



## *City of Tarpon Springs, Florida*

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# Seabreeze Drive Sanitary Sewer Project Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. What is the estimated start date?**  
Construction is expected to begin in Spring 2020
- 2. Where will the pipe be located?**  
The sanitary sewer pipeline will be generally located near the center line of Seabreeze Drive. The sewer system will include approximately 2,800 feet of 8-inch diameter gravity sewer main and 11 manhole structures. These structures will help convey raw sewage to a new wastewater lift station which will then pump into the City's existing sanitary system network along Riverside Drive.
- 3. What is the price of the sewer impact fee?**  
Residential - \$1596 for each dwelling unit
- 4. What is the price of the sewer tap-in fee?**  
Residential - \$350 for each dwelling unit
- 5. Are there any additional fees to be paid to the City of Tarpon Springs?**  
A \$40 deposit is required for a single family residential home with a ¾" water meter. Additional charges apply for larger water meters.
- 6. Is there a payment plan available? If so, is there interest?**  
For those who do not plan to make payment in full, the City is offering three (3) financing options (please note: applicable recording fees may apply):

- a. **Option #1: Available only if the property is your legal homestead.**  
The impact fee but not the tap-in fee may be financed in equal monthly principal installments over a period of five years plus interest at the rate of 8% per year on the unpaid balance with no penalty for pre-payment.
  
- b. **Option #2:**  
The impact fee and tap-in fee may be financed without interest in equal monthly principal installments over a period of time not to exceed two years from the date of the required connection or of the date of the actual connection, whichever is first.
  
- c. **Option #3: Available only if Financial Hardship is demonstrated. A separate Certificate of Financial Hardship must be completed and notarized.**  
The impact fee and tap-in fee may be financed without interest in equal monthly principal installments over a period of time not to exceed five years from the date of required connection or the date of actual connection whichever is sooner, if the owner has demonstrated a financial hardship. The criteria for financial hardship shall be established by resolution of the city commission and shall take into account the owner's net worth, income and financial needs.

7. **Will each resident be required to hire their own plumber to hook-up to the main line?**

Yes, each resident is responsible for hiring a licensed plumbing contractor. Alternatively, homeowners do have the option to complete the connection from their home to the City's sanitary system (sewer clean-out port). The homeowner can apply for a City Building Permit and would be obligated to complete the work. With this option, the homeowner is acting as the contractor and assuming the liability associated with the project work.

8. **Does the city have a list of recommended plumbers that offer group rates?**

No, the City does not keep a list of recommended plumbers. However, you may coordinate with your neighbors in hiring a plumber.

9. **Is it mandatory to hook-up? If so, what is the timeline?**

Yes, connection to the sanitary sewer system is mandatory. The connection must be made 365 days from the date of the official notice to connect to the City sewer, unless the septic system is in a state of failure, in which case the time limit is reduced to 90 days.

10. **Can we hook-up to our current septic tank?**  
No, as part of connecting to the new sewer system, all existing septic tanks must be properly abandoned in accordance with the Florida Department of Health (DOH).
  
11. **How will the sewers impact utility bills?**  
By becoming a City sanitary sewer customer, the homeowner will be responsible for a base monthly fee (currently \$18) plus sewer charges corresponding to the volume of water usage recorded on the homes associated potable water meter. Please keep in mind, the extension of sanitary sewer services to an area generally increases property values and, with this particular project, will help to provide a positive environmental impact to the water quality in this sensitive coastal area.
  
12. **Will other utilities such as natural gas, reclaimed water, and/or underground electric be added at this time?**  
Extension of reclaimed water service is under consideration and may be included during construction. This will be confirmed pending bid pricing versus project funding. Underground electric power and natural gas is not under the purview or control of the City.
  
13. **Has there been a consideration for improvements to storm water run-off?**  
Minor surface grade adjustments can be made during construction to help alleviate pooling water in low lying areas within the Right of Way, but major significant stormwater improvements are not planned at this time.