



TOWN of CASWELL BEACH

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February 16, 2010

To: Caswell Beach property owners and residents

From: Mayor Harry Simmons

Re: Construction of Town Wastewater Collection and Transmission System

Within the next week or so construction will begin on the Caswell Beach Wastewater Collection and Transmission System. The contractor, TA Loving Company, will have multiple crews working in and around our town for the next year, installing the new vacuum collection system and connecting existing systems to new force mains that will remove wastewater from our town. For more information on TA Loving Company, their website is www.taloving.com.

The construction impacts around town will vary. Some folks will barely notice the work, while for others the work will literally be in their front yards for days or even weeks. All reasonable efforts will be taken to minimize negative impacts.

The planned construction schedule can be found on our town website, www.caswellbeach.org.

More information will be coming soon on assessment estimates. As many of you know, over 3 years of hard work has enabled us to receive a \$2.5 million grant from NC Clean Water Management Trust Fund and a \$3 million loan from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. In the case of the ARRA loan, half the principal will be forgiven and the other half will be paid back over 20 years at zero-interest. We were also fortunate to receive good bids for the project, below the original estimates. Therefore, the final assessment cost to individuals will be substantially less than originally projected. However, only when our project is completed will we know for sure what that final assessment will be. Assessments, once levied, may be paid in installments with minimal interest for up to ten years, or as a single lump sum payment.

Agreement has finally been reached on acquisition and inclusion of existing private collection system assets within the Town. Payment by the Town for those assets will occur as the Town system nears connection with those collection elements.

Things to note:

- ❖ Work along the south side of Caswell Beach Road will be disruptive, for the adjacent oceanfront properties especially. It should be noted that all work will take place in the State Road right of way. Where unauthorized private property (plants, walls, borders, etc) has encroached on that right of way, removal of such property will likely be necessary. In those cases, DOT will not allow the Town to restore the removed items. Any items of value should be removed by the property owner prior to wastewater construction. The DOT right of way extends approximately 34 feet from the center line of the road.

- ❖ Septic tanks are to be disconnected upon connection of each residence to the Town system. No regulation governs the abandonment of septic systems; however, it is recommended that septic tanks be pumped by a licensed waste hauler to remove any residual contents, and then crushed and backfilled. This recommendation is made because tanks that collapse pose a safety hazard and improperly abandoned septic tanks may not be able to support the weight of vehicular traffic, structural foundations, or people.
- ❖ Unlike the situation within the Town of Oak Island, we are not aware of any wells within Caswell Beach that will need to be decommissioned because of wastewater system construction.
- ❖ Town Public Parking Lot on Caswell Beach Road: For the duration of the project, one third of the public parking lot will be fenced off and used as a staging area for project equipment. A temporary entrance for public use will be built on the west end of the parking lot. Only the west end (with the disabled access way) will be available for public use during this time. As per our Town ordinance, parking **WILL NOT** be allowed on Caswell Beach Road unless pre-approved by the Caswell Beach police department.
- ❖ The project work areas will have a project oversight engineer and various supervisors on site. Feel free to ask questions of them or contact Town Hall if needed. While we know there will be challenges throughout the project, we hope to minimize them by good communication and common sense.

Thanks for your cooperation.