

FOLEY WASTEWATER EXPANSION UPDATE

Where are we at with expanding Foley's Wastewater Treatment Plant?

Over the past year, staff has been working on completing the Facility Plan, which is a required document of the MPCA (MN Pollution Control Agency). This document gives an overview of the existing conditions and also explores multiple options for expansion. The City has a draft facility plan which has been discussed by the council but not yet formally adopted.

What options exist in the facility plan?

The facility plan lays out 4 options:

- Expansion of existing system – Stabilization Ponds.
- Conversion of Golf Pond System to an Aerated Pond System.
- Construction of a Mechanical Plant.
- Regionalization – Run a pipe and pump Foley's wastewater to St. Cloud for treatment.

How much do the alternatives cost and how will that impact me?

The costs of these options range from approximately \$7.5 million – \$19.2 million. The costs are based on preliminary engineer's estimates and not on actual construction bids. If the city must finance approximately \$7 million, it is estimated that would approximately double the current sewer rate.

The City is working hard to obtain both state and federal funding to help offset the costs of the expansion project.

What is all considered when making the final decision?

The council is carefully considering multiple options. It is important to note that new water quality standards are constantly being incorporated into the city's treatment as our permit with the MPCA must be renewed every 5 years. There is the potential that a new limit could require an update or additional investment to any of these options.

The council is working on obtaining as much information as possible before making the decision. The council strives to make the best decision for Foley in the near future and for the long-term.

Where can I find the draft wastewater facility plan and will I have a chance to comment?

The draft plan is available on the city website in the council packets section (1/29/19 workshop):

<https://ci.foley.mn.us/government/city-council/council-packets/>

Before the plan is formally adopted a public hearing must be held. At that time, interested parties can make comments.