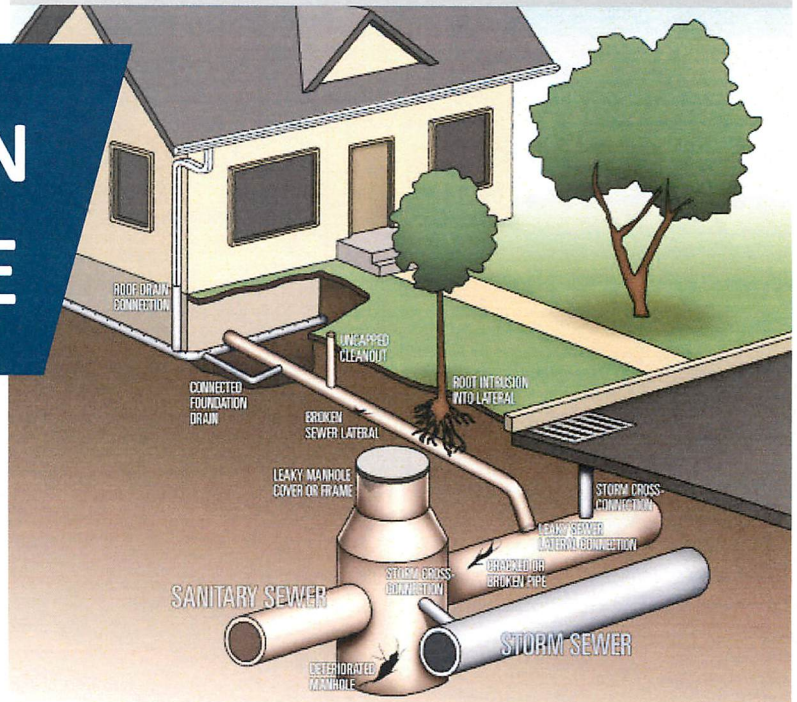


CITY OF HARDIN PUBLIC NOTICE

The City of Hardin is planning a three-phase project of upgrades to the City's wastewater collection and treatment system:



PHASE 1

Replace collection mains and manholes determined to be contributing Infiltration and Inflow (I&I) to the wastewater system.



PHASE 2

Design and construction of improvements to the wastewater treatment facility headworks and UV disinfection system and buildings and installation of a backup power generator.



PHASE 3

Design and construction of wastewater treatment components.

Planning, design of improvements, and funding acquisition has been ongoing since 2018 to support the project. The City successfully secured grants and low-interest loans exceeding \$11 million from the DNRC Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program, the State Revolving Fund Loan Program, Montana Coal Board, and USDA Rural Development to assist in funding improvements. User rates will be increased to cover the cost of loan funds and future operation and maintenance.

A recent Infiltration and Inflow (I&I) Study completed on portions of the City's wastewater collection system identified the area in which Phase 1 improvements are needed. That project is scheduled for construction as early as late summer/fall 2020. I&I is surface or groundwater that enters the sanitary sewer system in a variety of ways including sump pump connections, cracked or broken pipes and manholes, manhole covers and cross-connections with storm sewers. Negative impacts of I&I are additional flows and dilution of sewage which takes up capacity at the plant. Treating clean water costs the City just as much as treating sewer. It also negatively affects the overall function of the plant by altering the characteristics of the effluent.

An additional grant application to assist with Phase 2 of the overall project to the Montana Department of Commerce Treasure State Endowment Program (TSEP) is planned. **This funding, if successful, will help make the project more affordable for the City of Hardin and its ratepayers.**

If you have questions or comments on the planned project or require additional information, please contact the City of Hardin, 406 N Cheyenne Ave, Hardin, MT 59034, (406) 665-9292.