



Dekorra Utility District property owners to see firmer assessments

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Residents in Dekorra's Utility District will have a chance to meet privately with the town engineer and chairman from 4 to 7 p.m. Oct. 18 to discuss their upcoming assessments. A formal public hearing on the assessments will be held at 6:30 p.m. Oct. 19.

Since construction has started on the \$5.1 million wastewater treatment project, engineers now have a more solid assessment estimate for properties within the district. The treatment system will serve the Hwy. CS interchange area, and only the 36 property owners in the 370-acre utility district will be assessed to repay the \$1.5 million the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is not picking up. Residents will also have to pay a hook-up charge.

Town Engineer Jerry Foellmi said he's been working closely with financial experts to make the assessments as fair as possible.

"Not every parcel is the same as its neighbor," Foellmi said. "One parcel may be under an acre, and the one next to it may be over 50 acres. One property may only need one sewer lateral, and one may need six or more. We are trying to

assess all properties fairly. It has been a real challenge."

The most current estimates show property owners in the core district would pay \$4,000 per acre. Estimates for the west district are approximately \$4,500 an acre and \$2,800 an acre in the east district. Foellmi said because of delays and high gas and oil prices, the costs have gone up slightly.

According to Town Chair Fred Teitgen, the DOT has planned to expand the two rest areas off I-39/90/94 in the town for some time. Rather than building a larger on-site septic system or pumping the sewage to Poynette, the town approached the DOT with the idea for the plant.

"Now, some seven years later, the project is finally coming to fruition," Teitgen said.

Foellmi said DOT is hoping to have both rest areas completed in the spring of 2009. The rest areas will remain operational during reconstruction.

Property owners who wish to meet with Teitgen and Foellmi on Oct. 18 are asked to call Town Clerk Vicki Auck at 635-2014 to schedule an appointment. The meetings will be held at the Poynette Village Hall.

