

BENTON HARBOR – ST. JOSEPH JOINT WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Producing clean water for the environment

The Benton Harbor St. Joseph Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (BHSJWWTP) will hold a public meeting on the proposed Final Settling Tank Replacement and Channel Air Upgrade project for the purpose of receiving comments from interested persons.

The public meeting will be held at **9:30a.m** on **4/28/23** at **The Benton Harbor St. Joseph Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant (BHSJWWTP)**. The purpose of the project is to completely rebuild three of the Final Settling Tanks and to replace the channel diffusers with new diffusers. Project construction will involve the replacement of aging equipment. Without replacement, there is a risk that the Final Settling Tanks would have to be taken out of service for an extended period if a failure occurs and thus impacting the quality of effluent discharged. The channel air diffusers have been difficult to maintain resulting in inefficient performance and potential solids buildup in the channels that could carry over into the aeration tanks and final settling tanks and adversely impact the treatment processes. The diffusers will be replaced with a newer and more efficient diffuser system.

Construction costs are estimated at approximately \$5.8 million with anticipated funding primarily from the Clean Water State Revolving Funds (CWSRF). The Joint Plant will submit a request for determination of Disadvantage Community Status form to EGLE after the public meeting. Upon qualification the CWSRF loans are expected to be obtained in the form of a 30-year loan at an interest rate of 2.125%. Principal and interest payments would begin at the next EGLE cycle after initiation of operation. If no CWSRF is available the average monthly increase per user would be \$.78/month for the average user.

Copies of the Project Plan, detailing the proposed project, are available for inspection at the Benton Harbor St. Joseph Joint WWTP Administration Building (located at 269 Anchors Way, St. Joseph, MI 49085). Written comments received before 12PM on 4/27/23, as well as comments received at the public hearing, will receive responses in the final Project Plan. Written comments should be clearly labeled as “CWSRF – Public Meeting to Fund Final Settling Tank Replacement and Channel Air Upgrade” and sent to:

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