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A water and sewer project that is needed to serve existing and proposed areas of northern Warren County will be the focus of a public meeting hosted by the Warren County Water District on Thursday, July 5th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Warren East High School library. The proposed project will increase water pressure along Louisville Road, Otter Gap Road, Oakland Road, Boiling Springs Road and others that historically have suffered low water pressure and currently lack fire protection. In addition, the installation of a new sewer line will relieve currently overloaded lift stations and help keep the District in compliance with federal and state environmental laws. The project also would serve a growing area of the county where development has been approved by local planning and zoning officials.

“This project meets the immediate needs for adequate water supply and sewer capacity, and it provides capacity for the development that is inevitable in northern Warren County. It additionally provides environmental protection by ensuring adequate wastewater disposal . . . all with no rate increases for our customers,” said Alan Vilines, WCWD general manager. “As a water and sewer utility in Warren County, our job is not only to serve existing needs but also to make sure that we have facilities in place to serve the growth and development approved by local planning agencies,” he added.

Vilines noted that Warren County is one of the fastest growing areas of the state with growth far exceeding earlier population projections. Along with growth and approved development comes the need for adequate water and effective sewer systems that require long-term planning to ensure facilities are in place when needed. Existing water lines in the area were constructed in the late 1960s and early 1970s, according to Vilines who said that while future needs were included in the original water and sewer systems, additional capacity is now needed to accommodate the growth that has exceeded those projections and to meet locally approved and projected future growth.

The July 5th public meeting is part of a project development and review process underway for proposed construction including 6.5 miles of sewer main that will bypass an existing line along US Hwy.

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31-W from Barren River to Hwy 68, 6.5 miles of 20-inch water main in the same area and 6.1 miles of 12-inch water main further north on Hwy 31W and Oakland Lane.

The sewer and water lines along with two water pumping stations will be constructed simultaneously, which will help reduce costs and minimize environmental impacts. According the Vilines, the \$7.9 million project is being funded primarily through state and federal grant programs and will not impact WCWD water or sewer rates.

During the July 5th meeting, officials will discuss the recommended projects along with alternatives that were considered to meet existing and future water and sewer needs in the area. To allow maximum participation the meeting will be conducted in an open house format with displays describing the overall project, its purpose and need, alternatives considered, and evaluations conducted as part of the proposal development. There will also be opportunities for community members to provide verbal or written comment about the proposal.

“Anytime you’re proposing a large construction project, it’s important to inform the community and get feedback to ensure that we’ve planned for their needs,” Vilines said. “In this case, where the project is needed immediately, we particularly hope that anyone interested in the project and our evaluation of its impacts will take the opportunity to visit our open house and not only learn about, but also comment on this project that will ensure clean water and adequate sewer service to the area.”

Following the July 5th meeting, WCWD will assemble comments received and will forward them with other pertinent information to the Kentucky Division of Water and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for their review and consideration. Those unable to attend the public meeting can also review project information during business hours at WCWD’s office on US Hwy. 31W Bypass. Additional written comments will be accepted by WCWD until July 28, 2007.

WCWD is a public water and wastewater utility serving more than 23,000 water and 3,500 wastewater customers throughout Warren County. There are 1,000 miles of water mains in the WCWD service area, which spans 530 square miles. The WCWD sewer system includes 100 miles of sewer lines.

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