

Good morning!

The state has a limit on the number of taps you can have on any specific size of water main. For a 2" water main (which is what's near your property), you can only have 10 taps. Unfortunately, there are already the maximum number of taps on that block, which means we would need to upgrade the line in order for you to receive service. Typically these upgrades are handled by the District through our capital improvement plan, but at the moment our capital improvement funds are being utilized to upgrade our wastewater treatment plant. As a result, we've been explaining to residents that there are a couple of options when they have a maxed out 2" water line.

The first option would be to wait until the District upgrades the lines with bond funds. We are in the process of reallocating some existing funds to improve the 2" lines, but it requires approval from the state regulatory agency, TCEQ. Once we receive that approval, I have a list of targeted areas that need the upgrade. Of about 50 miles of infrastructure, nearly 20 miles is 2" lines, much of which is at capacity and needs to be upgraded. I've added your property to a shortlist of prioritized upgrades, so once we have the funding we'll be able to address it quickly. I anticipate being able to act on that list within the year, which is an improvement over the past when we realistically weren't going to be able to do anything for likely five years or more.

The second option is to pay for the upgrade yourself (or go in with your neighbors to pay for the upgrade). There is not currently a reimbursement policy in place, so you would be shouldering the cost of a cost-intensive infrastructure improvement, but we offer this avenue in case someone is very keen on improving or selling their property on an accelerated timeline. We did an evaluation of the infrastructure near you and developed the following cost estimate:

- The nearest larger water main is running down 10th Street
- We can tie into that line and bring a 6" water main westward on Avenue H, then turn north on 11th to your property
- Nearly 580' of line would be required, and our estimates for these kinds of projects typically comes out to \$25 per foot
- This results in a preliminary cost for the labor and materials to run the line of \$14,500
- We would also need to install a hydrant and valves along the new main, which is an additional \$4,500, bringing the total cost to \$19,000 before taps

I understand the cost is cumbersome, and we're working towards expediting the fund reallocation as there are many residents throughout the community in the same boat. I'll be sure to keep you posted on any updated timeline we develop for this project. If you have any additional questions, just let me know; have a blessed day!

During these trying times, please remember to check in on your friends and family as best you can while engaging in safe social distancing in accordance with CDC guidelines.

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On 2020-07-17 09:51:58.05:00 Sherry Quin wrote: