



**COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**
Division of Environmental Health

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Equal Opportunity Employer

**Request of Community Sewer Service Provider to Provide Requirement and
Availability of Community Sewer Service to a Parcel**

This form is to be completed by the community sewer service provider (municipality or special district) and submitted to Merced County, Department of Community and Economic Development, Division of Environmental Health via e-mail to: MCDEH@countyofmerced.com for review.

Address of parcel: _____

APN of parcel (xxx-xxx-xxx): ____ - ____ - ____

Name of sewer service provider (municipality or district name):

Contact information for sewer service provider representative:

Name: _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

The community sewer service provider may require a parcel to connect to community sewer service. Such a requirement may be regardless of cost to the property owner. This would be typical of an agreement put in place at the time of annexation of the parcel to the city or district.

The community sewer service provider determines availability of community sewer service entirely on its own criteria, which might include, but not be limited to, proximity of a sewer main and sewer system capacity. MCDEH is not part of the city or district determination of availability.

- If community sewer service is available and the community sewer service provider requires connection to sewer service, then MCDEH would require any existing septic tank(s) to be properly destroyed/removed under an MCDEH permit. MCDEH would have no involvement related to the community sewer service connection.
- If connection to community sewer service is not required by the community sewer service provider, but community sewer service is available and the property owner wishes to utilize an onsite septic system (not connect to community sewer), then MCDEH will determine if connection to community sewer is required. Such requirement will be based on a comparison of the entire cost of sewer connection with the entire cost of repair, replacement, or installation of a new/replacement septic system per Merced County Code Ch. 9.54 and the Local Agency Management Program.

If the property owner wishes to utilize an onsite septic system (new system or repair or replacement of existing system), then the Community Sewer Service Provider needs to answer the following questions (**please check “Yes” or “No” or “Not Applicable” below, as applicable**):

1. Does the community sewer service provider require this parcel to connect to community sewer service? **Yes** **No**

If Yes, make sure the information requested above is complete and submit the document to MCDEH. Do not answer questions 2, 3, and 4. Arrangements for connection to community sewer service will be made between the property owner and the community sewer service provider. MCDEH will issue a permit for proper destruction of any existing septic tank(s). MCDEH will not issue a permit to install a new septic system or to repair or replace the existing septic system.

If No, go to question 2.

2. Does this parcel have community sewer service available to it, as determined by the community service provider? **Yes** **No**

If Yes or No, go to question 3.

3. Will the community sewer service provider agree to MCDEH issuing a septic system permit to repair or replace an *existing* septic system? **Yes** **No** **Not Applicable**

If #2 is No and #3 is Yes, do not answer question 4. Submit the document to MCDEH. MCDEH will issue a septic system permit if possible.

If #2 is Yes and #3 is Yes, provide MCDEH with an estimate of all costs involved with connection to community sewer and do not answer question 4. Please make sure the information requested at the top of this form is complete and submit the document to MCDEH. Based on a comparison of costs, MCDEH will determine if MCDEH can issue a septic system repair or replacement permit or if connection to community sewer is required. If connection to community sewer is required, MCDEH will issue a permit for proper destruction of any existing septic tank(s).

If #3 is No or Not Applicable, go to question 4.

4. Will the community sewer service provider agree to MCDEH issuing a septic system permit to install a *new* septic system (to serve a *new* structure)? **Yes** **No** **Not Applicable**

If Yes, provide MCDEH with an estimate of all costs involved with connection to community sewer. Based on a comparison of costs, MCDEH will determine if MCDEH can issue a septic system permit or if connection to community sewer is required.

If Yes, No, or Not Applicable, please make sure the information requested at the top of this form is complete and submit the document to MCDEH.

If No, MCDEH will not issue a septic system permit and will refer the property owner to the community sewer service provider for discussion about community sewer connection options.

Regulations – Sections Related to Availability of Community Sewer (NOT A PART OF THE FORM)

MCC 9.54.030(A)(2)

The public sewer may be considered as not being available when such public sewer or any building or any exterior drainage facility connected thereto, is located more than two hundred (200) feet from any proposed building or exterior drainage facility on any lot or premises which abuts and is served by public sewer. If special conditions exist, the division of environmental health director may waive this requirement.

[MCC 9.54.030 (A)(2) is discussing availability of public sewer only within a given parcel. It would allow for the possibility of an onsite septic system on a parcel which is already served by public sewer or which abuts a public sewer main.]

MCC 9.54.030(A)(3)

If a connection to a public sewer is available, a permit shall not be issued for the installation of an OWTS, or for the alteration or repair of an existing OWTS.

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PERMITTING OWTS NEAR PUBLIC SEWER AND WATER UTILITIES

MCDEH has access to Merced County web-based mapping applications that provides information for all parcels in Merced County that may be utilized in identifying parcels within a public sewer utility district boundary. The utility company may be contacted if the sewer utility is within 200 feet of the parcel to determine if a connection could be made instead of issuing an OWTS permit as referenced in Chapter 9.54.

State OWTS Policy, 9.4.9

Installation of new or replacement OWTS where public sewer is available.

The public sewer may be considered as not available when such public sewer or any building or exterior drainage facility connected thereto is located more than 200 feet from any proposed building or exterior drainage facility on any lot or premises that abuts and is served by such public sewer. This provision does not apply to replacement OWTS where the connection fees and construction cost are greater than twice the total cost of the replacement OWTS and the local agency determines that the discharge from the OWTS will not affect groundwater or surface water to a degree that makes it unfit for drinking or other uses.

[State OWTS Policy, 9.4.9 is discussing availability of public sewer only within a given parcel. It would allow for the possibility of an onsite septic system on a parcel which is already served by public sewer or which abuts a public sewer main.]