

BOISE CITY SEWER EXTENSION POLICY

**REVISED
2/3/2026**

I. GENERAL

A. DEFINITIONS

“Existing Development” shall be defined as any parcel of land that does not need to be subdivided or split in order to either be served by sewer or built on. This includes vacant platted lots and parcels with existing structures.

“New Development” shall be defined as any parcel of land that will either be subdivided or split in order to be built on.

“Sewer extension” shall be defined as any sewer line construction of 4-inch or larger diameter pipe, required to serve a development, lot or parcel.

“Southwest Boise Sewer Area” shall be defined by the City of Boise’s Comprehensive Plan-Southwest Boise Planning Area, which is generally bounded on the north by Victory Road, on the east by Cole Road, on the south by the New York Canal, and on the west by Cloverdale Road. This definition excludes properties within Boise City limits.

“Will Serve Letter” – shall be defined as a letter from the City of Boise’s Public Works Department that states the city has reviewed the land use development and/or connection proposed, verified it meets the City of Boise’s Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and has the willingness and capacity to serve the development.

B. DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

1. All sewer extensions shall be designed in accordance with the current sewer master plan for the area.
2. All sewer system designs must be approved by the City of Boise’s Public Works Department prior to commencement of construction.
3. Designs shall provide for gravity sewer service only, with the following exceptions:
 - a. A temporary lift station may be used if the situation meets all of the following criteria:
 - 1) Gravity sewer is currently not considered reasonably available;
 - 2) Lift station will serve 200 or more equivalent dwelling units;
 - 3) Gravity lines are anticipated to be extended to the site

within 10 years; and

- 4) Developer is responsible for all lift station and force main costs.

4. A permanent lift station may be used if the situation meets all of the following criteria:

- a. Gravity sewer service is not, or will not, be physically possible; and
- b. Lift station serves 15 or more residential units.

5. Individual grinder pumps may be used if the situation meets all of the following criteria:

- a. Gravity sewer service is not, or will not be physically possible; and
- b. The number of lots within a development that require pump service is less than 15.

Note: Individual pumps on a common force main system will require special City of Boise Public Works Department approval.

C. BUDGET LIMITATIONS

Total costs of sewer extension projects cannot exceed the annual approved CIP budget amount unless approval is given for additional expenditures by Mayor and Council.

II. SEWER EXTENSION WITHIN CITY LIMITS

A. New Development

Unless otherwise approved by the City Council, developers are responsible for financing and construction of sewer lines serving their development. For new developments, which require non-development related sewer construction costs (offsite sewer extensions, system over-depth or over-sizing), the developer may construct the sewer extension and will receive credits in accordance with the Boise City Code for costs associated with the non-development related construction costs. An agreement in accordance with City Code will be developed between the City and the developer, which sets forth specific terms and conditions. The agreement will be recorded and the contract term for reimbursements shall not exceed ten (10) years.

For any new development, prior to granting final sewer construction plan approval, the City will require preliminary plat or development approval.

B. Existing Development

The City will extend sewer to existing developments, including vacant platted lots, based upon the following criteria:

1. One equivalent single family unit must pay and connect upon project completion for every 1,000 feet of equivalent eight-inch sewer constructed; and
2. The property owners requesting the sewer extension will be required to pay or

arrange for payment of the connection fees and assessments in advance of the sewer construction and agree to connect to the sewer within nine (9) months of completion of the sewer.

When implementing this policy, Boise City may construct more sewer than requested by property owners in order to complete sewers into the ends of cul-de-sacs, etc.

This is done to avoid high-cost, small-scale projects in the future and will minimize the impacts of construction in the neighborhood.

C. Continuance of Service Extensions

The City will extend sewer service, at no cost, to serve existing residential properties that do not have frontage on an existing public sewer if all of the following circumstances apply:

1. Property owner has a failing or collapsed service line;
2. The property owner has been connected to sewer and has been continuously paying monthly sewer service charges; and
3. Documentation is provided by the property owner that they cannot rebuild or construct a new building service line from the residence to existing public sewer.

D. Economic Development/Community Enhancement Projects

The City may participate in the cost of sewers for projects considered to enhance Boise's quality of life either through creation of permanent jobs and/or projects which provide amenities such as parks, open space, affordable housing, etc.

For projects in this category, the Boise City Public Works Commission will review the merits of the projects for benefit to the community versus costs of extension, the availability of funds, and make recommendations on the specific project to the Boise City Council. Cost sharing between the developer and the City is likely to be required.

E. Roadway Construction/Reconstruction

Subject to Public Works Commission approval and/or specific budget approval, sewers may be extended prior to or in conjunction with Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) and Ada County Highway District (ACHD) roadway projects in order to minimize future inconvenience of the public and additional future pavement removal and replacement costs.

F. Service Line Construction

For City-sponsored projects, the City shall construct, as a part of the sewer line extension, service lines to the edge of the public right-of-way. The service line shall be constructed at a location acceptable to the property owner with consideration given to economical system design and required installation clearances. Construction of the sewer service line from the street right-of-way line to the structure will be the responsibility of the property

owner. All service line construction on private property shall be accomplished by a licensed plumbing contractor, certified sewer installer, or property owner. Permits must be secured prior to commencing any installation. Permits for properties within the Boise City limits can be purchased at Boise City Hall, Building Department, 150 N. Capitol Blvd., Boise, ID 83702. Additional information regarding the permit or other requirements may be obtained by calling (208) 608-7150.

III. SEWER EXTENSION AND CONNECTION OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

It is the policy of the City of Boise City to require annexation prior to allowing the extension of City sewer to serve property located within the Boise City Area of Impact subject to the following exceptions:

- A. Existing developed areas in the Area of Impact that can demonstrate failed septic systems may extend sewers provided they fully fund the design and construction, pay applicable sewer fees, and provide written consent to annexation.
- B. Conditions for Connection to Pipeline if Previously Installed and Available to Property. New or existing structures may be connected to an existing pipeline installed along the property boundary or through the property provided fees have been paid or deferred and a written consent to annexation has been received. Sewer will not be provided to any parcel, lot, development, building, or construction that occurs following or as a result of, the subdivision of land, the splitting of land, the condominiumization of space, or any act that results in the creation of additional buildable lots within the boundaries of the parcel lot.
- C. Properties located within the Southwest Boise Sewer Area may extend and connect to Boise City's sanitary sewer provided the developer/owner meets all of the following criteria:
 - 1. Fully funds all design, permitting, and construction;
 - 2. Pays all applicable sewer fees;
 - 3. Follows the City of Boise Comprehensive Land Use Plan;
 - 4. Receives a "Will Serve Letter" from the Public Works Department;
 - 5. Adheres to City of Boise Public Works requirements for plan approval, construction and project acceptance; and
 - 6. Provides a written consent to annexation into Boise City.
 - 7. Temporary lift stations will not be allowed in this area

Policy Adopted:	Resolution No. 11513, January 14, 1992
Revisions	Resolution No. 12142, March 2, 1993
	Resolution No. 12164, March 16, 1993
	Resolution No. 12321, July 13, 1993
	Resolution No. 12686, March 22, 1994
	Resolution No. 14295, February 18, 1997
	Resolution No. 14660, October 21, 1997
	Resolution No. 18674, June 21, 2005
	Resolution No. 19358, November 28, 2005
	Resolution No.19964, February 5, 2008
	Resolution No. 345, August 12, 2014
	Resolution No. 520, October 10, 2017
	Resolution No. 60-26, February 3, 2026