



Resolution

14-32

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY TO APPROVE AND EXPEDITE THE SOUTHERN KENT ISLAND SEWER PROJECT BASED ON THE CERTIFICATION BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE AREA IN QUESTION AS A PUBLIC HEALTH AREA OF CONCERN.

Whereas, the Queen Anne's County Commissioners have long stated their objective and the necessity to protect our citizens public health, the environment and the Chesapeake Bay, and

Whereas, a previous administration has reserved wastewater treatment capacity at the County's KN/S/G Enhanced Nutrient Removal Wastewater Treatment plant for "possible" failing septic system areas via Resolution #04-68, and

Whereas, the Maryland Department of the Environment upon the recommendation from the County Health Officer has now certified that there are nine communities on Southern Kent Island that have been designated as public health areas of concern with failed septic systems, and

Whereas, the State Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Coordinating Committee, has reviewed the Counties proposal to provide public sewer service to these communities and has unanimously concluded that the project is necessary to protect public health and safety with the condition that sewer service be exclusive to the residents and businesses within these communities along with a cap of 632 new housing units situated within the communities, and

Whereas, the Maryland Department of the Environment and the Maryland Department of Planning have approved an amendment to the County's Comprehensive Water & Sewerage Plan which prescribes a plan of action to permanently eliminate the public health threat to residents in these communities and to greatly enhance water quality from their failed septic systems by extending public sewer service using the STEP system technology, and

Whereas, the Queen Anne's County Sanitary Commission has established the South Kent Island Wastewater Subdistrict, prescribed the boundaries of the South Kent Island Wastewater Subdistrict, classified properties within the South Kent Island Wastewater Subdistrict for the purpose of assessing benefits and has established and provided a methodology for fixing, levying and collecting special benefit assessments for the purpose of providing funds for the payment of the principal of and interest on indebtedness incurred by the County to finance a sewage collection and transmission system to serve the Southern Kent Island Wastewater Subdistrict via Resolution #14-07; and

Whereas, the County has expended great effort to support new state legislation via House Bill 11 in order to permit the use of State Bay Restoration Grant Funds specifically for the extension of public sewer lines outside of a Priority Funding Area, and

Whereas, the Maryland Department of the Environment and the County Commissioners have executed the first County-State grant agreement using the State Bay Restoration Fund for \$11.8 million to assist with direct project expenses attributable to existing residents within the Communities, and

Whereas, the Maryland Department of the Environment's Water Quality Financing Administration has amended their Federal Fiscal Year 2014 budget to provide low interest State Revolving Loan funds for the extension of public sewer service to the first phase of the public sewer extension project, and

Whereas, the demand for State Revolving Loans and Bay Restoration Grant Funding is extremely high and projects that do not proceed expeditiously may be bypassed by other jurisdictions or deleted entirely from State funding Programs,

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of County Commissioners have concluded that:

1. There are nine communities on Southern Kent Island which have been certified as public health areas of concern which include: Romancoke on the Bay, Kent Island Estates, Tower Gardens, Kentmorr, Queen Anne's Colony, Sunny Isle of Kent, Chesapeake Estates, Matapeake Estates and Batts Neck/Normans.
2. These public health areas of concern and the associated health of the Chesapeake Bay in these Communities cannot be ignored.
3. That an extension of the County's public sewer system as outlined in the Comprehensive Water & Sewerage Plan as approved by the State Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Coordinating Committee, Maryland Department of the Environment and Maryland Department of Planning must be implemented without delay and in as expeditious a manner as feasible and prudent.

WITNESS the hand and seal of the County Commissioners of Queen Anne's County this 25th day of November, 2014.

ATTEST:

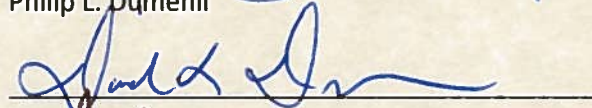


Margie A. Houck, Executive Assistant

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S
COUNTY



Philip L. Dumenil



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James J. Moran



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