



Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** 23-0643  
**Type:** Departmental      **Status:** Agenda Ready  
**In control:** Board of County Commissioners  
**On agenda:** 3/21/2023      **Final action:**  
**Title:** THE TOWN OF SEWALL'S POINT (TOWN) IS REQUESTING A VARIANCE TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC) ADOPTED SEPTIC TO SEWER PROGRAM  
**Sponsors:**  
**Indexes:**  
**Code sections:**  
**Attachments:** 1. Letter.pdf

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
------	------	-----------	--------	--------

**PLACEMENT:** Departmental

**TITLE:**

**THE TOWN OF SEWALL'S POINT (TOWN) IS REQUESTING A VARIANCE TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC) ADOPTED SEPTIC TO SEWER PROGRAM**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Mr. Donaldson received a letter from Robert Daniels, Town Manager, dated March 10, 2023. The request is for a variance to the program to allow for all 706 homes in South Sewall's Point to utilize a grinder sewer system.

**DEPARTMENT:** Utilities and Solid Waste

**PREPARED BY:** **Name:** Sam Amerson, P.E.  
**Title:** Utilities & Solid Waste Director

**REQUESTED BY:** Don G. Donaldson, P.E, County Administrator

**PRESET:**

**PROCEDURES:** None

**BACKGROUND/RELATED STRATEGIC GOAL:**

On December 12, 2018, the BOCC adopted a program which provides a grinder sewer system for communities of 300 homes or less and a vacuum sewer system for communities of more than 300 homes. The goal of providing sewer service to 10,000 homes/parcels in 10 years anticipated approximately 7,000 vacuum services and approximately 3,000 grinder services.

The town provided staff with a "draft" Septic to Sewer Study prepared by Captec Engineering, Inc.

The study considered grinder, gravity, and vacuum sewer systems and a combination, or hybrid, of systems. The overall recommendation is to utilize all grinder systems as it is the most cost-effective option and avoids a mandatory special assessment, according to the study.

Mr. Daniels plans to attend this meeting and address the Board.

**ISSUES:**

Staff has met with the Town’s representatives at their request on numerous occasions to discuss septic to sewer conversions, since the program was adopted. Staff has been transparent and direct regarding the Septic to Sewer Program and its provisions for selecting the type of sewer system to be used. We have agreed to accommodate the request to utilize a grinder sewer system along South Sewall’s Point Road, low lying areas, islands and the High Point subdivision at the south end totaling approximately 330 homes. Staff does not support using more than 330 grinders systems in South Sewall’s Point.

**LEGAL SUFFICIENCY REVIEW:**

This item has been reviewed for legal sufficiency, however, it is primarily a matter of Board policy.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Move the Board deny the request from the Town of Sewall’s Point to allow for the use of 706 grinder sewers in South Sewall’s Point.

**ALTERNATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Direct staff accordingly.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**RECOMMENDATION**

None

**ALTERNATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS**

None

**DOCUMENT(S) REQUIRING ACTION:**

- Budget Transfer / Amendment
- Chair Letter
- Contract / Agreement
- Grant / Application
- Notice
- Ordinance
- Resolution
- Other:

This document may be reproduced upon request in an alternative format by contacting the County ADA Coordinator (772) 320-3131, the County Administration Office (772) 288-5400, Florida Relay 711, or by completing our accessibility feedback form at [www.martin.fl.us/accessibility-feedback](http://www.martin.fl.us/accessibility-feedback) <<http://www.martin.fl.us/accessibility-feedback>>.