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State grant aids county sewer project

by KATIE DUNN • Staff Writer

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WISE — County supervisors on Sept. 12 agreed to appropriate a \$1 million grant awarded through the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development's Community Development Block Grant program for a sewer line extension project in the Stephens section.

Thompson & Litton Vice President of Engineering Darrell Stapleton said the project will involve installing 12,000 feet of 8-inch gravity sewer and about 6,000 feet of 4-inch service laterals.

“The project is an extension of the Guest River/Stephens (sewer) project which was constructed about three years ago,” he explained. “This extension will bring collector sewers to 67 households which are unable to connect to the original project.”

Most of the affected homes rely on septic systems, many of which are failing to operate properly, said Stapleton.

The county Public Service Authority will also provide \$40,600 for the project, and Rural Development has approved an \$833,000 loan. The project is likely to be bid in November or December, and Stapleton said construction should begin in March. If this timeline holds, the entire project should be completed by September 2014.

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