



City of Ontario

555 Stumbo Road Ontario, Ohio 44906

www.ontarioohio.org

Tel: 419.529.3818

Fax:419.529.6132

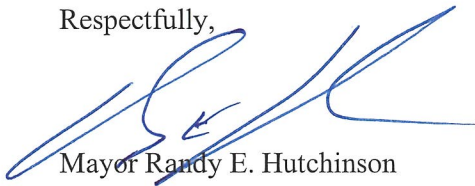
01-25-2021

Citizens of Ontario:

Some residents have either received a letter or flyer in reference to our proposed Waste Water Treatment Plant. Neither the letter nor flyer originated from the City of Ontario. The content of these two documents contained inaccurate information. We have included the letter in black below for everyone to read. We are including accurate responses in red. Also included, is the map that was circulated with the letter. The actual location of the Waste Water Treatment Plant is marked in red.

We will schedule a public meeting to provide information on the proposed plant as soon as COVID restrictions are lifted. Any questions or concerns can be sent to info@ontarioohio.org.

Respectfully,



Mayor Randy E. Hutchinson

Strong past, bright future

CIRCULATED LETTER FROM CITIZEN IN BLACK
CITY'S RESPONSES IN RED

I am reaching out to you as a resident in the neighborhood to discuss Ontario's proposed sewage collection system that will reside near our homes and businesses, Currently, the City of Mansfield processes Ontario's wastewater, I have since learned that the City of Ontario has decided to move forward with building a new wastewater treatment facility in our neighborhood. Instead of our wastewater flowing into the City of Mansfield's sewage system they will be utilizing their own combined sewage collection system. **(Accurate Response: The City's wastewater collection system is a separated system meaning you have a sewer system for wastewater collection and conveyance and a separate storm sewer system for surface/stormwater runoff.)**

These pipes and tunnels **(Accurate response: there are no tunnels)** will simultaneously **(2 totally separate systems)** collect surface runoff and sewage water. This system will eventually end into the Touby Run Watershed. Currently there is an effort to mitigate decades of widespread flooding in downtown Mansfield, Ohio and that the EMH&T group is working with the City of Mansfield to develop a flood hazard mitigation plan, A watershed-scale analysis of Touby Run was performed to quantify flood hazard potential under existing conditions and with proposed flood hazard mitigation alternatives. This mitigation plan was performed before the City of Ontario's proposed wastewater treatment plant which would add to the fluid volume. **(Accurate Response: The peak rate of water flow discharged from the proposed City of Ontario wastewater treatment facility will only represent at most approximately 3% of the flow rate conveyed by Touby Run during a 100 year storm event based on a hydraulic analysis performed by Poggemeyer Design Group.)**

Alluding to rate increase disputes with the City of Mansfield as grounds to break the existing contract, rate increases were written into the terms of the renewed contract, with a 40 percent sewer rate increase in 2017, split up into 10 percent increases each quarter; an 18 percent increase in 2018; a 10 percent increase in 2019; and 3 percent increases in each remaining year of the contract. According to Ontario City Officials residents in Ontario will not benefit from a price decrease by building a city owned facility for at least 40 years. **(Accurate Response: During the first full year of operation of the City-owned facility (2026), the City would expect an annual cost savings of approximately \$1 million based on possible funding scenarios and anticipated rate increases by the City of Mansfield. The annual savings should increase yearly after that with an anticipated savings at year 30 of approximately \$7 million per year, which over time calculates to significant savings for all Ontario citizens.)**

As a resident who will be impacted by this I am reaching out to you to advise you that the City of Ontario is proceeding with financing a multi-million dollar sewage collection system that will be built on city-owned property in the Nussbaum Parkway, Friday Lane, North Ireland, Hazel Drive, and August Drive area I have included a picture of the area. **(See accurate site map.)**

As you know this will dramatically decrease our property values not only as homeowners but also as business owners. Chemicals, bacteria, and other organisms from wastewater treatment facilities can become airborne during the treatment process, especially in windy and humid conditions.

(Accurate Response: The treatment process being proposed will minimize any aerosols that could be generated during the treatment process.)

Wastewater treatment plants may also attract flies and other pests. These insects pose a risk of spreading bacteria and chemicals from the wastewater treatment facility into the community. The wastewater treatment process often emits foul odors. **(Accurate Response: There are provisions in the project for systems specifically designed to mitigate odors. The proposed facility will be designed to contain the odors at the beginning of the treatment process/ headworks building and filter them through activated carbon filters which will remove any offensive odors.)**

While these odors are not harmful, they are unpleasant and could result in a nuisance to those living nearby. Like any other technology, these facilities suffer malfunctions and mechanical failures. These failures can result in the flooding of the facility and surrounding areas. **(Accurate Response: To mitigate any potential flooding or backups due to malfunctions and mechanical failures the proposed facility will include redundant/backup equipment for major equipment items. Also, a standby power generator capable of providing electrical power to the entire facility in case of power interruptions will be provided. In addition, a supervisory control and data acquisition system will be provided to monitor and gather continuous data regarding operations of the facility. This system will automatically notify plant personnel of any malfunctions/mechanical failures which may occur day or night.)**

Most wastewater treatment plants utilize concrete tanks that are often partially underground to process wastewater. Over time, these tanks can develop cracks. If these cracks are not repaired immediately, tank contents can leak and contaminate underlying soils and groundwater. **(Accurate Response: Concrete tanks used to contain liquids for the wastewater treatment process are designed according to the latest code requirements to preclude structural failures and leaks. The relevant code for the design of concrete tanks for wastewater treatment purposes is the American Concrete Institute's "Code Requirements for Environmental Engineering Concrete Structures and Commentary" (ACI 350). ACI 350 addresses the issues related to concrete tanks leaking through cracks. They address this by having specified amounts of reinforcing steel required to minimize cracking and keep joints tight enough to prevent leaks. They also require waterstops at construction joints which is typically a rubberized seal that prevent liquids from seeping through construction joints. ACI 350 also address the amount of concrete cover required to protect the reinforcing steel from corrosion and prolong the useable life of the structure.)**

This could result in on-site contamination and eventually lead to third-party property damage from contaminants migrating off-site.

I as a homeowner and your neighbor I feel the need to inform you and ask for your help. Please call the City of Ontario and let your voice be heard.

Mayor

(Accurate Response: Mayor Hutchinson did not send this letter)

Randy Hutchinson

Office: 419529-6333

2nd Ward

Michele Webb

Home: 419-747-5818

Service - Safety Director

Jeffrey P. Wilson

Office: 419-529-2495

Cell: 419-571-8194

Sewer Supervisor/Project Manager

Paul Gleisinger

Office: 419-529-6341

The gray scale map and black outline was the location included in the letter

The accurate site map below is in red (location is not to scale):

