

# City of Gladstone

## Sanitary Sewer System

### Frequently Asked Questions

**What does the city of Gladstone do with sanitary sewage collected in the system?**

Gladstone does not have a sanitary sewage treatment plant. All sanitary sewage generated in Gladstone is sent to Kansas City, MO for treatment at their sewage treatment plant.

**Does Kansas City charge Gladstone for this treatment?**

Yes, Kansas City treats the sewage and assesses a cost to Gladstone. This is the cost reflected on Gladstone residents' water bill, which is currently based on water usage.

**What has changed, which would cause this cost increase?**

Kansas City has recently been Federally mandated to make \$2.6 billion in improvements and repairs to their existing sanitary sewer.

**How does Gladstone's sanitary sewer system compare their cost requirements to Kansas City?**

Gladstone has always had sanitary sewage treated by Kansas City. Kansas City has always billed Gladstone and that cost has consistently been passed on to residents who pay that as a part of their water bill. Those fees are paid to Kansas City so Gladstone has continuously invested in Kansas City's sanitary sewer collection system as a responsible organization and continues to do so today.

**Are there any planned cost increases from Kansas City?**

Yes, Kansas City has announced plans for annual cost increases of up to 15% per year for the next ten years.

**What is Gladstone doing anything to protect residents from these high increases?**

Yes, currently Gladstone is rehabilitating and sealing sanitary sewer lines to reduce inflow and infiltration from ground and storm water sources. This will reduce the flow to Kansas City from Gladstone in sanitary sewer lines. A voter approved sewer bond that was passed in 2010 funds this effort.

City staff is also actively working with Kansas City to reach a fair solution to the problem on rising costs. The City is also in the process of developing strong technical support and documentation regarding sewage flow to Kansas City and the basis for the charges being levied by Kansas City. Gladstone's goal is to insure that costs are kept as low as possible for residents and that Gladstone does not pay for more of the Kansas City treatment system than what is required to serve Gladstone.

**Who can I call for additional information?**

For additional information, please contact Tim Nebergall, Director of Public Works, at (816) 423-4150.