



CITY OF KINGMAN COMMUNICATION TO COUNCIL

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Mike Garmon

MEETING DATE: February 17, 2026

AGENDA SUBJECT: Approval of Ordinance No. 1991- Repealing Ordinance No. 1041 and Re-establishing 300 Feet as the Definition of Sewer Availability

SUMMARY:

Section 4.2(G) of the Utility Regulations requires all newly developed properties in the City to connect to the public sewer system when sewer is available. The regulations define available as a public sewer that is located within five hundred (500) feet of a property line of the lot or parcel being developed. The threshold was raised from 300 feet to 500 feet by Ordinance Number 1041 in 1995. Council has expressed some interest in the past in reducing the threshold as a way of lowering the number of exceptions granted for sewer connections

This item was brought to MUC in November of 2024 and the discussion was tabled at that time, pending a report concerning the rate of paybacks, policies of other communities and the use of City funds to extend the City sewer system. The report was delivered to MUC in January of 2025. The report indicated that the rate of paybacks was round 15% and that the City had limited funds to use for sewer extensions. Additionally, it was discussed that the connection thresholds for Phoenix, Lake Havasu and Bullhead are in the range of 250 to 300 feet. However, Lake Havasu, Bullhead and Flagstaff do not allow customers to keep their existing septic systems if the public sewer is extended across their property. It was emphasized that one reason that the payback rate is so low is because customers in Kingman are allowed to keep their existing septic systems until they fail, which could be as long as forty years. It was also pointed out that failing septic systems are a public health hazard and that the City has no way of monitoring this.

At the June 2025 MUC meeting, the Commission asked that the lowering of the connection threshold be brought back for discussion. The item was brought back to MUC in January of 2026, where MUC recommended reducing the threshold to 300 feet.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fewer future connections to the City sewer system will reduce future sewer revenues.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Council Discretion

SUGGESTED MOTION:

Council discretion.

ATTACHMENTS:

[Draft ORD1991 MG.pdf](#)