

City of Marathon

Wastewater – FAQ's

Why did Marathon Decide to build a sewer system for the City?

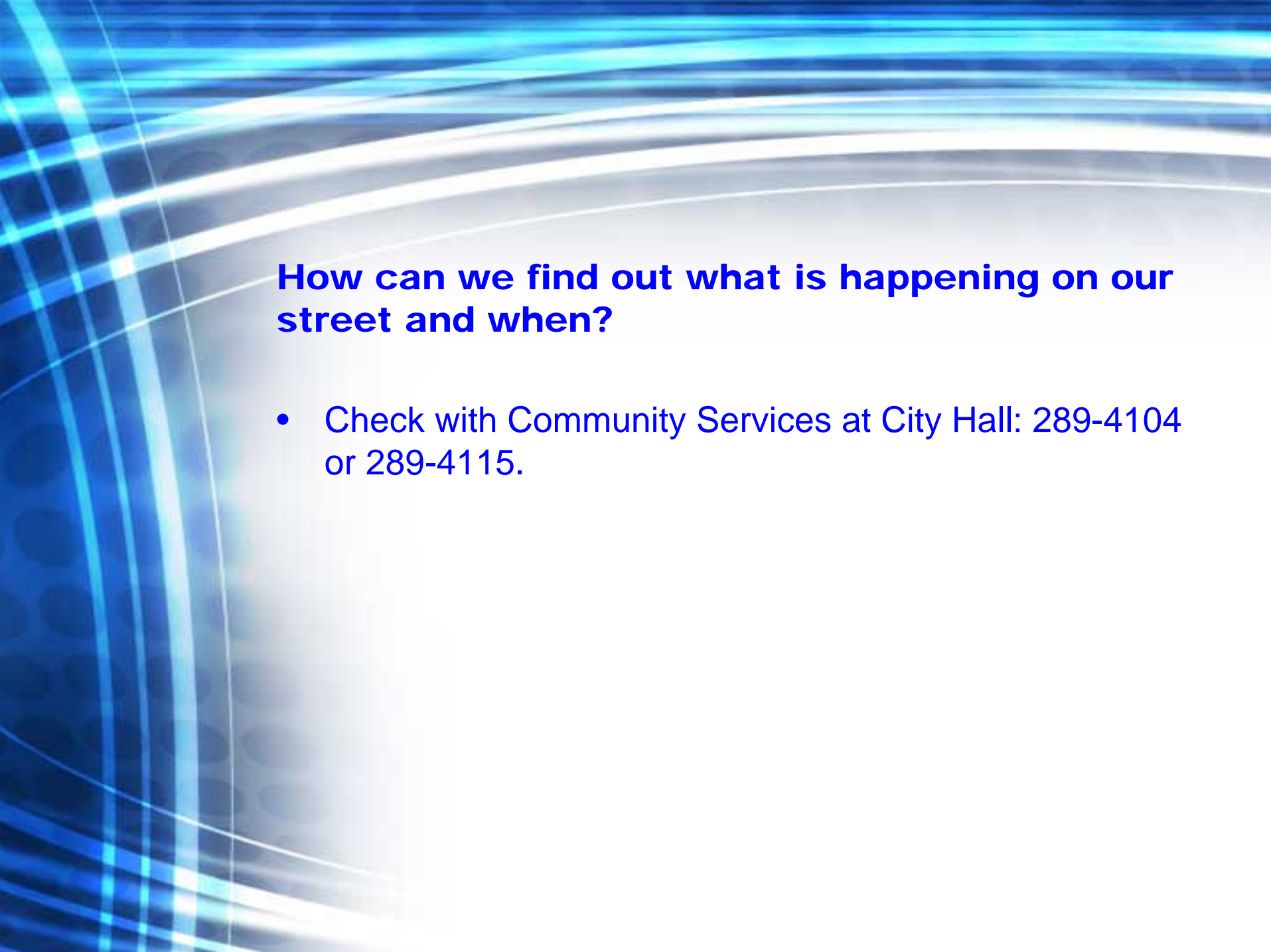
- In the early 90's, the Environmental Protection Agency was sued by an environmental group in federal court, and lost. This case initiated a mandate on water quality to the State of Florida and others.
- The Florida State Legislature enacted House Bill 1993 relating to sewage requirements in Monroe County in June 1999. It applies to all property owners in Monroe County, and requires compliance by July 1, 2010.
- The City has submitted to the state, via its Comprehensive Plan, a plan which will provide wastewater treatment for residents costing less per person than upgrades to individual systems would cost.

What are the potential consequences of not going forward?

- Corrective orders and daily fines may be issued by Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Other possibilities are loss of revenue sharing and building permits. Exact penalties have not been disclosed.
- After July 1, 2010, if central sewer is not in place or moving forward satisfactorily, DEP and/or DOH may require individuals to conform to Advanced Wastewater Technology standards, primarily by installation of aerobic septic systems. Many lots in Marathon are not of sufficient size to build an aerobic septic system.

I am told there are seven separate service areas in Marathon. What are the boundaries of those areas?

- Service Area 1 = Knight's Key
- Service Area 2 = Boot Key
- Service Area 3 = 11th Street to 39th Street, Ocean and Bayside
- Service Area 4 = 39th Street to 60th Street, Ocean and Bayside
- Service Area 5 = 60th Street through Vaca Cut, Ocean and Bayside (includes Little Venice area)
- Service Area 6 = Vaca Cut through Coco Plum
- Service Area 7 = Grassy Key



How can we find out what is happening on our street and when?

- Check with Community Services at City Hall: 289-4104 or 289-4115.

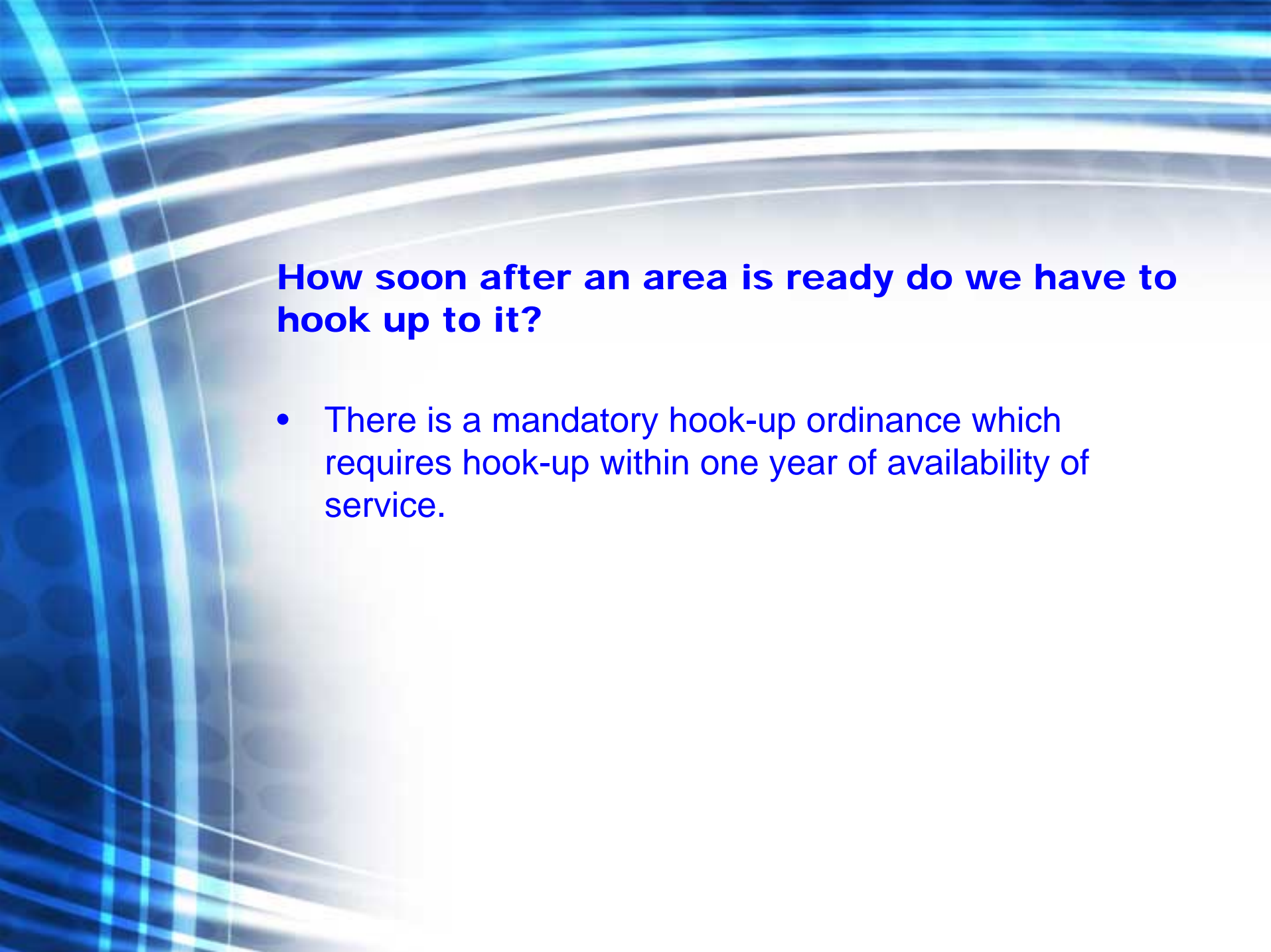


We have a unique problem on our property. To whom should we go to find out about it?

- Public meetings will be held prior to each area being developed. These meetings will be advertised in the newspaper and offer a great opportunity to get design information.
- Weiler Engineering is our wastewater design engineer and can be contacted at 289-4161.

Will the road be repaved after the sewer pipes are laid?

- Yes, the contractor is required to do temporary patching every 1200 feet and do a total overlay of the road a minimum of every 90 days.



How soon after an area is ready do we have to hook up to it?

- There is a mandatory hook-up ordinance which requires hook-up within one year of availability of service.

Explain the different costs that I will have to pay.

- The system development charge may be pre-paid or financed over 20 years. This is the cost to build the plant and run the collection system to your property line.
- Each owner will be responsible for the additional cost to run the line from his house to the sewer connection at the property line.

Components of Customer Cost

System Development Charge and Assessments

- Charge paid by customer to City for wastewater plant, transmission, and collection system capital costs

On-Site Customer Connection

- One-time cost paid by customer to contractor at time of connection

Monthly Operations and Maintenance Charges

- Charge paid by customer to City for monthly operating and maintenance costs associated with wastewater service

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The diagram features a central '\$\$' symbol on the left. Three arrows originate from this symbol: one points to the top box, one points to the middle box, and one points to the bottom box, indicating that these three categories constitute the total customer cost.

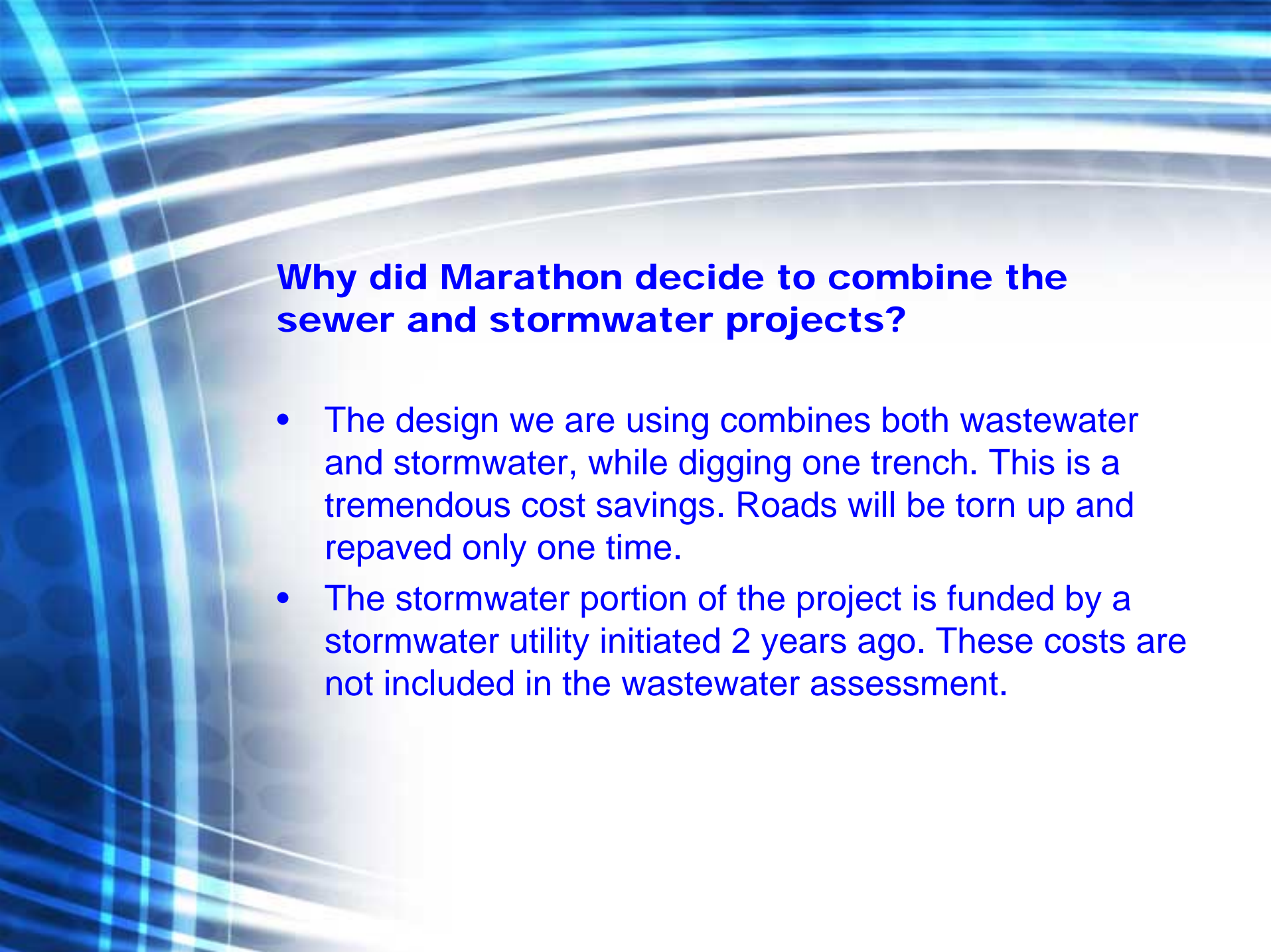
Are there any grants or low cost loans to help with the costs I have to pay?

- Your system development charge may be financed over a 20 year period on your annual tax bill.
- There are additional efforts underway to re-establish Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) These were available to many residents of Little Venice to assist with hook-up costs. At this time this is not allowed.



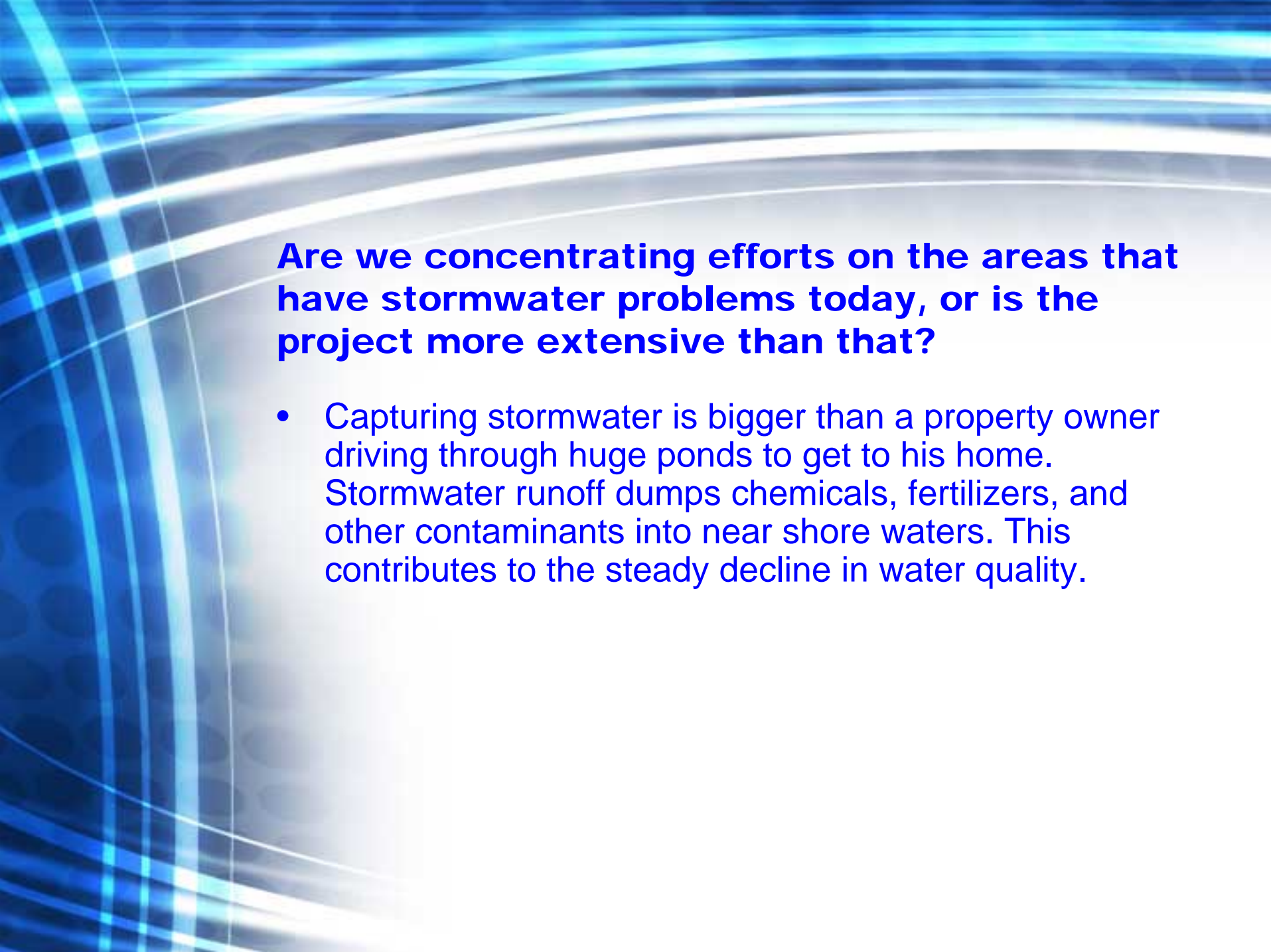
Is stormwater mandated?

- Yes, stormwater is mandated as a result of the federal initiative mentioned above.
- The goal is that stormwater runoff will be prevented from dumping contaminants into near shore waters.



Why did Marathon decide to combine the sewer and stormwater projects?

- The design we are using combines both wastewater and stormwater, while digging one trench. This is a tremendous cost savings. Roads will be torn up and repaved only one time.
- The stormwater portion of the project is funded by a stormwater utility initiated 2 years ago. These costs are not included in the wastewater assessment.



Are we concentrating efforts on the areas that have stormwater problems today, or is the project more extensive than that?

- Capturing stormwater is bigger than a property owner driving through huge ponds to get to his home. Stormwater runoff dumps chemicals, fertilizers, and other contaminants into near shore waters. This contributes to the steady decline in water quality.

Will we reuse any of the stormwater or wastewater?

- There is a reclaimed water component included in our wastewater, stormwater system. "Reclaimed water" has received at least secondary treatment and basic disinfection and is the end product of a domestic wastewater treatment facility.
- Areas requiring extensive irrigation will be serviced, i.e. ball fields, parks, golf course, etc.
- To the extent we are able to employ this technique, demand on declining potable water sources will be greatly reduced.