



Magistrate
**SCOTT
DAVIS**

is pleased to announce the next
DISTRICT 6

**COMMUNICATION
FORUM**

www.scottmdavis.net

Magistrate Davis will share information regarding news and happenings related to the 6th District.

Thurs. Aug. 13th at 7:00 p.m.

**John W. Black Center
1551 N. Hwy. 393
Buckner, KY 40010**

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Paid for by Scott Davis

Oldham County Sewer District Status

Magistrate Davis would like to take this opportunity to share some information regarding the status of the Oldham County Sewer District and the impact this might have on you as a homeowner in Oldham County.

The Oldham County Sewer District is currently functioning with numerous issues, both financial and operational, that are having negative impacts on Oldham County residents. To begin with, the district is approximately \$11 million in debt. This mounting debt is the result of poor management and a lack of oversight in previous years by our county's leadership. The sole focus of the district has clearly been adding more and more capacity to accommodate new residential development when it has been clear that the resulting revenue was not sufficient to cover the costs. The district strongly needs to consider options for a new financial path moving forward, including possible restructuring. The only options to pay this debt are simply through either restructuring, huge increases in rates, new customers and connection fees resulting from massive new development, or mandatory connections for existing residents who are currently on septic systems.

You should know that Judge-Executive Murner has recently pushed through a resolution (No. 01-07-07-09) which MANDATES that every homeowner in Oldham County will be forced to connect their home to sewer treatment if new service lines come in proximity to their property. This mandatory connection is at the expense of the homeowner, with a connection fee of over \$3,000 not including plumbing connection(s) from the sewer line to the home.

I voted against this measure and fought to see it delayed for more consideration and feedback from the public. I still believe that it should be rescinded immediately. The reason that this resolution was adopted is due to the belief that new home building may continue at much lower than normal levels due to economic conditions, thus creating a desire to raise revenue to pay for debt and operations from existing Oldham County residents who are not currently on sewer treatment.

Judge-Executive Duane Murner now also wants the Fiscal Court to accept responsibility for approximately \$7 million of the debt from the Sewer District through the issuance of new bonds that all taxpayers in Oldham County will be forced to pay for. Even more, they want to structure this debt as to where initial payments are put off for several years, thus costing taxpayers even more money in bonding interest. As a result of the Fiscal Court taking over responsibility for this debt, the Sewer District will then likely be able to bond additional debt themselves, when it is clear that more focus is needed on reducing debt rather than incurring more. In my opinion, this is not something that the Fiscal Court should be considering at this time. Everyone should remember that Judge-Executive Murner and Deputy Gish just recently supported a 25% increase in sewer rates for all customers (through a secretive and illegal process). Once again, I was opposed to this measure and worked to promote changes in operational approaches rather than rate increases.

Over the past several years, there have also been numerous allegations of mismanagement and improper spending by district representatives.

I have publicly called for an independent financial audit of the district, however Judge-Executive Murner has worked to delay this from taking place. Lastly, the district has continually operated with numerous discharge and treatment violations, which affect many homeowners and the water quality of Oldham County in general.

If you are concerned about any of these issues, I would encourage you to let Judge-Executive Murner know how you feel. Additionally, since Judge-Executive Murner has endorsed his Deputy, Paula Gish (who is expected continue his practices), to be the next Judge-Executive, it can be expected for these actions to continue if she were to be elected. You can also contact all members of Fiscal Court via phone or email by the information located at www.oldhamcounty.net.

I would also encourage anyone who is interested to also attend my next District 6 Communication Forum on Thursday, August 13th at 7:00 PM at the John W. Black Community Center. I will be discussing more about these issues in addition to other important matters affecting Oldham County, including the Oldham Reserve financial concerns, overcharging by the storm water district, trash collection contract renewal, and more.