiting the forms of liquid waste subject to this fee, this fee shall apply to the following without limitation: groundwater; remediated groundwater; contaminated stormwater; contaminated groundwater permitted through a CT DEEP Groundwater Remediation General Permit or other CT DEEP Miscellaneous General or Individual Permit; landfill leachate; process equipment condensate; groundwater used for process water including cooling water; discharges granted temporary authorization to discharge by CT DEEP; and stormwater discharged into a separated sanitary sewer system.

Liquid Waste Discharge Fee (other than Acceptable Septage) discharge subject to approval by the District:

Tier 1--	0-500,000 avg. gallons per month	\$0.13/gal
Tier 2--	500,001 to 700,000 avg. gallons per month	\$0.07/gal
Tier 3--	700,000+ avg. gallons per month	\$0.05/gal

FOG Charges: Fees are charged to Class III and IV and FDA class 2, 3, and 4 Food Service Establishments FSE or any other facility that is likely to discharge fats, oils and grease above the effluent limit of 100 mg/l to offset the costs of managing the Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) program. This program is required by the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection General Permit for the Discharge of Wastewater Associated with Food Service Establishments.

It is **RECOMMENDED** that it be:

Voted: That the Bureau of Public Works recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution:

Resolved: That, in accordance with Section S12j of the District Ordinances, Unit Charges For Computing The Sewer User Charge, a sewer user charge rate of five dollars and ninety cents (\$5.90) per hundred cubic feet of sewer flow be effective for meter readings on and after January 1, 2026 and that, effective January 1, 2026, a sewer user customer service charge per connection of **twelve nine dollars and fifty cents (\$12.50) (\$9.00)** per month, a BOD strength charge of seventy cents (\$0.70) per pound be billed on sewer flow for that concentration of BOD exceeding 300 milligrams per liter; a COD strength charge of seventy cents (\$0.70) per pound be billed on sewer flow for that concentration of COD exceeding 700 milligrams per liter; and a suspended solids strength charge of fifty eight cents (\$0.58) per pound be billed on sewer flow for that concentration of suspended solids exceeding 300 milligrams per liter.

Further

Resolved: In accordance with Section S12x of the District's Ordinances, the rate for the Special Sewer Service Charge a.k.a. Clean Water Project Charge shall be \$4.87 per ccf commencing January 1, 2026.

Further

Resolved: That the District Board approve the following schedule of fees effective January 1, 2026.

CURRENT PROPOSED

Installation, Repair or Replacement of Sewer Meters

Fees are charged to wastewater dischargers that require metering of discharges for billing purposes. The charge is for the initial District meter installation and required repair or replacement of District meter as needed during the permitted discharge period.

5/8" meter	\$360	\$500
3/4" meter	\$375	\$550
1" meter	\$445	\$575
1-1/2" meter	\$1,140	\$1,140

	<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>
2" meter	\$1,250	\$1,250
3" meter	\$2,630	\$2,775
4" meter	\$3,180	\$3,550
6" meter	\$5,090	\$7,150
8" meter	\$14,840	\$14,840
10" meter	\$17,110	\$17,110
12" meter	\$17,800	\$17,800
Hydrant meter assembly	\$2,000	N/A
Meter pit (5/8"- 1")	\$1,750	\$1,750
Meter pit (1 1/2" and 2" without bypass)	\$5,500	\$5,500
Meter pit (1 1/2" and 2" with bypass)	N/A	\$6,000
Meter pit (3" and Larger)	Actual Cost* + Overhead	Actual Cost* + Overhead
Open Channel Sewer	\$15,300	\$15,300
Meter Chamber for Open Channel	Actual Cost* + overhead	Actual Cost* + overhead
Radio transmitter unit	\$212	\$225

Liquid Waste Discharge Fee (other than Acceptable Septage)

Discharge subject to approval by the District:

Tier 1--	0-500,000 avg. gallons per month	\$0.13/gal	\$0.13/gal
Tier 2--	500,001 to 700,000 avg gallons per month	\$0.07	\$0.07
Tier 3--	700,000+ avg gallons per month	\$0.05	\$0.05

Equivalent Inflow Removal Rate ("EIRR")

N/A **\$11,100**

The calculated cost for removal of the average volume per day of inflow from a typical single-family property.

EIRR is established per Sewer Ordinance S2I(c)

Administrative Review for Sewer Services Fee

\$670 \$670

Includes, but is not limited to, the following individual services: availability and capacity analysis, assessment calculation, permit applications for non-domestic sewage wastewater discharges (individual permits, Significant Industrial Users, Categorical Industrial User Wastewater to a POTW, Food Service Establishment Wastewater, Groundwater Remediation Wastewater, Miscellaneous Industrial User (MIU) Wastewater, Vehicle Maintenance Wastewater), encroachment permits, abandonment of infrastructure, Engineering/Environmental surveys and documentation requests

<u>CURRENT</u>	<u>PROPOSED</u>
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Annual Wastewater Discharge Compliance Fee	\$150	\$150
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For all permitted wastewater discharges categorized as non-domestic sewage discharges, including but not limited to, individual permits, Significant Industrial Users, Categorical Industrial User Wastewater to a POTW, Food Service Establishment Wastewater, Groundwater Remediation Wastewater, Miscellaneous Industrial User (MIU) Wastewater, Vehicle Maintenance Wastewater. The charge is related costs associated with annual administration and review of discharge monitoring reports, verification of discharges and inventorying and management of customer data. The fee will be billed on a monthly basis at \$12.50/month.

Wastewater Discharge Compliance Fees

Failure to submit Registration or Variance Applications	\$500	\$500
Disallow Inspection	\$225	\$225
Failure to maintain discharge records including analytical results and discharge volumes	\$200	\$200
No FOG management or pre-treatment equipment installed	\$200	\$200
Non-compliant FOG management or pre-treatment equipment installed	\$200	\$200
Failure to properly maintain/service FOG and pre-treatment equipment to maintain proper working order and provide inspection and maintenance records as required.	\$100	\$100
Failure to maintain FOG management equipment in proper working order	\$200	\$200
Failure to clean FOG management equipment quarterly or when 25% of the depth of the trap is filled with food solids and FOG, whichever comes first.	\$200	\$200
Failure to properly dispose of brown and/or yellow grease	\$200	\$200
Source of sewer blockage	\$1,000	\$1,000
Source of sanitary sewer overflow - Actual costs will be billed to the facility for time and materials related to the overflow	minimum \$1,000 or Actual Cost whichever is greater	minimum \$1,000 or Actual Cost whichever is greater

Wastewater Discharge Violation Correction Schedule

Discharge and/or Equipment not registered	7 days	7 days
No FOG management or pre-treatment equipment installed	30 days	30 days
FOG management equipment in need of repair or cleaning	7 days	7 days
Failure to maintain written records of FOG management equipment cleaning and inspection	7 days	7 days

Disallow an inspection – Inspection must be scheduled within 7 days of initial inspection attempt	7 days	7 days
Failure to clean and maintain FOG management equipment as required	7 days	7 days
Source of sewer blockage	24 Hours	24 Hours
Source of sanitary sewer overflow (minimum)	24 Hours	24 Hours

Respectfully submitted,



John S. Mirtle
District Clerk

***Commissioner Torres made a motion to amend the resolution, as shown above in blue.
The motion was duly seconded and accepted by unanimous vote of those present.***

On motion made by Commissioner DiBella and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted, as amended, by unanimous vote of those present.

REVISIONS TO SEPTAGE REIMBURSEMENT RATE

To: Bureau of Public Works for consideration November 19, 2025

Following the cost trends and in accordance with Section S14d of the District's Ordinances, it is recommended the Septage reimbursements for member town residents be increased from \$225 to \$275. The last increase to the septage reimbursement rate was effective January 1, 2016.

REIMBURSEMENTS FOR MEMBER TOWNS RESIDENTS

Member town residents who are not provided access to the District's sewer collection system are compensated by the District through a reimbursement program that provides the residents with as much as \$275 every three years for documented septage removal costs. A review by staff has also determined that a significant percentage of haulers are not passing the savings in disposal cost on to the residents within our member towns.

Presently, procedures for verifying resident and non-resident wastewater are limited. Though periodic spot checks are made by staff to verify the collection of septage from residential location within the District's member municipalities, in many cases this process is considered to be annoying to residents, time consuming and inconclusive in determining the actual quantities pumped from the member-town residence and the amount actually disposed at no fee by the hauler.

Conclusion

As a result of these findings, staff recommend that the following charges be incorporated in the reimbursement policy. That the reimbursement to qualified member-town residents for septage removal fees be increased from the present \$225 to \$275 to cover the cost for disposal at the Hartford Water Pollution Control Facility.

Therefore, it is **RECOMMENDED** that it be

VOTED: That the Bureau of Public Works approves the following resolution:

RESOLVED: The septage reimbursement rate for member town residents be \$275 effective on and after January 1, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,



John S. Mirtle
District Clerk

On motion made by Commissioner DiBella and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those present.

Commissioner Taylor exited the meeting at 5:53 PM

COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL PROGRAM FOR STORMWATER CONNECTIONS IN MEMBER TOWNS WITH SEPARATED SEWER SYSTEMS

Jason Waterbury, Assistant Manager of Engineering, provided a presentation regarding the Cost Benefit Analysis of Potential programs for Stormwater Connections in Member Towns with separated sewer systems.



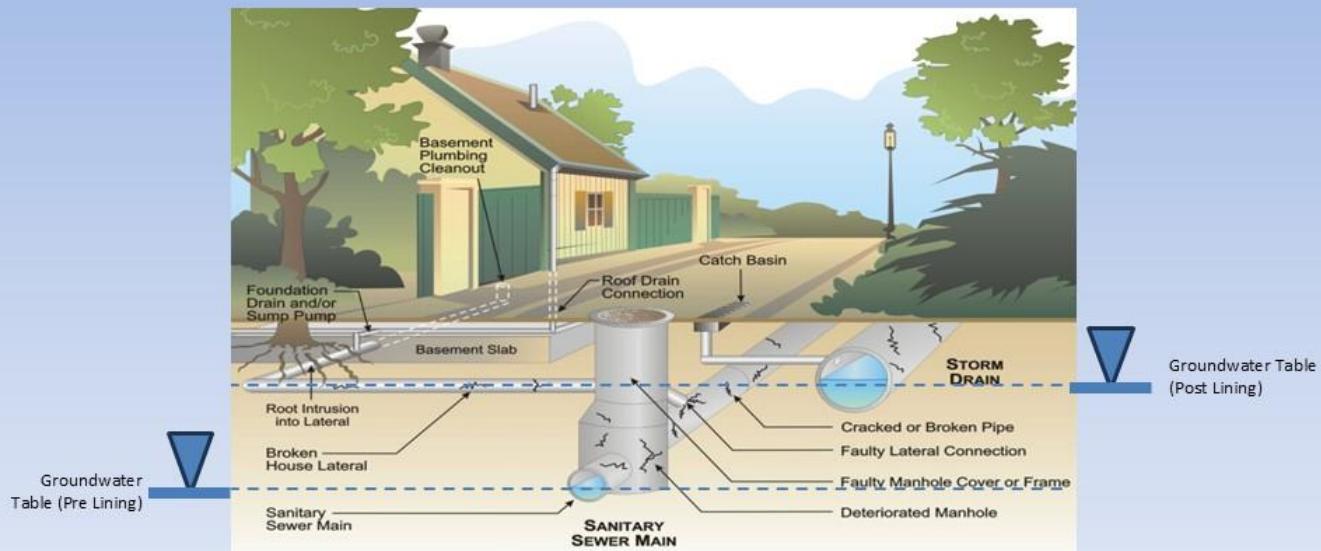
Bureau of Public Works

November 19, 2025

Agenda Item: 7 – Cost Benefit Analysis of Potential Program for Stormwater

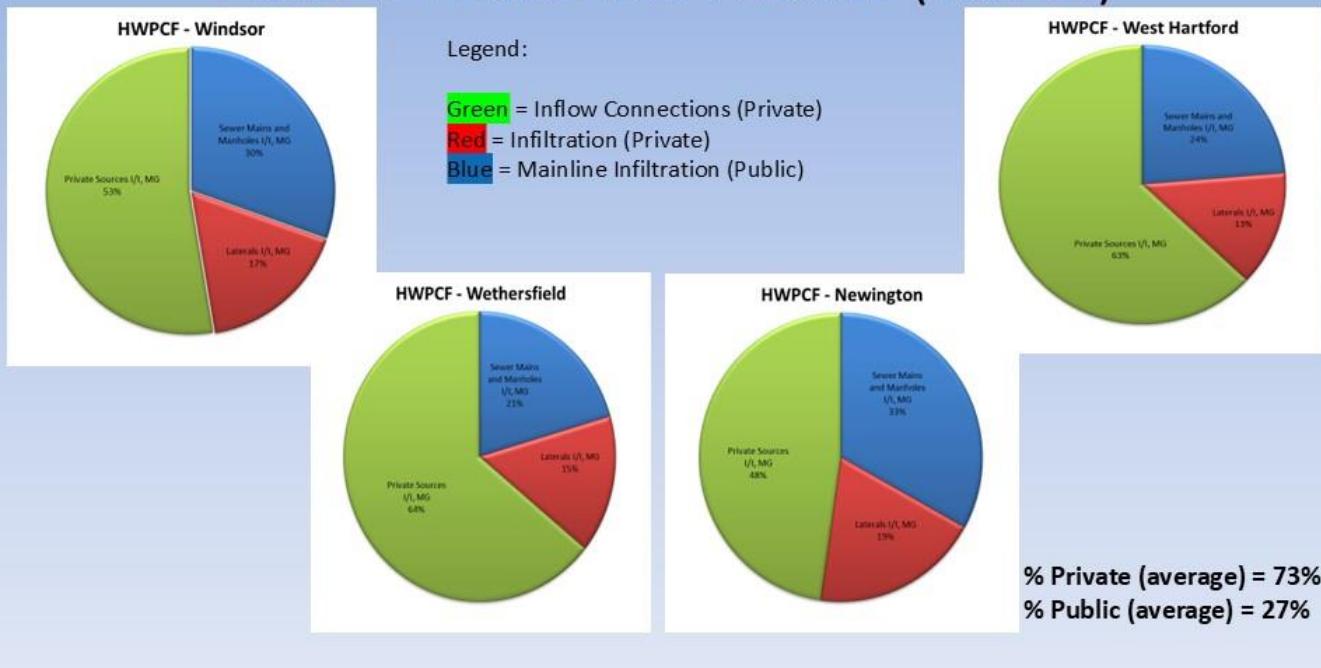
Stormwater Impacts on Separate Sewer Systems

Inflow and Infiltration



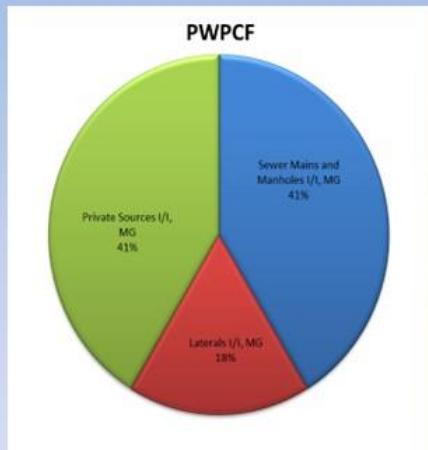
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Public vs Private Wet Weather (HWPCF)



4

Public vs Private Wet Weather (Non-HWPCF)

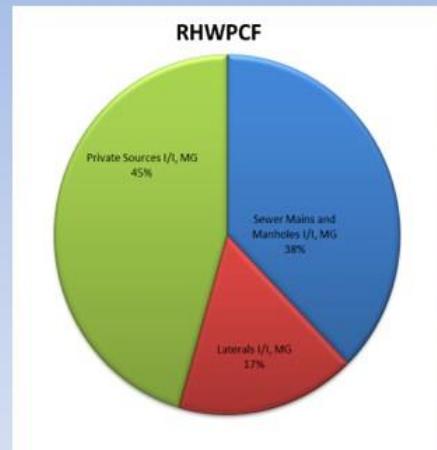


% Private = 59%

% Public = 41%

Legend:

Green = Inflow Connections (Private)
 Red = Infiltration (Private)
 Blue = Mainline Infiltration (Public)



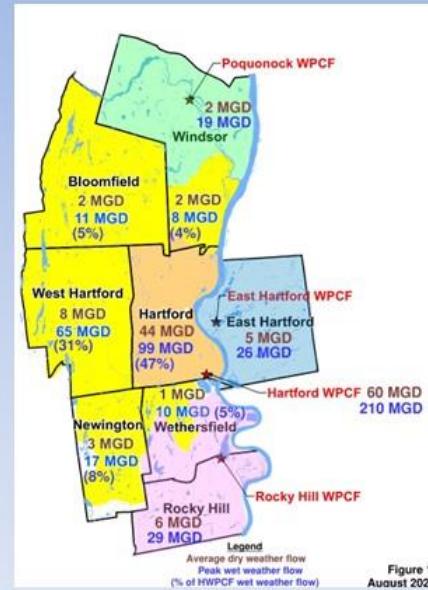
% Private = 62%

% Public = 38%

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Comparing Drinking Water to Wastewater

- Majority of sewershed on drinking water system
- Approximately 30-35 mgd of billed drinking water in member towns
- Assume only 90% becomes wastewater (28 mgd)
 - Other 10% for watering lawns, washing cars, beverage manufacturing companies, etc.
- Average flow to all four treatment plants is over 60 mgd
- Peak at 200 mgd (Hartford), 27 mgd (Rocky Hill), 26 mgd (East Hartford), and 19 mgd (Poquonock) – 282 mgd total
- **Paying to transport and treat stormwater and I/I in sewer system**



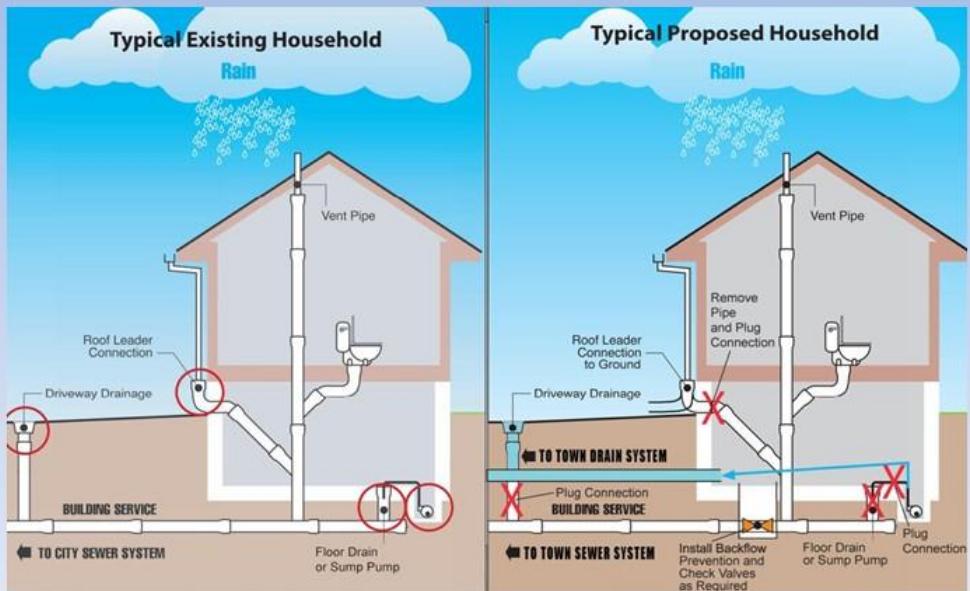
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Separate Clean Water from Sewer



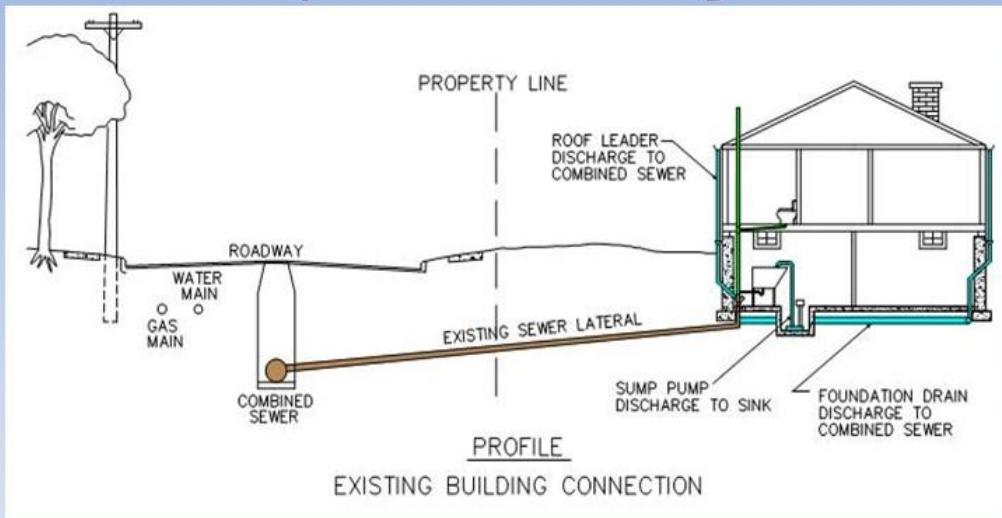
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Benefit of Drain Laterals



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MDC Sewer System – Existing Conditions

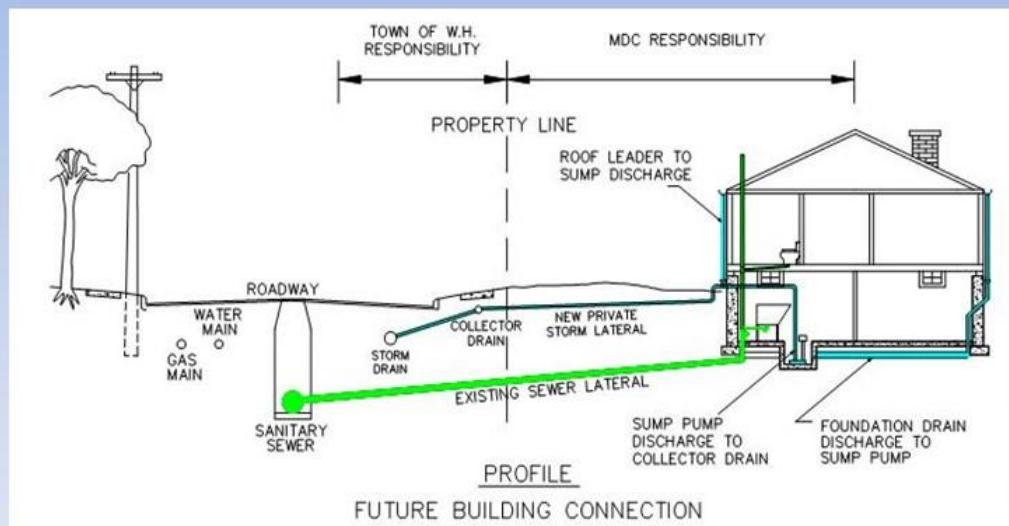


* Towns have ordinances that prohibit non-sanitary water to the MDC's sewer system

* Requires enforcement

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MDC Sewer System – Future Conditions



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Example Wet Weather Expansion Projects

- Hartford WPCF
 - \$500 million upgrade completed
- Rocky Hill WPCF
 - \$60 million upgrade completed
 - \$13.1M headworks improvements in Construction
- South Hartford Conveyance & Storage Tunnel
 - \$600 million
 - Intended for Wet Weather Only
- Conveyance (larger interceptor) projects
 - \$100M – Homestead, Goff Brook, etc

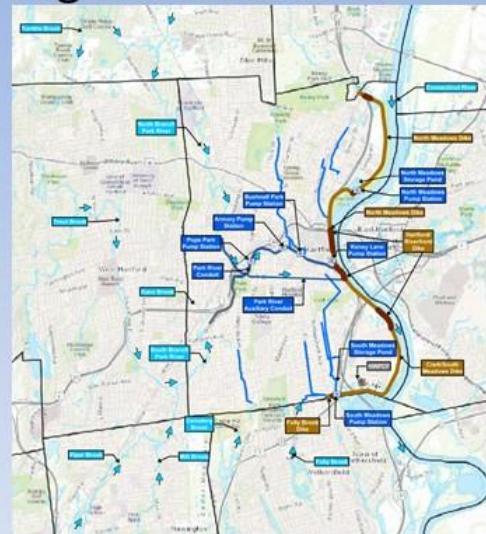


These projects, and many others like them, would not have been needed if stormwater from Hartford and seven other Member Towns was not in sewer system – **These Examples represent over \$1.3B in work to address infiltration and inflow transportation & treatment and do not account for future R&R work**

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It is Not as Simple as Just Requiring Enforcement

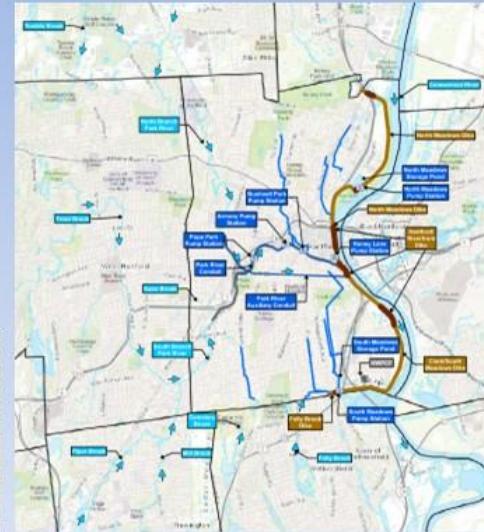
- As stormwater and I/I is removed the sewer system, it is redirected to new or upsized drainage system which may impact downstream communities
 - Example – North Branch Park River – Bloomfield to West Hartford to Hartford
- Requires better understanding of regional impact



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Additionally Existing Flooding

- Infrastructure to reduce flooding, not covered by MS4 permit
 - No state/federal regulatory criteria/requirement related to flooding
- Maximize future stormwater management projects with the MDC Integrated Planning
- Flood improvement projects in some Towns impact other Towns downstream
 - Trout Book flows into Hartford



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MDC Stormwater Management Considerations

- Prior attempts of private I/I removal denied by Towns due to inadequate drainage system. For example:
 - FB2 Subarea in Wethersfield along Folly Brook
 - WH 34 Subarea in West Hartford
- Over half the flow treated at the MDC's 4 WPCFs is from stormwater and infiltration and inflow (I/I)
 - Even with approximately 341 miles of lining completed since 2008 & a projected IP Spend of \$385M (2018 dollars) for mainline Sewer Rehabilitation work
- Per 2018 LTCP Update, the cost to treat excess wet weather flow is about \$650 (2017 \$s) per million gallons
 - \$854.21 in 2025 dollars
- Total flow to all plants is about 26 billion gallons per year, thus about 14 billion gallons per year is stormwater and I/I
- About \$11.96M per year to treat the stormwater and I/I
 - Funds that could be used to disconnect private inflow connections

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Financial Summary

- Annual Cost to transport and treat wet weather flows increasing every year, with an estimated cost of nearly \$12M in 2025
 - This cost represents the cost to disconnect approximately 600 homes (annually)
 - Would be completed via District forces
 - Interior private property work already included in Sewer Backup Prevention Program (SBPP) budget
 - **Permanent disconnection is only guarantee storm water and ground water flows remain separated**
- CSO LTCP/IP includes lining of approximately 268 miles of sewers over remainder of IP plan
 - This will remove an estimated 10-20% of I/I
 - Total cost of approximately \$385M (2018 dollars)

ID	Rehabilitation Approach	National Study Average Reduction Range	Pilot Study Reduction Range
1	Mainline Sewer and Manholes	10-30%	10-40%
2	Lateral Connections	10-20%	-
3	Laterals	10-20%	-
4	Private Sources	20-40%	-
5	1 and 2 Combined	20-50%	25%
6	1, 2 and 3 Combined	30-70%	20-40%
7	1 and 4 Combined	30-70%	10-40%

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Potential MOU with Responsibilities

- **Responsibilities of The Metropolitan District**
 - The MDC shall be responsible for the following:
 - Identification and prioritization of areas of Member Town where private property separation/disconnection work is required for either CO or CD compliance.
 - Coordination of schedule of MDC work with Member Town stormwater program.
 - All aspects of the preparation of Contract Documents for Construction for executing the private property work. This shall include:
 - Contracting with an Engineering Consultant for the Design of the work
 - Public Outreach
 - Inspections & preparation of sketches/drawings
 - Management of all necessary private property agreements, including those required by both the MDC and Member Town
 - Preparation of as-built documents for Member Town
 - Execution and administration of Construction phase
- **Responsibilities of Member Town**
 - Design & Installation of storm drainage infrastructure, as required for future private property separation/disconnection work by the MDC.
 - Restoration of all areas disturbed by the installation of the Work within the ROW.
 - Approval of private storm drain connections and timely issuance of permits for MDC and its Contractors at time of private property disconnection work.
 - Provide the MDC with immediate written notice of its discovery of any violation of the Applicable Town of Code Sections.

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MDC Sewer Ordinance(S2I)

Except as specifically provided with reference to some particular sewer, sanitary sewers shall be used only for the conveyance and disposal of sanitary sewage as defined in Section S1b(2) of this ordinance and for diluted, water-carried industrial wastes which are not objectionable as provided hereinafter. Except as specifically provided for some particular sewer or location, **no sanitary sewer shall be used to receive and convey or dispose of any storm or surface water, subsoil drainage**, any large continuous flow of water seeping into buildings or excavations from soils or other underground sources, flows of natural springs, or ground waters, surplus from flowing wells, the discharge from roofs, roof conductors, yard drains, street or highway drains.

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OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Duane Martin, Director of Community Development for the Town of West Hartford, stated that he is happy to hear what Scott Jellison and Jason Waterbury presented. West Hartford recognizes there is a storm drainage problem that is not going away. West Hartford has completed 7 flood studies. He understands these issues are expensive to address. The West Hartford Town Council has adopted \$5 million per year, and some money is built up. He welcomes the opportunity to work with the MDC on these flood studies. The town of West Hartford is asking MDC to partner with them as described in the presentation tonight.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 PM

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle
District Clerk

Date of Approval

**Video of the full November 19, 2025 Bureau of Public Works meeting is available at
<https://www.youtube.com/@MetropolitanDistrictCommission> **