



For Immediate Release

TWO LAKES COLLABORATIVE SEWER AUTHORITY SEEKS COMMUNITY INPUT ABOUT SEWER PROJECT

ONEKAMA TOWNSHIP, BEAR LAKE TOWNSHIP, VILLAGE OF BEAR LAKE, PLEASANTON TOWNSHIP – the Board of the Two Lakes Collaborative Sewer Authority (TLCSA) has launched an initiative to identify questions and provide factual answers to all questions about a multi-jurisdictional sewage collection, treatment, and disposal system. The TLCSA was formed by Bear Lake Township, the Village of Bear Lake, Onekama Township and Pleasanton Township in 2017 with a purpose to “plan, design, engineer, finance, construct and operate a public sewage disposal system serving sewage districts in those municipal units”.

“We are seeking questions from all interests about any element of the project so we can prepare factual answers that can be widely shared as soon as possible after all questions are received,” the Authority said. “Our goal is a shared understanding of the facts involving this project. In the case of questions where the answer is unknown, we will state that as the case.”

The Authority said that the following documents about the project are online at the following web site:

Web Site: Onekama.info/township/two-lakes-collaborative-sewer-initiative

Report: Preliminary Engineering Report - Revised

Report: Environmental Assessment

Beginning November 12, 2021, any individual, organization, business, or government and all others will have until December 23, 2021 to submit questions. The Authority will use a collaborative process to develop objective, factual responses to all questions with a goal of presenting the questions and answers in mid-January 2020 or sooner if possible.

Entities submitting questions can submit them in any form to: tlsa.mcmi@gmail.com or in hard copy mailed to: TLCSA, PO Box 265, Onekama, MI 49675 by December 23, 2021.

By the week of November 25, we will have collection boxes, paper and pens in locations with high use to seek questions about the project. In addition, we will be seeking questions that will accompany a tax mailing to all property owners in the municipal units that will be received by those property owners on or about the week of December 1, 2021.

To submit questions, an entity or person can:

1. Legibly write or type and submit **as many questions as they would like** in hard copy or online.
2. You are encouraged but not required to submit questions **anonymously**. We will not attribute questions to entities or individuals who submit them.
3. Submit questions at any time or date up until 12:59 p.m. on **December 23, 2021**.
4. Submit any questions about any element of the project. There are **no wrong questions**.

The TLCSA will widely announce the location of other sites in Manistee County where questions may be submitted. Because of concerns about group gatherings and the continued spread of Covid, the Authority does not anticipate in-person meetings or discussions (***pertaining to this Q & A forum***) in an indoor setting that could become a location fostering infection and unnecessary risk. The Authority may consider virtual Q & A meetings. If they are held, they will also be widely announced.