

West Monroe Master Plan Committee  
Sewer Planning Study in Hand for Public Review

"We're really booking now, moving into high gear and it's all coming together" was a statement made at the last Master Plan meeting by Chairman Steve Patch, and he is right. Land use guidelines have been discussed and agreed upon by committee members and the various corridors within the Town of West Monroe have been pretty much identified but most important committee members have in hand the long awaited Town of West Monroe Planning Level Sewer Study.

The Sewer Plan Study will be a major topic of discussion at the next Master Plan meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup> at the town hall.

The plan outlines four possible waste water collection sites within the town, although the costs of each varies somewhat the planning level estimates at this time are in the \$22 million each range. Assuming a low cost loan of 3.125 percent over 39 years this results in a first year annual cost per parcel of approximately \$1375.00 without grants or other outside subsidies. The master Plan meetings are open to the public, to date the public interest has been dismal at best; perhaps the notion of an annual cost of this magnitude will spark some interest and questions by the public.

The four areas of possible sewer additions for the town consist of the areas of Big Bay, Toad Harbor, the West Side of the Town and the hamlet of West Monroe. The four possible locations for the waster water treatment plants are the present location at Big Bay, Brewerton which would entail a hookup with the Town of Hastings sewer plant, Route 37 at Little Bay Creek just south of State Route 49 and State Route 49 at Big Bay Creek.

Members of the Master Plan Committee are in unified agreement that if the town is to move forward and sustain future growth especially with the commercial sector sewer districts are a must. The Town of West Monroe is located in a precarious position relative to the more than 1300 square mile Oneida Lake water shed, our streams, swamps and marshes all over time travel to the Oneida Lake proper and onto the Lake Ontario water shed. West Monroe has a high level of swamps, marshes and low lands; proper operating septic systems are becoming more difficult to maintain and much more costly to install each year.

Next Master Plan meeting, Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. West Monroe Town Hall, residents and business owners are urged to attend.