

Community Forum

Comprehensive Plan Update

Community Input Needed

The City is updating its comprehensive plan. The comprehensive plan, also known as a general future land use map and text presents a vision for future development and is a document designed to guide developers and property owners during development. The plan sets long-range goals and objectives to direct growth over a 30 year period.

Community input is invited and encouraged. Please plan to attend one of the following planning sessions:

July 10, 2012	10:00 A.M. or 6:30 P.M. City Hall
July 12, 2012	6:30 P.M. City Hall
August 7, 2012	10:00 A.M. or 6:30 P.M. City Hall
August 9, 2012	6:30 P.M. City Hall



City Code Enforcement

Rigorous code enforcement will begin in July 2012. Some common code enforcement violations are:

- Weeds higher than 12 inches
- Clutter and debris on property including junk vehicles
- Vehicles, campers and trailers parked on any street, alley or easement in the City for longer than forty-eight (48) hours
- Nuisance animals – roosters and barking dogs; animals running at large

If you are unsure about your property or have questions please call or stop by City Hall 585-3133.

The City code enforcement officer will respond to written complaints. The code enforcement complaint process can be found on the City website www.middleton.id.gov



Weeds

The spring weather brought a lot of rain and unwanted weeds. Property owners are responsible to keep the weeds on their properties cut below 12 inches in height. Weeds are the number one complaint heard from residents at City Hall. We need everyone to do their part to help keep Middleton a beautiful place to live. Please report vacant properties with weed problems to City Hall 585-3133.



No building permit required to build or repair a fence in a residential zone

On June 6, 2012 City Council voted to amend city code to no longer require a building permit to construct or repair a fence in a residential zone. Property owners will need to comply with setback requirements, height restrictions and ensure that fences do not block access to water meters or impair vision for drivers as defined by the "sight or clear vision triangle". A copy of the new city ordinance can be picked up at City Hall. The City recommends that property owners contact Dig Line to identify all underground utilities prior to beginning any building project. Dig line can be reached at 208-342-1585.



Fireworks

Non-aerial common fireworks may be used beginning midnight June 23, and ending midnight July 5. The use of fireworks must also comply with the City noise ordinance Title 8, Chapter 7 which states "sounds caused by fireworks are allowed between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 12:00 A.M. (midnight) June 23 – July 5. To report violations call Canyon County Sheriff's Office at 454-7531

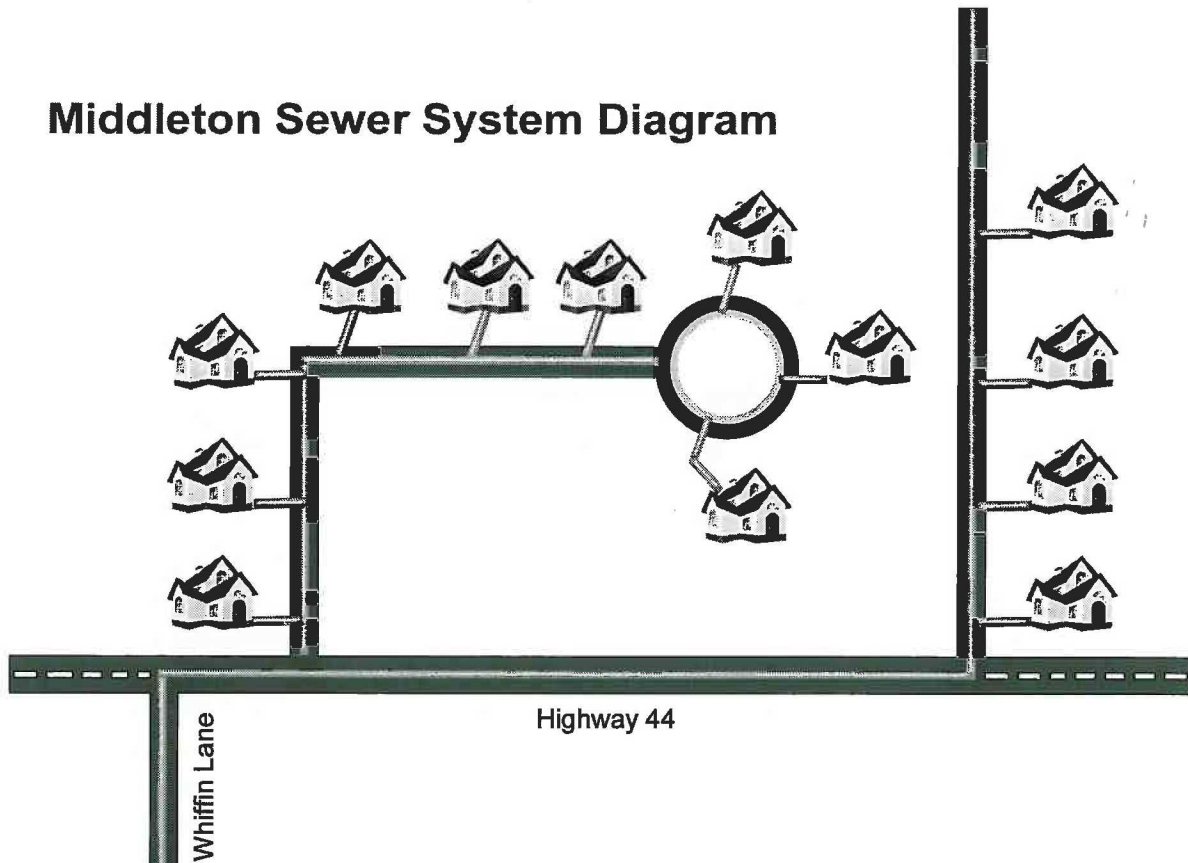
Understanding the sewer “base rate” on the utility bill

According to Idaho code the City is primarily responsible to provide the following services to residents: water, sewer, trash, streets and police enforcement.

In 2006, it was determined that the City’s sewer system would need to be upgraded due to permitting requirements and the growing needs of the community. The existing sewer treatment facility and equipment would be upgraded from a lagoon-based system to a Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) design. This upgrade was projected to cost \$6.8 million dollars: City funds \$2.1M; \$2.75M sewer bond Middleton residents approved in 2009; and \$2.0M grant through United States Department of Agriculture - Rural Development.

The sewer “base rate” each resident pays on their monthly utility bill is comprised of the City cost to maintain and operate the system, and make bond payments. The City adopted a bond rate incremental increase by resolution 277-09 on May 6, 2009. The current base rate for sewer is \$24.85 per month. The table on the next page shows the incremental rate increases since 2009.

Middleton Sewer System Diagram



The photograph of the waste water treatment plant (left) shows the current lagoon-based system which is at or near treatment capacity. The new SBR system will service the existing approximately 2,000 connections plus up to 18,000 more providing a long-term sewer plan for Middleton.

How is my utility bill calculated?

Utility bills report charges for several City services: water, sewer, storm water, garbage, and recycling. Water and sewer have two components, "base rate" and "usage rate per 1000 gallons." The usage rate is based on the amount of water the household or business used during the billing cycle. Each residence or business has a water meter and meters are usually read monthly except during December, January, and February when the weather conditions do not permit manual readings. The Public Works Department is changing out old meters (need to be read manually) to meters that can be read with a wand allowing year round meter reading.

The diagram below helps illustrate how the costs are calculated on the utility bill.



Utility sample calculation below assumes 8000 gallons of water

Water base rate:	\$14.38
Sewer base rate:	\$24.85
Water use at \$1.49 per 1000/gallons:	\$11.92
Sewer use at \$3.20 per 1000/gallons:	\$25.60
Garbage:	\$11.26
Recycling:	\$ 3.14
Storm Water:	\$ 1.45
TOTAL UTILITY BILL	\$92.60

City Council Resolution 294-10 Established Monthly Water Rates - Inside City Limits

Year	Base Rate	Variable Rate
Current	\$ 8.38/mo	\$1.31/1000 gallons
2010	\$10.38/mo	\$1.37/1000 gallons
2011	\$12.38/mo	\$1.43/1000 gallons
2012	\$14.38/mo	\$1.49/1000 gallons
2013	\$16.38/mo	\$1.56/1000 gallons
2014	\$18.38/mo	\$1.63/1000 gallons

City Council Resolution 277-09 Established Monthly Sewer Rates

Year	Base Rate	Variable Rate
Current	\$15.66/mo	\$1.21/1000 gallons
June 20, 2009	\$17.96/mo	\$1.71/1000 gallons
Nov. 20, 2009	\$20.26/mo	\$2.21/1000 gallons
June 20, 2010	\$22.56/mo	\$2.71/1000 gallons
Nov. 20, 2010	\$24.85/mo	\$3.20/1000 gallons

Looking forward to the next 6 months

Here is a quick look at what the City is working on over the next six months:

- Code Enforcement (rigorous enforcement beginning July 2012)
- Comprehensive Plan Update
- Utility rate study update
- Re-fresh the City website
- Records - storage and organization
- Update City Motto
- Budget hearing at City Hall on August 15, 2012



Scouts

The City has several U.S. flags that need to be retired. Please contact Becky Crofts at 208-585-3133 if your troop is interested in helping.



Yard Sales and Signs

While no permits are required for yard sales, no more than two separate yard sales may be held at any one address in a calendar year. In addition, no sale may run for an excess of three consecutive days. Signs used to promote the yard sale must be removed within one day of the sale. Any unauthorized signs in City right-of-way will be removed immediately.



Dunk the Mayor

Mayor Taylor helped raise \$280.00 for the Middleton Food Bank by participating in the dunk tank during the Farm Boy 50th anniversary celebration.

Upcoming Events:

Fourth of July Celebration and Parade Car show at Hawthorne Park Parade starts at 12:00 noon City Hall closed	Jul 4
City Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. City Hall	Jul 5
Community Forum Discuss Comprehensive Plan Update 10:00 a.m. City Hall 6:30 p.m. City Hall	Jul 10
Community Forum Discuss Comprehensive Plan Update 6:30 p.m. City Hall	Jul 12
City Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. City Hall Public input on Impact fees	Jul 18
City Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. City Hall	Aug 1
Community Forum Review Comprehensive Plan Draft Update 10:00 a.m. City Hall 6:30 p.m. City Hall	Aug 7
Community Forum Review Comprehensive Plan Draft Update 6:30 p.m. City Hall	Aug 9
City Council Meeting 6:30 p.m. City Hall Budget Hearing	Aug 15

City of Middleton Expense Report as of May 31, 2012

	Budgeted	Fiscal YTD Expense	Balance (6/12-9/12)
General Fund Expenditure	\$ 908,850.00	\$ 502,368.00	\$ 406,482.00
Street Fund Expenditure	\$ 4,622,268.00	\$ 521,685.00	\$ 4,100,583.00
Park Fund Expenditure	\$ 187,500.00	\$ 69,947.00	\$ 117,553.00
Library Fund Expenditure	\$ 133,346.00	\$ 62,275.00	\$ 71,071.00
Garbage Fund Expenditure	\$ 380,350.00	\$ 271,923.00	\$ 108,427.00
Water Fund Expenditure	\$ 1,281,713.00	\$ 494,683.00	\$ 787,030.00
Sewer Fund Expenditure	\$ 6,005,979.00	\$ 1,484,060.00	\$ 4,521,919.00
Impact Fee Fund Expenditure	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
	\$ 13,520,006.00	\$ 3,406,941.00	\$ 10,113,065.00
	100%	25.2%	74.8%