



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. 59

RESOLUTION

R - 2024

Introduced by the Administration on April 3, 2024

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Allentown, Lehigh County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the South Whitehall Township Act 537 sewage facilities plan (Public-to-Public System Transfer)

Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That

WHEREAS, Section 5 of the Act of January 24, 1966, P.L. 1535, No. 537 known as the "Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act", as amended, and the Rules and Regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection ("the Department") adopted thereunder, Chapter 71 of Title 25 of the Pennsylvania Code, requires the municipality to adopt an Official Sewage Facilities Plan providing for sewage services adequate to prevent contamination of waters and/or environmental health hazards with sewage wastes, and to revise said plan whenever it is necessary to meet the sewage disposal needs of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, South Whitehall Township has prepared an Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan update following the Public-to-Public system transfer guidelines in order to officially recognize the transfer of the South Whitehall Township Authority to South Whitehall Township, and address any previous planning that has not yet been implemented for the Township service area; and

WHEREAS, South Whitehall Township currently has inter-municipal agreements with four (4) adjacent municipalities, including Salisbury, Upper Macungie, and Lower Macungie Townships, as well as the City of Allentown. Wastewater from these Townships is conveyed to the South Whitehall Township collection system via multiple interconnections, which is then directed to the LCA's Kline Island Wastewater Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, the inter-municipal agreement with the City of Allentown was executed on April 12, 1965. Subsequent amendments to the Agreement were executed in March 1964, April 1965, and January 1967; and

WHEREAS, the inter-municipal agreement with the City of Allentown addresses the acceptance of sewage from properties outside of each respective municipality into their sewer mains, truck lines, outfall sewers and pumping stations and to convey through their respective collection systems any sanitary sewage received under the terms of that agreement to the City of Allentown Kline's Island sewage treatment facility; and

WHEREAS, the selected sewage disposal alternative to be implemented is to transfer of the South Whitehall Township Authority sanitary wastewater collection system to South Whitehall Township, including assignment all of the rights and obligations associated with said transfer; and

WHEREAS, the City of Allentown finds that the Plan described above conforms to applicable zoning, subdivision, other municipal ordinances and plans, and to a comprehensive program of pollution control and water quality management.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Allentown hereby adopt and submit to the Department of Environmental Protection for its approval of the revision to the "Official Plan" of the municipality, the above referenced Facility Plan, The municipality hereby assures the Department of the complete and timely implementation of the said plan as required by law (Section 5, Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act as amended).

Legislative Template

- What department or bureau is this bill originating from? Where did the initiative for the bill originate?

Public Works - Engineering

- Summary and facts of the bill.

This resolution adopts the South Whitehall Township Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan in accordance with the Public-to Public System transfer guidelines in order to officially recognize the transfer of the South Whitehall Township Authority to South Whitehall Township and address any previous planning that has not yet been implemented for the Township service area.

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South Whitehall Township currently has inter-municipal agreements with four (4) other adjacent municipalities, including Salisbury, Upper Macungie, and Lower Macungie Townships, as well as the City of Allentown. Some wastewater from these municipalities is conveyed to the South Whitehall Township collection system via multiple interconnections, which is then directed to the LCA's Kline Island Wastewater Treatment Plan.

- Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:
 - a. What does the bill do? What are the specific goals or tasks the bill seeks to accomplish?

This resolution adopts and directs the plan update submission to the Department of Environmental Protection for its approval of the revision to the “Official Plan” of the municipality.

- b. What are the benefits of doing this? What are the drawbacks?

The Official plan update is a step that allows the completion of the transfer of the South Whitehall Township Authority sanitary wastewater collection system to South Whitehall Township, including assignment of all the rights and obligations associated with this transfer.

- Financial Impact – Please include the following in your explanation:
 - a. Cost (initial and ongoing)

There is no cost to this resolution.

- b. Benefits (initial and ongoing)

The benefit would be that Allentown would adopt the plan update and allow South Whitehall Township to submit to the Department of Environmental Protection for its approval of the revision to the “Official Plan” of the municipality.

- Priority status – Are there any deadlines to be aware of?

The resolution should be passed before May 2024 to allow for timely plan submission to PADEP.

- Why should Council unanimously support this bill?

Because Allentown is part of an inter-municipal agreement with South Whitehall Township for wastewater to be conveyed through the collection system via multiple interconnections, which is then directed to the LCA's Kline Island Wastewater Treatment Plant.