



Date: October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017

**COMMUNITY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: Discussion and presentation of wastewater treatment solutions for residents of the Community of Coesse.**

As you may be aware, in June 2012, the Commissioners of Whitley authorized a feasibility study for sanitary sewer in the Community of Coesse. The project did move forward at that time. Several of the homes in the Community of Coesse have septic systems that are not on file with the DOH or are operating a filter bed septic system, which is not compliant with Indiana Health Code. The new Whitley County Regional Water & Sewer District (Whitley RSD) has been authorized by the Commissioners of Whitley County to revisit the feasibility study and sanitary sewer solutions for the Community of Coesse.

The recently formed Whitley RSD will serve as the primary sanitary sewer provider for homes and businesses in the unincorporated areas of Whitley County. We have launched a proactive planning and prevention initiative to reduce the number of failed or failing septic systems and therefore serious public health and environmental concerns in Whitley County. Our goal is to make proactive planning and prevention of these challenges a team effort between Whitley RSD and the treatment service providers such as Columbia City. We understand that every home and household situation can be different, which is why we need to hear from residents in a public forum.

**The Whitley RSD has scheduled a community meeting on Thursday, November 16th at 6:00 PM at Coesse Elementary School located at 2250 S 500 E, Columbia City, IN 46725 to present additional information and discuss options including how the Whitley RSD could partner with Columbia City to find a cost effective sanitary sewer solution.**

Note that feasibility research, investigation and design efforts for public sewer installations take time and planning of at least one year. Failure to plan ahead for and address this matter now will most certainly lead to issues and community health risks as the signs of failed and failing sewage you and your neighbors discover treatment systems.

Please plan to attend this important meeting in which Thomas (Ted) Nitza, Engineering Consultant for the RSD, and the DOH will present the following information for discussion:

- What is an RSD and how do they support cost effective sanitary sewer solutions?

- Research findings and current status of your community's onsite systems
- Risks and requirements for property owners with failed onsite sewage systems
- Various options for individual and community wastewater solutions
- Community discussion on resolution options
- Petition for cost study

This meeting is informational and will be open discussion format in which we will answer all community questions and/or concerns. Your contribution and support is very important to the ongoing health of your community. If you have any questions regarding this meeting or the Whitley RSD, please feel free to e-mail the Whitley RSD at SewerDistrict@whitleygov.com. We look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

Lana Beregszazi, BCS Management, Inc.  
Managing Director  
Whitley County Regional Water and Sewer District

cc: Whitley County Health Department, Attn: Scott Wagner  
The Board of Commissioners of Whitley County  
Whitley County Economic Development Corporation, Attn: Lori Shipman  
Thomas Nitza, The Secant Group, LLC