

**Financial Qualifications for
Participation in City of Fort Smith
Private Service Line Defect Remediation Program (“Program”)
Supplemental Environmental Project (“SEP”)**

The City’s Wastewater Collection and Treatment System (“WCTS”) becomes a conduit for storm water when defective Private Service Lines allow rain or groundwater to enter the WCTS. The purpose of this Supplemental Environmental Project (“SEP”) is to reduce extraneous flows, including inflow and infiltration caused by defects in private service lines serving residences from entering the WCTS through Private Service Lines. This project was undertaken in conjunction with the settlement of an enforcement action, United States et al. v. City of Fort Smith, (C.A. No. 2-14-cv-02266-PKH, W.D. Ark.), taken on behalf of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Water Act. For purposes of this SEP, a defective private service line is any Private Service Line connected to the WCTS that allows the introduction of extraneous flow or debris, such as storm water, surface water runoff, ground water, roof runoff or root intrusion.

Beginning on January 1, 2016, the City shall spend at least \$400,000 of eligible SEP funds for the repair and/or replacement of Private Service Lines for eligible residential property owners when the City discovers a Private Service Line in need of repair or replacement. Eligible SEP costs are only the costs of performing repair or replacement work, by either City employees or private contractors/plumbers on Private Service Lines owned by private residential customers who reside on the subject property.

The average cost of the services on each private residential property is estimated to range from \$1,500 to \$2,500 for repair or replacement of a defective Private Service Line. Actual cost will depend on length of Private Service Lines, surface and sub-surface interferences to the Private Service Lines, and other relevant factors.

Residential property owners must meet the financial guidelines of family income (Attachment A) in order to qualify for SEP payment of the costs of the Private Sewer Line defect remediation for their homes. The financial guidelines are based on 2017 census information identifying moderate, low, and very low income residential property owners.

The Financial Qualifications for the SEP are a part of the City’s Private Service Line Defect Remediation Program (“Program”) now being developed and, therefore, are subject to all restrictions and limitations stated in the Program.

All applicants for the SEP shall complete and provide to the City the application, required submittals and certification (Attachment B).

SEP eligibility shall be determined on the basis of the Program, these financial qualifications, the application (with submittals) and all other available relevant information.

December 31, 2015*
City of Fort Smith, Arkansas

*Amended November 1, 2017 to substitute Attachment A based on 2017 income information from HUD for Fort Smith Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA).

Attachment A

Fort Smith, Arkansas

2017 Income Limits Summary

Maximum Family Income to Qualify for SEP Eligibility

Income Limit Category	1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
Moderate (80%)	\$27,900	\$31,900	\$35,900	\$39,850	\$43,050	\$46,250	\$49,450	\$52,650
Low (50%)	\$17,450	\$19,950	\$22,450	\$24,900	\$26,900	\$28,900	\$30,900	\$32,900
Very Low (30%)	\$12,060	\$16,240	\$20,420	\$24,600	\$26,900	\$28,900	\$30,900	\$32,900

In the event that more eligible residents apply for the SEP than there are funds available, preference shall be given to eligible very low income residents, then eligible low income residents, and then eligible moderate income residents.

Attachment B
City of Fort Smith
Private Service Line Defect Remediation Program
Supplemental Environmental Project Application

Homeowner: _____

Street _____ City: Fort Smith State: Arkansas Zip _____
Address: _____ Code: _____

Mailing (if different from above) _____ City: Fort Smith State: Arkansas Zip _____
Address: _____ Code: _____

Home _____ Cell _____ Other _____
Phone: _____ Phone: _____ Phone: _____

Head of Household: Male Female Property status: Paid in Full
 Mortgaged

Please use the space below to fill out the information for ALL persons living in your home. You do not need to include yourself in the section below. Please note anyone living in your household ages 18 or older must show proof of income.

Name: _____ Birthdate (if 18 or over): _____

Disabled? Yes No

Name: _____ Birthdate (if 18 or over): _____

Disabled? Yes No

Name: _____ Birthdate (if 18 or over): _____

Disabled? Yes No

Name: _____ Birthdate (if 18 or over): _____

Disabled? Yes No

Total Residents in Household: _____

What do I need to turn in with my application?

The following documents must be submitted with your SEP application:

- Copy of Property Deed. In order to apply for the SEP, a filed deed in the applicant's name must be provided. Unfortunately if you, the homeowner, cannot produce a deed in your name, we will not be able to process the SEP application.

- Property Tax Receipt. Not to be confused with a personal property tax receipt (vehicle), a property tax receipt will show that the taxes on your home are paid in full. If you have homestead status and/or are exempt in any way from paying property taxes, a receipt can still be obtained at the County Courthouse and must be provided with your application.

Proof of Income* Qualification for the SEP is family income* based. Income must be reported for the applicant as well as anyone residing in the house over the age of 18 years old.

Provide the following:

- A. Your most recent IRS 1040 Series OR the IRS 1040 EZ form for individual Federal annual income tax purposes. The tax form submitted must be dated and signed.

– or –

- B. Three consecutive months of income source documentation which can include the following: Social Security Benefits Statement; Pay Stubs for Wages, Salaries and Tips earned and Bank Statements, Unemployment Compensation Statements, etc.

*The following are considered income: Wages, salaries, tips, taxable interest, dividend income, taxable refunds/credits/offsets of state/local income taxes, alimony received, business income, capital gain, other gains, taxable amount of IRA distributions, taxable amount of pensions and annuities, rental real estate, royalties, partnerships, trusts, etc., farm income, unemployment compensation, taxable amount of Social Security benefits and any other income.

I, _____, certify that I have read and completed the above application to the best of my knowledge. I understand that it is a program requirement that I own and reside in my home within the city limits of Fort Smith. I also understand that my home will not qualify for the SEP if I have purchased it under a contract for sale. I must occupy this property as my principal residence. I also understand that by failing to turn in a completed application, deed, proof of income and a property tax receipt my application will be incomplete and shall be considered ineligible.

Applicant Signature:

Date:
