

County of Lancaster
Request for ARPA Funding

Organization Paradise Township Sewer Authority **Date** 8/22/2022

Submitted By Michele Anderson, Secretary/Treasurer **Authorized Signature** 

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Please attach any supporting documentation for consideration. Submission should be in PDF Format.

Project/Item Description	Paradise Township Sewer Plant Upgrade
Estimated Cost – how cost was derived & provision of partner funds (who is providing, how much and show commitments).	<p>\$5.8m total \$4.9m (construction) - up from \$3.8m in 2021 \$0.9m (legal, admin, engineering, and related services) - up from \$0.7m in 2021 <i>see updated Opinion of Probable Cost for detailed estimates (July 22, 2022)</i></p>
Which County ARPA Community-wide Benefit(s) does the project meet?	Infrastructure - Wastewater
Briefly explain how the project meets the County's guidelines.	<p>This project meets or exceeds the five (5) established guidelines as it will address sewer infrastructure needs in the township for the next 20-30 years. This is a one-time funding request as partnering funds are already secured. All additional funds have been committed via township ARP and bond funding. Paradise Township Sewer Authority is requesting \$2,000,000 from the county in addition to the \$280,000 ARP funds already committed by the township for the upgrade. An additional allocation was requested from the Township and is being considered by the Board. The remaining cost is covered by a loan that was secured through the public bond process. No county funds will be used for administration, interest, or other fees and will be considered in-kind contributions from the authority.</p>
Why should this project be a priority and how will it help the County? Also, if this application is for more than one project, please identify each one, provide information and rank them in order of your priority.	<p>The county should prioritize this project to further support the authority's commitment to affordable and sustainable sewer service delivery. This infrastructure investment will nearly double our flow rates from 120k gallons to 220k per day which should meet anticipated growth for the next 20-30 years. From a land development perspective, there will be no increase to the footprint of the plant even though the authority is significantly increasing the capacity with the installation of upgraded technology. Another environmental consideration is the new plant design will maintain the same phosphorus load limits even as flow rates increase to meet the stringent requirements within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.</p> <p>Initial project funds will keep sewer rates reasonable, especially with the escalating post-COVID cost of materials and construction. The authority's current rate is \$146 per quarter which is the 9th highest rate in the county based on a survey from LASA. Rates were raised 8% in 2019, prior to the C-19 pandemic which has greatly increased cost estimates. Rates will likely need to be raised again (10-15%) to offset these unanticipated increases. Additional county funds will ensure sewer service remains affordable to our customers while maintaining long-term operational sustainability.</p>

	Regarding timelines, this project is ready to begin construction once the bids are awarded so the county can maximize fund allocation by supporting this project before costs continue to rise. We are far enough into the process that most of the unknowns (cost/time) have been eliminated, providing clarity and confidence to the county that funds are allocated with insight. The upgrade also requires a new DEP permit that was obtained which mandates we complete construction within a specified timeline. Delays in funding could require us to re-apply for permitting that will cost us even more time and money.
Will this project require ongoing expense (maintenance, updates) or frequent replacement? Are expenses already being incurred, if so, can they be reduced through this project?	The sewer plant requires ongoing operational maintenance but the upgrade will address the need for any major replacements over the next 20-30 years. Pandemic impacts aside, the authority is in good financial health with a sustainable rate plan that will not require ongoing financial assistance.
Project Timeline – start to finish, and when funding will be needed.	The township has received the DEP permits required to finalize the design and prepare the bid for construction. If all goes according to schedule, construction will begin by Fall 2022 and be completed within 18 months. Current supply chain issues may delay this timeline. Funding can be provided at any time during the project.
Are there other organizations a part of this project? If yes, please list them and their role, including funding. If not, explain why?	Paradise Township is the only other agency involved besides our sewer engineer, Rettew, who are providing design, permitting, and bid specs among other technical assistance. There are no other organizations involved as the system only serves township residents and businesses at this time.

Supporting Documentation:

- **Joint Statement - Paradise Township & Sewer Authority (8/26/22)**
- **PTSA Financial Assistance Request (8/2/22)**
- **Opinion of Probable Project Costs (Rettew, 7/22/22)**
- **Preliminary Opinion of Probable Costs (Rettew, 5/3/21)**
- **LASA Sewer Rate Survey 2019**
- **Revenue & Expense Projections (2019-2049)**
- **Upgrade Project Summary (Rettew, May 2022)**
- **Plant Upgrade Cost Matrix**
- **Paradise Township ARP Funds Commitment Letter**

ARPA Committee Comments	
ARPA Committee Recommendation	
Funding Amount Recommended (if recommended for approval)	\$