



# Howard County

---

## *Internal Memorandum*

**Subject:** Amendment to the Water and Sewer Master Plan to add the Lyhus Property to the lists of inventories of Existing and **Proposed** Multi-Use community well and surface water supply (table 4) and to the list of Existing and Planned Permit Discharges (Table 10A)

**To:** Lonnie R. Robbins  
Chief Administrative Officer

**From:** Art Shapiro, Acting Director  
Department of Public Works

**Date:** *December 22, 2023*

The Department has submitted Council Resolution No. \_\_-2023 to approve a 2022 Interim Amendment of the Master Plan for Water & Sewerage.

The Lyhus Property applied to the Maryland Department of the Environment for a State Groundwater Discharge Permit Area to treat and discharge approximately 12,600 gallons per day (gpd) of wastewater by subsurface soil absorption. In addition, the Property has applied for Water Appropriation permit to withdraw 12,600 gpd through well systems. In accordance with code of Maryland regulations (COMAR 26.08.04.02A.2.b), a statement is required from the Department of Public Works that the proposed activities are in compliance with the Master Plan for Water and Sewerage.

The project site is within the County's No Planned Service (NPS) Area where sewerage and water services are provided by private, individual on-site sewage disposal and well systems. The proposed project is in compliance with section 4.5 (Shared Sewage Disposal Systems) of the Master Plan for Water and Sewerage as amended in 2020.

This amendment requires the addition of the project to two tables in the Master Plan. Table 10A presents an inventory of public and private facilities with existing and planned wastewater discharge permits. Table 4 presents an inventory of existing Multi-use community well and surface water supply. The title of table 4 has been modified by adding the word "proposed" to the current title.

The Lyhus Property is proposing to build Multi-Use shared septic systems with drain fields and Multi-use water service via shared well systems to serve 29 age-restricted duplexes. The proposed average daily sewerage flow for the property will be 12,600 gpd and the proposed average daily water withdrawal for the property will be 12,600 gpd. A State Groundwater Discharge Permit is required for properties with average daily flows above 5,000 gallons per day.

The proposed wastewater system will be a privately owned, operated, and maintained advanced wastewater treatment facility with a State Groundwater Discharge Permit to discharge wastewater to groundwater via subsurface absorption trenches. The property will be required to provide on-site construction inspection and monthly operating and monitoring reports to MDE in accordance with the Discharge Permit. Operation of the system will be under the direction of a Maryland State Certified Operator in accordance with the State discharge permit.

MDE is requiring the designation of a controlling authority for this project under COMAR 26.04.05. Whereas, the county is the controlling authority, it will delegate the obligation of the controlling authority to manage, operate and maintain the Lyhus system by written agreement with a third party pursuant Md. Code 9-1110( C ) (1). Howard County will have no cost participation in the project.

In addition to the above proposed changes, the definition of Shared Sewage Disposal Facility in Section 1.4A of the master plan has been modified to conform to recent changes to COMAR 26.04.01(3).

We recommend approval of this amendment to add the Lyhus property to Tables 4 and 10A of the W&S Master Plan.

Fiscal Impact

The proposed Multi-shared sewer and water systems will be privately owned and managed by a third party contractor. Howard County will not have any cost associated with this development.