

**Water talk a poor draw  
Lines for north to accommodate growth**

**By JIM GAINES, The Daily News  
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A scheduled open house to discuss plans for new water and sewer lines in north Warren County was overflowing with interested officials, but drew barely a trickle of public attention Thursday night.

Representatives of Warren County Water District - which is building the lines - were joined by state officials, staff from the City-County Planning Commission, District 4 Magistrate Tommy Hunt, representatives of the Kentucky TriModal Transpark and a few others in at least semi-official capacity at the meeting in Warren East High School library.

Current capacity of water lines serving north Warren County is 3.2 million gallons per day, but peak demand is already up to 3.6 million gallons, according to the water district's figures.

Glen Johnson, a water district board member who has served as an Alvaton volunteer firefighter for more than 30 years, said there's just not enough water available to provide good fire protection in rural Warren County. The only way to increase that capacity is to build new lines, which will also allow for growth, while sewer service prevents environmental damage, Johnson said.

The county has grown fast, with its population up 30 percent in 16 years to 101,000, said Gerry Fister of Third Rock, a consulting firm. That's likely to continue, so the area needs more water; and sewer service for new residents will protect the area's karst underpinnings

"We really need to get this project done," said Alan Vilines, water district general manager. The water district is now having to buy 100,000 gallons a day from the Glasgow city water system to meet summer demand, he said.

"We've had to do that for the last four or five summers," Vilines said.

The plan calls for building 6.5 miles of 20-inch water main along Old Louisville Road, CSX Railroad and the former Hays Martin Road, 6.1 miles of 12-inch main along U.S. 31-W North and Oakland Lane, and two pumping stations. Also planned are 6.5 miles of 12- and 18-inch sewer line along Old Louisville Road, CSX Railroad and the former Hays Martin Road.

The water lines are expected to cost \$4.3 million, and the sewer lines \$3.6 million, with each project taking a year.

Vilines said the water district got \$4 million from the federal government, and a \$3.8 million state appropriation to cover all but about \$100,000 of the work's cost.

The water district is still seeking public comments on the project and any possible environmental or historic impact, which it must send to the State Division of Water and EPA. They will be accepted until July 28. Plans will be available for viewing at the water district office, 523 U.S. 31-W Bypass. Written comments can be submitted to Vilines at P.O. Box 10180, Bowling Green, KY 42102.