

CONTACT: Beth Sicignano
E-mail: Beth@TravelersRestSC.com
Tel: 864.834.8740

125 Trailblazer Dr
Travelers Rest, SC 29690
www.TravelersRestSC.com



PRESS RELEASE

City of Travelers Rest Officials Announce Plans for a New Sewer Service Provider

Residents and City Benefit from Comprehensive Services

Travelers Rest, SC – August 13, 2022 – After careful consideration, the City of Travelers Rest and the Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict (MetroConnects) have engaged in preliminary discussions concerning the transfer of Travelers Rest's sewer collection system. The City currently owns and operates a system of approximately 29 miles of sewer collection lines, along with manholes, pump stations, and other appurtenances.

In a May 2020 study, the engineering firm CDM Smith concluded that the City needs to invest approximately \$4.25 million in the City's sewer system for deferred and near-term rehabilitation projects. After conducting a study of costs and operational needs to manage and maintain the sewer system, City officials determined that a full-service sewer management agency would be the most effective action to take.

"MetroConnects is able to absorb rehabilitation costs, and meet challenges to maintain, and rehabilitate the City's sewer system over a long-term period due the company's technical expertise and scale," said Eric Vinson, Travelers Rest City Administrator. "Metro's current territory nearly surrounds Travelers Rest city limits so the transfer would be seamless."

Sewer rates are controlled by MetroConnects' Board of Commissioners for the entire system in Greenville County as a whole, not just for Travelers Rest. Recently, Metro commissioned a third-party consult specializing in setting utility rates, to perform a rate study to recommend sewer rates that will ensure that MetroConnects is able to continue providing superior sewer service while maintaining its sewer collection system to support the needs of its customers and Greenville County.

Vinson added, "We looked at costs such as equipment, staffing and operations related to establishing a department to manage our sewer system equipment and it was clear that transferring these services is the most cost-effective option."

A final vote on the transfer proposal will take place Thursday, August 18th at the City Council meeting in Travelers Rest's City Hall. If passed, the transfer agreement will become effective on or around the first of the year.

ABOUT METROCONNECTS – Metropolitan Sewer Subdistrict, known as MetroConnects, is a public Special Purpose District established by Greenville County to operate maintain, improve, and extend facilities for the collection of sewage within Greenville County. To learn more about MetroConnects visit: www.metroconnects.org/

ABOUT TRAVELERS REST – Named the fourth coolest town in America by Budget Travel magazine, Travelers Rest sits at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains in the Upstate of South Carolina. Home to world-class outdoor activities such as hiking, cycling and kayaking Travelers Rest, offers activities for the whole family. The vibrant, downtown area hosts some of the region's best restaurants as well as a variety of unique shops and businesses. To learn more about the City visit: www.TravelersRestSC.com.

###