

1) What is the Lake St. Louis Sewer Improvement Program?

The Lake St. Louis Sewer Improvement Program is a long-term capital improvement project to upgrade or relocate approximately eight miles of sanitary sewer mains that currently run underneath or adjacent to both Lakes St. Louis and St. Louise. It is a proactive solution to address the area's aging sewer system and to protect the environment and quality of life in the Lake St. Louis community today and in the future. The Public Water Supply District #2 of St. Charles County, along with our consultants, is leading this project. We are responsible for providing you with quality drinking and wastewater services.

2) Why is this program needed?

When Lake St. Louis was first developed in the late 1960s, there were approximately eight miles of sanitary sewer mains installed prior to the construction of the lakes. These mains are now submerged underwater; thus, accessing them to fix clogs or leaks is more costly and difficult than land based mains. Like our homes after years of wear and tear, sewer mains require maintenance and eventually replacement.

3) What happens if nothing is done?

Without this preemptive approach, the sewer mains will continue to age and could develop unsafe and costly leaks or breaks, or ultimately fail. If this happens, there would be impacts on the lakes' environment and safety. In addition, repairs would interfere with recreational use and enjoyment of the lake. As the centerpiece of the community, both Lake St. Louis and Lake St. Louise are critical to the area's quality of life, property values, and economic development. This project will ensure that the lakes remain safe and fun for years to come.

4) Why is a peer review being conducted?

A July 2011 Alternatives Report formally called the Lake St. Louis Subaqueous Conceptual Improvement Plan and prepared by Gonzalez Companies, recommended replacing the underground sewer system by installing 30 new pump stations and force mains. This recommendation was originally chosen because it was believed to be: cost-effective; the best option for decommissioning the underwater sewers; the most accessible for operations and maintenance; and built in small phases. However some residents expressed concern about safety, odor, noise, aesthetics, and property values. Additionally, some criticized the District for not first inspecting the underground pipelines before recommending they be replaced. To address citizens' concerns, the District agreed to hire a second engineering firm to conduct a peer review of the 2011 Alternatives Report. The purpose of a peer review is to provide an independent evaluation of the report's analysis and recommendations.

5) How was Black and Veatch selected to conduct the peer review?

The District assembled a Lake St. Louis Sewer Improvement Program Advisory Committee to help prepare the request for proposal (RFP) for a peer review. The RFP was distributed to several interested professional engineering firms. The Advisory Committee then helped select Black and Veatch as the most qualified professional engineering firm. Black and Veatch is a leading global engineering, consulting and construction company.

6) Who served on the Lake St. Louis Sewer Improvement Program Advisory Committee?

Four Lake St. Louis stakeholders served on the Advisory Committee. They were: Chuck Ruedebusch II, David Williams, Rick Tipton and Gary Torlina. Also serving on the committee was Tony Sneed, Project Manager for the Public Water Supply District No. 2 of St. Charles County.

7) What is Black and Veatch's scope of work for the peer review?

Black and Veatch's tasks include, but are not limited to: evaluating the five alternatives developed in the 2011 Alternatives Report; developing and evaluating six additional alternatives; and determining the necessity, feasibility and cost of inspecting the underwater sewer system. If feasible, then Black and Veatch will also prepare a plan to inspect the sewer. Black and Veatch has a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$128,869.00.

8) Why hasn't the sewer system been inspected?

There is an elevated risk in inspecting the under lake sewer lines. It requires sending a robotic camera into the lines under the lake where access is limited and retrieval could be costly and time consuming. If the camera gets stuck, it could cause sewage to backup into people's homes or to overflow into the lake. The Advisory Committee requested that the task of evaluating the feasibility and associated risk of inspecting the sewer pipes be added to Black and Veatch's contract.

9) What tasks has Black and Veatch completed in the first 45 days of its contract?

Black and Veatch has completed the following tasks:

- Read all necessary documents related to the project.
- Conducted a field visit to the impact points/manholes to understand the sites where the proposed improvements are located.
- Begun evaluating the feasibility of inspecting the underground sewer system.
- Consulted with the Ductile Iron Pipe Research Association (DIPRA) to develop the best available data to forecast the life expectancy of the current sewer system.
- Developed a broader set of criteria to include concerns raised by the public, each of which will be weighted and utilized to evaluate the alternatives.
- Begun alternatives evaluation.

10) What happens next?

Black and Veatch will continue its peer review tasks. They are expected to present their final report in October 2015.