



**A JOINT LETTER FROM
THE CITIES OF
NORTON AND BARBERTON**



February 17, 2017

Dear Nash Heights Resident:

We are pleased to provide a status update on the Nash Heights Sanitary Sewer Project. The communities of Norton and Barberton have worked cooperatively to provide a regional solution to accomplish the installation of sanitary sewers. Additionally, this collaboration satisfies orders issued by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency for the Nash Heights area and creates a healthier neighborhood environment. Although, everyone may not agree on the need or approach, the cities are committed to work together not only to accomplish the sewer installation but to do so in a conscientious and courteous manner within your neighborhood.

As many of you may be aware the City of Barberton entered into an agreement to provide sanitary sewer utility services within the City of Norton. This joint agreement provides the City of Norton with the ability to extend sanitary sewer lines, especially into areas for the advancement of economic development, while strengthening the Barberton customer base, and as a result keeping sewer rates reasonable for both communities.

Barberton and Norton will work jointly on projects. Barberton has already worked diligently to begin to eliminate the outdated package plants (wastewater treatment facilities) formerly owned by Summit County. The Nash Heights project will be the first publicly bid project to be executed through the City of Barberton; however, both city administrations will work together throughout the project in order to ensure project execution is managed effectively. Rudzik Excavating has been selected as the contractor for the Nash Heights project. A pre-construction meeting was held on February 6, 2017 to review the project in its entirety. In accordance with the EPA requirements work on the Nash Heights project must begin by April 1, 2017. However, we are expecting to begin work in advance of this date.

March 1, 2017 is the anticipated date for mobilization of the project. The actual construction will start no later than April 1, 2017. Work hours are anticipated to be from 7am to 5:30pm, and generally Monday through Thursdays. No weekend work is currently planned. The contractor is well aware of the neighborhood setting and will communicate directly with residents when needed. In addition, the City of Norton will be generating a neighborhood email newsletter to keep the residents updated as the project progresses.

As we begin construction, please find included a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheet for more information regarding the project and tie-in procedures from the health department.

Again, please know that the City of Norton and the City of Barberton have a true commitment to each other to work for the betterment of both communities. As residents in our first joint project area we are dedicated to deliver a successful project for the improvement of the Nash Heights area. Watch for future project announcements.

Sincerely,

Mike Zita
Mayor Mike Zita
City of Norton

William B. Judge
Mayor William Judge
City of Barberton



NASH HEIGHTS SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM PROJECT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **When is the Sanitary Sewer project expected to begin?**
 - The contractor Rudzik Excavating is required to start no later than April 1, 2017. Mobilization (moving in equipment/supplies) is expected to begin March 1, 2017.
 - Expected work hours will be 7am to 5:30pm; 4 days a week
 - No regular work is planned for Friday, Saturday, Sunday
- **How long will construction take on my street?**
 - The estimated construction period for the entire project is approximately one (1) year. The contractor is required to begin by April 1, 2017 and complete the project by July, 1, 2018. The time on each street will depend on many factors, but each resident will be notified by the project inspector and the contractor several days before construction occurs in front of their own home.
- **Will any trees be removed as part of the project?**
 - Some trees within the road right-of-way (city-owned property) may be removed, but tree removal will be avoided whenever possible.
- **Will my driveway be damaged during the construction?**
 - Portions of your driveway may be removed during construction, but it will be restored to current City of Norton standards during the restoration phase.
- **Will my mail box or landscaping be affected?**
 - Your mailbox may be moved to a temporary location and then reset, but your mail service will be maintained. If your landscaping is disturbed by the contractor, then it will be restored. A pre-construction video will document all existing conditions for post construction reference. If you have a lawn sprinkling system or invisible fence that encroaches in to the street right-of-way, please inform the project inspector before construction begins in front of your home.
- **Will the roads be repaired at the end of the project?**
 - All of the roads in the project area will be resurfaced as part of the overall Sanitary Sewer project.
- **Will the sanitary line to my septic tank be disrupted during construction?**
 - No, construction must be coordinated so your home system continues to operate until after the public sewer system is installed, tested, and accepted as complete.

- **Will the new sewer system serve the basement of my home?**
 - Yes, if your basement is served by your current home sewage treatment system (HSTS)
- **Who will connect my house to the sanitary sewer system?**
 - Each home owner will hire their own contractor to connect their home to the sewer system and abandon their septic according to health department standards..
 - See Health Department Fact Sheet for more information (Blue sheet)
- **What are the costs to connect to the new sewer line?**
 - In accordance with the Norton-Barberton Sewer Agreement a permit/connection fee of \$800 for the mandated Nash Heights project, must be paid to the City of Barberton prior to a contractor connecting the lines to your home and within the time-line set by the Summit County Health Department (Blue sheet). If the timeline is not met the normal connection fee of \$1600 will be required.
- **Why do you need to know the location of my water well?**
 - The Ohio EPA now requires that the location of private wells be shown on the detailed plans to ensure that the sanitary lines do not interfere with the wells.
- **What is the assessment cost for this project?**
 - The ESTIMATED cost of the project for each property owner has been set for \$11,200.
 - The FINAL assessment will be placed on your county property taxes after the completion of the project.
 - The FINAL assessment costs are expected to begin in the 2019 tax year.
 - Upon completion of the project you will receive a letter from the City of Norton with your final assessment cost. You will have 30 days to pay this in full to the City of Norton. If you cannot pay this in full the City of Norton will forward your assessment amount to the Summit County Fiscal Office to be applied to your taxes over a 30 year period.
- **Can I apply my connection cost of \$800/\$1600 to my property taxes?**
 - No, you must pay those costs up front to the City of Barberton at the time of your connection into the sewer system.
- **What if I cannot afford my assessment cost, is there financial aid available?**
 - Under Ohio Revised Code Section 727.251 you can appeal to the legislative authority for deferring of payment due to the fact a timely payment will impose financial hardship upon you. This is an in depth review of your personal finances and is time sensitive. You may review those requirements at <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/727.25>.
 - If you meet certain income thresholds you may qualify for financial assistance through the Summit County Department of Community Development Contact (330) 643-2893 for more details.
- **Who should I call with questions about the project?**
 - If you have any questions, please leave your question and any contact information at the **Nash Sewer VoiceMail Box at 330-825-7815-ext. #312** and someone will get back with you.
 - If you would like to be part of an email update list, please send your email information to **nashsewer@cityofnorton.org**, indicating **NASH SEWER UPDATES PLEASE** in the subject line

end



Summit County Public Health

1867 West Market Street ♦ Akron, Ohio 44313-6901

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www.scphoh.org

Dear Norton Resident:

The installation of sanitary sewer in the Nash Heights neighborhood of Norton will begin in the spring of 2017. Please see below for frequently asked questions regarding this project:

Which homes have to tie into the sewer?

The Nash Heights area was declared a public health nuisance due to the high failure rate for septic systems in that neighborhood and the bacteria levels in the water draining from the neighborhood. Ohio Revised Code 6117.51 states that all homes within 200 feet of nearest boundary of the right-of-way in which the sewer is located must connect. As part of the OEPA consent area, your home is within boundaries of the area that was declared a nuisance and your home will have to be connected to sewer.

How long do I have to tie into the sewer once it is installed?

Originally, a tiered tie-in time line of 60 days, 90 days, and 6 months had been developed to tie-in to the new sewer. However, to work with the neighborhood better, once the newly constructed sewer has been completed, tested and certified to be put to use, all owners will have 6 months to complete the tie-in and abandon the septic system. Please consult with the City of Norton on the projected completion date.

How is the septic system "abandoned"?

When no longer in use, all septic systems must be properly abandoned. Abandonment generally entails pumping all the septic components dry that are holding water/sewage and crushing the components so that they do not collect run-off water or become potential safety hazard. Once crushed, any "pits" created in the yard are generally filled with topsoil.

Who can abandon a septic system and is there a permit involved?

The final pumping of the septic system must be completed by a sewage hauler registered with Summit County Public Health (SCPH), a list of registered pumpers may be obtained on our website and copies of the list will be supplied to the City for pick-up at city hall. Any contractor can complete the actual abandonment. Once the work is completed, a Notification of Abandonment must be submitted to SCPH with a \$90.00 fee along with a copy of the final pumping receipt. Notification of Abandonment form will also be available for pick-up at city hall. Once SCPH receives the Notification of Abandonment, a SCPH inspector will inspect the property to verify the abandonment.

What drains have to be connected to the sanitary sewer system?

All drains in the home will have to be evaluated. In general, all waste water drains must be connected to the sewer system. This includes: toilets, laundry tubs, sinks, washing machines, dishwashers, water softener discharge, bath tubs, showers, garage floor drains etc. Clear water drains, such as down spouts, footer drains, and yard drains, are prohibited from connection to the sanitary sewer. In some older homes, these drains may not be separated, but will be required to be separated prior to connecting to the sanitary sewer. The most common problem is laundry drains that discharge to basement floor drains which may be connected to the footer drain system.

For any questions regarding the abandonment of a septic system, please contact SCPH at 330-926-5600.

Local Health District:

Sewage Treatment System (STS) Abandonment Permit/Report

Permit # (if applicable)

Audit Sticker (if applicable)

The permit with the original audit sticker and signatures must stay with the local health district. A copy must be given to the applicant at the time the permit is issued. The report must be completed and submitted to the local health district.

Property Information

Location Address:

Township:

County:

Reason for abandonment:

Owner Information

Owner Name:

Phone Number:

Mailing Address:

Applicant Statement of Compliance

I agree the household sewage treatment system or component(s) will be abandoned in accordance with rule 3701-29-21 of the Ohio Administrative Code. The contents of the sewage treatment system or component(s) to be abandoned shall be disposed in accordance with rule 3701-29-20 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

Signature of owner or authorized representative:

Date:

For office use only:

Permit Issue Date (if applicable):

Sanitarian Name (printed):

Sanitarian Signature:

Abandonment Completion Report

Date completed:

System Contents (Note: Completed pumping report must be attached)

Registered Septage Hauler:

Wastewater Disposal Site:

Solid Waste Disposal Site:

Abandoned Component(s) (List all components abandoned and method of abandonment)

Component 1:

Method:

Component 2:

Method:

Component 3:

Method:

Component 4:

Method:

Person/Registered Installer Completing Abandonment

Signature:

Name (printed):

Local Health District Inspection (if applicable)

Sanitarian Signature:

Sanitarian Name (printed):

Date: