

ED. LAMM

Grand Junction, Colorado 81501
November 15, 1973

Colorado West Area
Council of Governments
P. O. Box 351
Rifle, Colorado 81650

Re: Master Plan for Sanitation
System - Grand Valley Area,
Mesa County, Colorado

Gentlemen:

In 1970, a master plan study, designed to provide a plan for the construction of sanitation facilities for service within the Grand Valley, was initiated. Funds were raised from private sources and considerable progress was made. However, sufficient funds for completion of the work were not collected and efforts to secure assistance from various governmental agencies were disappointing.

The present very pressing problem of liquid waste removal, together with recent population studies for Western Colorado and the Grand Valley, in particular, indicate that comprehensive plans for handling this problem are essential and the need is immediate. As a result, interest has been rekindled and new efforts are being made to update and complete an expanded Master Plan Report.

As you have been informed, an Ad Hoc Committee has been authorized to act for the Board of Commissioners of Mesa County to implement the exercise of its powers to deal with sewage problems pursuant to C.R.S., C. 36, Art. 29. This Committee, working on the problem of financing this study, has learned that funds for such plans may be available from the Four Corners Commission. Therefore, the Board of County Commissioners of Mesa County is submitting a request for funds totalling \$30,000 for completion of the study. The request is supported by the attached "Proposal for Expanding, Updating and Completion - Master Plan - Grand Valley Sanitation System - Mesa County."

The assistance and support of your organization is requested.

Submitted by:

Mesa County Sanitation System

by Robert W. Jennings
Chairman, AD HOC COMMITTEE

xc: Mesa County Commissioners
Mr. Ted Ford, Budget Officer
Members of the Ad Hoc Committee
Mr. Dwight E. Neill
Mr. Philip Schmuck
Mr. Stewart Huntington
Mr. Duane G. Lankford
Albin Anderson, Esq.
James G. Willson, Jr., Esq.

PROPOSAL FOR
EXPANDING, UPDATING AND COMPLETION
MASTER PLAN - GRAND VALLEY SANITATION SYSTEM - MESA COUNTY

Estimated Cost

Status of Master Plan Report

In 1970 an effort was made to finance the preparation of a Master Plan for the orderly construction of sewage collection and treatment facilities for the suburban areas within the Grand Valley in Mesa County, Colorado, an area including 20,000 to 25,000 people.

It was anticipated that a sum of \$15,000 could be secured from various sources including existing water districts, R.E.A. and others. Half that amount was secured and expended for the study. The studies were completed to the point where a preliminary draft of the report was submitted to the organization committee for review. That study indicated that the costs of all the facilities for the collection and treatment of sewage in the proposed district under a program of construction based upon priority of need, approximated \$18,000,000 using January, 1972, prices.

At this point, the uncertain availability of state and federal funds and failure of the public to appreciate the scope and urgency of the pollution problem, combined to defer further progress on the project and halted work in January, 1972.

In the year and one-half since then, local concern for problems of liquid waste removal has become more urgent and widespread, the development of an oil shale industry appears imminent and other

factors indicate that the community should prepare for the impact of an unusually rapid population increase. Moreover, the federal courts are moving to release substantial federal funds already appropriated by Congress for sewer projects. It is considered absolutely essential that an effective master plan be adopted in anticipation of this growth and the release of those funds. A pollution problem that invited attention in 1970, that resulted in a study concluded in January, 1972, is now moving toward a crisis status even before the shock impact of the burgeoning shale development is fully felt in this area.

The Mesa County Sanitation System (an official arm of Mesa County, Colorado) is now seeking planning monies and state and federal aid for three first-priority projects:

#73-02-23-01/Grand Valley Sewage Treatment Project
 Estimated Cost: \$1,300,000

#73-02-23-02/Central Redlands Sanitation Sewer Project
 Estimated Cost: \$2,533,000

#73-02-23-03/West of Grand Junction and North of Colorado
 River Sanitation Sewer Project
 Estimated Cost: \$3,445,000

Estimated Added Cost

Funds required to continue the planning project including estimated costs involved in amending and completing the existing master plan report, extending and widening its scope, are as follows:

Estimated Cost of Updating Studies on
 economics, population projections and
 other pertinent statistics \$ 5,000.00

Revising Preliminary Plans to reflect
 recent changes in status and service
 requirements and preparing maps and
 drawings accordingly to try to meet
 state and federal guidelines 15,000.00

Miscellaneous meetings and conferences with planning authorities and other agencies with regard to plans.	\$ 500.00
Printing and Reproduction of Master Plan Report (50 copies)	<u>3,000.00</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATED ENGINEERING SERVICES	<u>\$ 23,500.00</u>
Plus Legal and Miscellaneous Costs	<u>6,500.00</u>
GRAND TOTAL	<u>\$ 30,000.00</u>

The above estimate is based on the assumption that up-to-date land use studies, including projections and anticipated distributions of populations, can be supplied by the planning organizations in the area.

Time Required for Completion

It is estimated that a period of approximately three months will be required to complete the Master Plan Report.

Depending on the rate of expansion and change within the area of study, supplemental reports should be prepared periodically to effectively reflect any modifications which may be dictated by unforeseeable events and conditions which may occur. Also, the funds requested will help qualify Mesa County Sanitation System in its applications for state and federal aid.