



Memo

TO: Public Works Committee
FROM: Ed Andrews, Public Works Director
DATE: June 28, 2019
SUBJECT: Private Septic Systems

A number of recent inquiries have been made regarding private septic systems. Currently the City Code would only allow a new system in Country Estates Zoning with a two-acre lot.

Under the current Illinois Public Health Code, Section 905.20 - General Requirements are that that new or renovated private sewage disposal systems shall not be approved where a sanitary sewer operated and maintained under permit of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is available for connection. A sanitary sewer is available for connection when it is within 300 feet of a residential property. If connection from the property to the sanitary sewer cannot be made with an individual line (i.e., 4" inch line), then a private sewage disposal system may be installed.

Similar language exists in the City Code under 52.024 which compels a property to be connected to the public sewer when it becomes available and the septic tank be abandoned and backfilled. Advances in directional boring and residential sewage ejector pits also provide alternatives to open cut installation which appear to be comparable to renewing a septic system.

This matter has been placed on the Public Works Committee meeting for general information and discussion.