



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **\$280,000 IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CITY OF PICKERING FROM USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

### ***“85 HOUSEHOLDS TO BENEFIT FROM NEW SANITY SEWER SYSTEM”***

The City of Pickering was presented a \$280,000 USDA Rural Development mock check for a new sanity sewer system. The event was held on October 20, 2004, 9:00 am at the Pickering intersection of Hwy 48 and 4<sup>th</sup> street.

The new Low Pressure Sanity Sewer system (LPSS) will benefit 85 households with construction of individual grinder pump sewer collection units connected to one central septic tank followed with a recirculating treatment tank with a sand filter. The Step sewer system was jointly funded by the \$280,000 Rural Development Wastewater Loan/Grant (\$180,000 Loan and \$100,000 Grant), \$122,100 from the State of Missouri thru the Community Development Program (\$40,000 Loan and \$82,100 Grant), and \$427,000 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Grant for Special Nodaway County project for total \$829,100 costs.

“The project meets the needs of the community, as well as, providing an environmentally safe wastewater disposal system,” said Greg Branum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development. “The new system will eliminate all of the inadequate individual waste disposal systems and stop ground water contamination around Pickering. This kind of assistance mirrors USDA Rural Development’s mission and President Bush’s initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities.”

David Judd, Mayor of Pickering, Missouri, said, “I want to personally thank everyone for their hard work to make our new sanity sewer system happen and the many people and government agencies who got us to our celebration today.” The city and their engineer are evaluating the 10/07/04 opened competitive public bids for construction now.

Construction for the sewer collection and treatment system should start in winter 2004 and finish one year later. Snyder & Associates of St. Joseph, Missouri is the design engineer and will monitor construction of the system as project engineer. Mr. David A. Braid, Maryville attorney, serves as project legal counsel for the City of Pickering. The Northwest Regional council of Governments in Maryville will help the city administer the CDBG program state funds and the EPA funds for Nodaway County.



Those in the photograph are from left to right: Josh McKim (Economic Development Planner for the Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments), Lee Langerock (Executive Director for Nodaway County Economic Development), Robert Jobst (Pickering City Council Member), Gregory S. Foster (Staff Assistant for Senator Christopher S. Bond), Andy Macias (Project Engineer with Snyder & Associates), Dorothy Schmidt (Pickering City Council Member), Charles Smith (Pickering City Council Member), Dean Brookshier (Deputy Chief of Staff for U.S. Representative Sam Graves), Linda Young (Pickering City Council Member), Paul J. Wilmes (Rural Development Manager with USDA Rural Development), David Judd (Mayor of Pickering), Milt Sovereign (Pickering City Clerk) and James Weidinger (Rural Development Specialist with USDA Rural Development)

Branum extended special thanks to the special help of U.S. Senators Bond and Talent plus U.S. Representative Sam Graves for appropriating special USDA and EPA federal funding for this sewer project. The USDA Rural Development is an equal opportunity service provider.

Anyone seeking more information about the Pickering sewer project can contact Mr. Milt Sovereign, the City Clerk, by calling (660)927-3737. Additional information on this project or other USDA Rural Development programs is available by visiting the agency website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo>. or by contacting Stan Wolfe, Community Development Manager at 502 W. South Hills, Suite 103, Maryville, Missouri 64468 or by calling (660) 582-7421.

**“Committed to the future of rural communities.”**

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