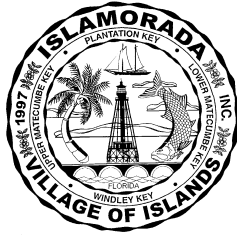


*For Immediate Release
Islamorada, Village of Islands
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*Contact:
Anita Muxo
305-664-6426
anita.muxo@islamorada.fl.us*

RELEASE

ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS SEWER CONNECTION SUBSIDY PROGRAM

A Sewer Connection Subsidy Program is available to assist Islamorada residents in owner-occupied, deed-restricted affordable housing with the costs of connecting to the Village's wastewater collection system. Through this program, qualified residents may receive up to \$3,000 in assistance to offset the expenses of sewer lateral connections, abandonment and decommissioning of existing septic systems and the associated construction costs.

To be eligible for the sewer connection subsidy assistance, individuals must be the owners and full-time occupants of deed-restricted affordable housing within the Village with at least five years remaining on the affordable housing deed restriction who have received a notice of mandatory connection to the Village wastewater collection system but have not yet connected to the system.

The Sewer Connection Subsidy Program is being administered by the Islamorada Planning Department. A complete application must be submitted to the Planning Department prior to the performance of any sewer connections services. The Program covers 90% of the actual cost up to \$3,000 for the sewer connection by way of a direct payment to the licensed contractor after the sewer connection work has been completed and final inspections are approved.

The Program utilizes the Village established Affordable Housing Fund, a fund that is utilized only for the purposes of planning, subsidizing or developing affordable housing within Islamorada. The Sewer Connection Subsidy Program is separate from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program funding that will become available later this summer for eligible low and moderate income residents. The CDBG funding will not be restricted to deed-restricted affordable homes. Information regarding the CDBG program should be available by August 1st.

For additional information or to request an application for the Sewer Connection Subsidy Program, please contact Planning Administrative Assistant Anita Muxo by email to anita.muxo@islamorada.fl.us or by telephone to 305-664-6426.

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