

SACRAMENTO AREA SEWER DISTRICT SEPTIC-TO-SEWER PROGRAM

NEAA26 OPERATIONS & ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE



National Environmental
Achievement
AWARDS

This distinctive program leverages non-rate and non-fee revenues to secure external grant funding for turnkey septic-to-sewer projects in severely disadvantaged communities in the Sacramento region.

SacSewer secured \$48M in grants for five community septic-to-sewer projects since 2019.



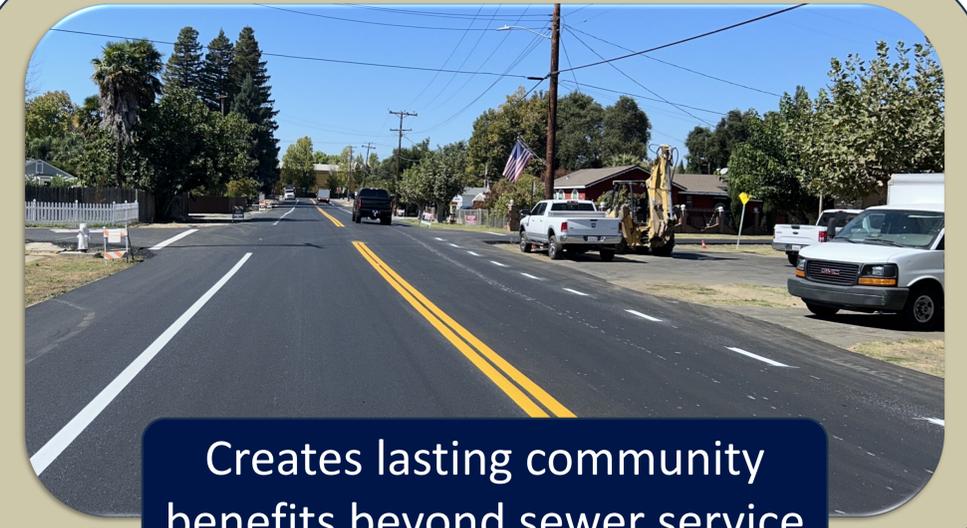
Protects regional groundwater and waterways



Provides free sewer connections for severely disadvantaged communities



Delivers infrastructure without burdening existing ratepayers



Creates lasting community benefits beyond sewer service



Failing Septic Systems to Sustainable Futures: SacSewer’s Septic-to-Sewer Program

Across Sacramento County, thousands of families have relied on old septic tanks for decades to handle their wastewater. These systems can contaminate groundwater and local rivers and creeks and cost homeowners thousands to repair or replace. Recognizing the growing environmental risks and financial burden, the Sacramento Area Sewer District (SacSewer) launched the Septic-to-Sewer (S2S) Program in 2018 to assist severely disadvantaged communities in connecting to the public sewer system.

The program targets severely disadvantaged communities where small lot sizes and high costs make septic system replacement not feasible for homeowners. Instead of relying on existing customer rates, SacSewer secures local, state, and federal grants that cover up to 95% of construction costs. This approach ensures current customers aren’t subsidizing new infrastructure to bring safe wastewater service to disadvantaged communities.

SacSewer manages every step of these turnkey projects—from environmental reviews and design to permitting, construction, and septic tank abandonment. In addition to new sewer, SacSewer was able to partner with Sacramento County Department of Transportation to repave deteriorating neighborhood roads, leaving communities in better condition than before.

Since its launch, the S2S Program has secured \$48 million in grant funding for five community-wide projects—Franklin, Freeport, Hood, Linda Manor, and Old Florin Town. These efforts will connect 240 homes to public sewer service, improving living conditions for hundreds of residents. Additionally, 94 individual property owners have received \$886,000 in grants to replace their failing septic systems.

The S2S Program benefits include protecting groundwater, rivers, and private wells from contamination, supporting public health, and strengthening the region’s environmental resilience.

SacSewer serves 1.6 million people in Sacramento County by collecting and treating wastewater to protect public health and the environment. By replacing aging and failing septic systems with reliable sewer service, SacSewer is safeguarding water quality, improving neighborhoods, and building a cleaner and healthier Sacramento region—one sewer connection at a time.