

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Public Hearing:
Hastings Wastewater Treatment Plant Relocation Draft Facility Plan

Wednesday, January 5, 2022
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Online

Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES), operator of the metro-area wastewater collection and treatment system, will hold an **online public hearing** at 6:00 p.m. January 5, 2022, to inform the public about and accept comments on the Draft Facility Plan for proposed relocation of its Hastings Wastewater Treatment Plant. MCES proposes moving the plant from its existing site in downtown Hastings to a site about two miles to the southeast on the border of Hastings and Ravenna Township. MCES also proposes constructing a new wastewater pumping station at the existing plant site and a sanitary sewer between the two sites.

Three weeks before the public hearing, MCES will hold an **online public open house** at 6:00 p.m. December 15, 2021, to introduce the project to the public and to property owners near the proposed project sites.

For detailed information about the proposed project and project area maps, along with instructions to register for and log into the online public open house and the online public hearing, go to www.HastingsWWTP.com.

Project overview:

The current wastewater treatment plant site poses challenges for MCES to respond to growth or changes in regulatory requirements that would require expansion of the facility. Relocating the plant will allow MCES to continue meeting the long-term wastewater service needs of the city of Hastings and land areas of the surrounding townships of Marshan, Nininger, and Vermillion. The new plant would be located northeast of the intersection of Ravenna Trail and Glendale Road.

Before closing the existing Hastings Plant and removing the wastewater treatment structures, MCES would construct a wastewater pumping station on the southeast corner of the existing site and install a new sanitary sewer between the old and new plant sites. The route of the new underground sewer would follow portions of Lea, Third, Tyler and 10th Streets and Ravenna Trail. The tentative project schedule calls for facility design in 2022-2023, construction in 2024-2026, and starting up the new facilities in 2027.

Draft Facility Plan process:

MCES's Draft Facility Plan for this project outlines the issues at the existing wastewater treatment plant site; why a new plant in a new location is needed; various alternatives studied for the new plant, pumping station, and sanitary sewer route; and the reasons that support MCES's resulting recommendations.

Copies of the Draft Facility Plan, a plan summary, and project-area maps will be available for the public to review after December 22, 2021, at the project webpage: www.HastingsWWTP.com. The Draft Facility Plan also will be available for the public to review during regular business hours at:

- Hastings City Hall, 101 Fourth St. E., Hastings
- Pleasant Hill Library, 1490 S. Frontage Rd., Hastings

All interested people are encouraged to attend the online public open house on December 15 and attend the online public hearing on January 5 to offer comments for the public record. The public hearing will be streamed live and recorded. In addition to providing comments during the online public hearing, you also may provide comments in the following ways by 5:00 p.m. January 18, 2022:

- Mail written comments to: Heidi Hutter at Metropolitan Council Environmental Services, 390 Robert St. N., Saint Paul, MN 55101-1805
- Email comments to: comment@hastingswwtp.com
- Record comments on: project comment line at 651-302-2908
- Send TTY comments to 651-291-0904

Comments submitted prior to the public hearing will be read into the public record during the online public hearing.

Upon request, MCES will provide reasonable accommodations to persons with disabilities at the public open house and public hearing. Please submit such requests to Tim O'Donnell before December 10, 2021, by email at tim.odonnell@metc.state.mn.us or by phone at 651-602-1269.

Next steps: MCES staff will review public comments and evaluate changes to the Draft Facility Plan to address the comments. A recommendation for adoption of the final Facility Plan will be considered by the Metropolitan Council in February 2022.