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MEDIA RELEASE

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Louisville MSD moves toward acquisition of Bullitt County Sanitation District

Regional approach to watershed management will improve wastewater treatment and create economic development opportunities

LOUISVILLE, KY – An improved regional approach to watershed protection is one step closer. MSD’s board today approved an interlocal agreement for MSD to acquire the Bullitt County Sanitation District (BCSD). Bullitt County Fiscal Court approved the agreement at its meeting May 18.

“When you remove the arbitrary jurisdictional or political boundaries, we have the opportunity to look holistically across the watershed, bring economies of scale, and make improvements that benefit the entire region, not just one county or the other,” said MSD Executive Director Tony Parrott. “We appreciate the efforts of the Bullitt County Fiscal Court and BCSD to work collaboratively with us on this regional vision for our communities.”

Under the agreement, MSD would assume BCSD’s duties and responsibilities later this year for its 4,200 residential customers and eight small “package” wastewater treatment plants. One of the initial actions would be to de-commission some of the Bullitt County plants that have passed their useful life and manage that service through MSD’s larger, regional treatment facilities.

MSD will maintain the BCSD customer rate structure put in place in 2016 by Bullitt County Fiscal Court, through its conclusion in 2026. At that point, Bullitt County’s wastewater treatment rates will rise no more than three percent per year until BCSD and MSD rates equalize.

“Not only will we have enhanced wastewater service for Bullitt County, we also will be able to realize some significant economic development potential from the opportunities for residential or commercial development that this increased sewer capacity will provide,” said Bullitt County Judge/Executive Jerry Summers.

The Bullitt County transition follows MSD’s acquisition of the Oldham County Environmental Authority, and its 6,000 customers last July.

The Bullitt County acquisition will be reviewed by the Kentucky Attorney General, Public Service Commission and Division of Water. The process could be complete by this summer with Bullitt County customers transitioning to MSD customers by fall.

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About MSD

The Louisville/Jefferson County Metropolitan Sewer District (MSD) works to achieve and maintain clean, environmentally safe waterways for a healthy and vibrant community. The organization's more than 670 employees provide wastewater management, drainage and flood protection services across the 376 square miles of Louisville Metro, and wastewater service in portions of Oldham County. In addition to operating and maintaining Louisville Metro's sewer system, floodwall system, water quality treatment centers and flood pumping stations, MSD invests in hundreds of infrastructure improvement projects each year, plants more than 1,000 trees and other vegetation annually to enhance water filtration and reduce runoff, and provides numerous outreach programs to inform and educate the community about protecting our waterways.