



The Valley News

Information sought for Volney sewer district

by Andrew Henderson

Residents living on N.Y.S. Route 3 and County Route 176 to Howard Road in the Town of Volney will soon be asked to provide information to support funding applications for the proposed Route 3/176 Sewer District.

The county is constructing a sewer system to serve Bristol Hill landfill, the Oswego County Airport, and the county industrial park located on Howard Road. The county has agreed to allow the town to establish a sewer district to provide sewer service to properties located along the county's proposed sewer system.

The county will be applying to appropriate federal and state funding programs to help offset the cost of the project. In order to qualify for the most favorable grant and loan terms, an income survey will need to be completed to determine income eligibility within the proposed service area, according to Volney Town Supervisor Dennis Lockwood.

"Survey forms will be mailed to town residents in the proposed project area on or about Sept. 28 and community personnel will assist with house-to-house follow-up in order to obtain the highest response rate possible," the supervisor said.

In order to guarantee the complete confidentiality of the income surveys, the data will be processed by RCAP Solutions, a non-profit community-development agency based in Massachusetts.

"It's extremely important to get a complete survey response from virtually all heads of household in the proposed service area," Supervisor Lockwood said.

The processed results of the survey will help establish eligibility for funding programs such as the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant program, administered by the New York State Office for Community Renewal, and a federal loan and grant program administered by the USDA Rural Development.

The county is planning to pipe leachate from the Bristol Hill Landfill to the wastewater treatment facility in Fulton by extending the sewer line from the Fulton city line to Bristol Hill. Trucking the leachate is not cost effective and poses some risk to the environment. Leachate is the liquid that drains or "leaches" from a landfill. It is commonly referred to as "sludge." Leachate is caused principally by precipitation percolating through waste.

The proposed project began last November when members of the Oswego County Legislature's Infrastructure and Facilities Committee hired Stearns & Wheeler Engineering to perform a sewer study in the Town of Volney.

There are two separate lines involved and they encompass about three-and-one-half miles.

The town's proposed sewer system will include parts of County Route 176, State Route 3, Hilltop Lane, Florida Avenue, Michigan Avenue, Stingray Alley, parts of Howard Road, Gillespie Road, Maryland Drive, Clemons Drive, Vermont Drive, Colosimo Drive, Silk Road, and County Route 6.

The proposed sewer district would include two-inch, six-inch, and eight-inch force and gravity sewer mains, sewer service laterals, and manholes. Pump stations would also be installed as part of the project. The city would collect the sewage from the district.

Town property owners who choose to utilize the sewer system will be required to purchase and install a sewer-service lateral and grinder pump at their own expense.

The county has agreed to finance the construction of the system at no cost to the town. The estimated maximum project cost is \$7,956,000. The annual cost for the typical property owner is estimated to be \$280 per year, which is the typical sewer fee charged annually by the city.

A public informational meeting concerning the income survey and the proposed sewer district will be held immediately following the formal public hearing on the project, which has been set for Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 6 p.m. at the Volney town hall.