



Interoffice Memorandum

October 18, 2024

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings
-AND-
County Commissioners

FROM: Ed Torres, M.S., P.E., LEED AP, Director
Utilities Department

SUBJECT: **November 19, 2024 - Public Hearing**
Proposed Amendments to Chapter 37, Article XVII, Orange County Individual On-Site Sewage Disposal System (OSDS) Ordinance

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The Septic Tank Workgroup (the “Workgroup”), which is comprised of staff from multiple County departments and from the Florida Department of Health, will present a proposed ordinance which, if adopted, would amend a portion of Chapter 37, Article XVII of the Orange County Code relating to individual on-site sewage disposal.

Background

The Workgroup was created to protect the water quality of the County’s water resources through development of proposed policy changes that could provide additional protections for areas vulnerable to excessive nitrogen loading associated with conventional septic systems.

The Workgroup proposed policy recommendations and has presented those recommendations to various stakeholders. The Workgroup presented the draft ordinance to the Board of County Commissioners (“BCC”) in an August 27, 2024 Work Session and received BCC consent and approval to finalize the ordinance to implement the proposed policy changes. Based on the BCC direction, the Workgroup has presented the proposed ordinance to various stakeholders for their input and support.

Summary of the Proposed Revision

The proposed ordinance includes policy changes for new development, including increased sewer connection requirements and enhanced nitrogen-reducing septic system requirements in the most vulnerable areas. A copy of the proposed ordinance is attached.

The County Attorney’s Office has reviewed the ordinance as to form. On October 17, 2024, the Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing and recommended approval of the proposed ordinance.

Action Requested: **Make a finding of consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and ADOPT an Ordinance amending and creating certain provisions of the Orange County Code, Chapter 37, Article XVII, known as the “Orange County Individual On-Site Sewage Disposal System (OSDS) Ordinance”; and providing an effective date; and authorize Staff to correct any non-substantial grammatical or scrivener’s errors.**

All Districts.