

## **SERVICE CONNECTION DELAY PERMIT POLICY**

### **AS AMENDED JUNE 2, 2022**

This “Service Connection Delay Permit Policy” amends the past practice and policies of the District regarding requested service connection delays when new sewer mains are available adjacent to a potential sewer User’s property.

This connection delay policy allows a potential User of the sewer system to delay their service connection to the sewer system until their existing septic system reaches 25 years old provided it is legally functioning and all the following conditions are met by the property owner:

- a. Current septic system is proven to be 25 years old or less as evidenced by a RIDEM Certificate of Conformance. The property owner is responsible for providing the RIDEM Certificate of Conformance to the District.
- b. The existing system is legally functioning and passes an inspection by a Rhode Island registered septic inspector. Conventional septic systems shall be inspected in accordance with *Septic System Checkup: The Rhode Island Handbook for Inspection*. Innovative and Alternative (I/A) septic systems shall be inspected in accordance with the State permit requirements and manufacturer’s instructions. The property owner is responsible for all costs for the inspection and providing the inspection report to the District. The type of inspection required shall be a First Maintenance Inspection if it has never been completed. A Routine Maintenance Inspection is acceptable if the system has had a First Maintenance Inspection and the owner can provide a copy of the inspection report to the District. First Maintenance Inspection shall include pumping of the septic tank. For the Routine Maintenance Inspection, the inspector shall determine based on the combined solids accumulation present if the tank requires a pumpout.
- c. The potential user agrees to pay the full betterment assessment, if applicable, for the sewer main line installation.
- d. The potential user agrees to pay the full annual operations, maintenance, administration (OMA) fee.

The District shall make the final determination whether the service connection delay is granted for the property and provide a written notice to the owner of such.

The District may revoke the service connection delay at any time if either the betterment assessment or OMA account are not kept current by the property owner or if the septic system has failed or is not properly maintained.

Connection delays will only be granted to and valid for the owner(s) of the property at the time the sewer main is installed to serve the property. Future owners of the property will have to connect to the sewer system within twelve (12) months of transfer of the property regardless of the septic system age.

A property owner who has obtained a written service connection delay from the District, may be eligible for up to three (3) separate two-year connection delays once their septic system reaches 25 years old as evidenced by a RIDEM Certificate of Conformance if the same conditions are met as in above items b, c, and d and the system is maintained in good working order.

THIS POLICY WAS VOTED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON JUNE 27, 2022.