



Engineering & Public Works Department

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DATE: September 18, 2017

TO: Mary Becker, Chair
Public Works and Facilities Committee

FROM: Roger Healy, PE, Director
Engineering and Public Works

SUBJECT: Proposed Regulation Change – Onsite Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems

CBJ Assembly Ordinance 2005-17(b) allowed major subdivisions not connected to the CBJ's wastewater system to be constructed by allowing the use of Onsite Wastewater Treatment and Disposal (OWTDS) systems. Regulations were approved in 2005 that regulated the home owner's design, operations, and maintenance responsibilities for the OWTDS. Changes in Juneau's OWTDS market have necessitated changes in the OWTDS regulations. Specifically, the regulation requirement that a 'Service Contractor' be approved by the OWTDS system manufacturer has placed many homeowners in a position of not having approved service contractors able to provide the pumping service. The home owners' regulatory alternative is to contract with the CBJ to provide this service, typically through contract with a local pumping service. This requirement to contract through the CBJ is neither efficient nor convenient for the CBJ or the homeowners.

The Engineering and Public Works Department will initiate a change in the OWTDS regulations that allow homeowners to contract directly with Department approved service providers. After required legal review, public notice, and consideration of comments, the Department will request the CBJ Assembly's concurrence with the regulation changes.

cc: Rorie Watt, City Manager
Amy Mead, City Attorney