

TABLE VII.—*Capital needs for urban drainage improvements, 1966-75 in the United States, by population groups*

Population group (thousands)	Existing facilities		Capital needs	
	Amount (millions)	Percent of total	Amount (millions)	Percent of total
500 or more.....	\$5,900	27	\$7,550	30
100 to 500.....	4,500	20	5,010	20
50 to 100.....	1,400	7	2,370	9
10 to 50.....	4,500	20	7,450	30
2.5 to 10.....	2,700	12	1,320	5
Less than 2.5 ¹	1,300	6	650	3
Other urban places ¹	1,700	8	650	3
Total.....	22,000	100	25,000	100

SUMMARY INTO BROADER POPULATION GROUPS

Above 50.....	11,800	54	14,930	60
2.5 to 50.....	7,200	33	8,770	35
Below 2.5 ¹	3,000	13	1,300	5

¹ Estimates for population groups under 10,000 are rough approximations.

Source: Estimates made by the American Public Works Association, based upon data from 527 responses to a 1965 APWA questionnaire survey.

2. SOURCES OF FUNDS

Statistics regarding the financing of storm sewer systems in previous years are not available in publications. It is therefore difficult to estimate the proportions of the total needs to be supplied by various possible financing sources. Data received, through a 1966 APWA storm sewer survey, indicates that the major sources of financing public storm sewer capital improvements in urban areas would include: (1) general tax resources, (2) tax-exempt municipal bonds, (3) grants from the Federal and State Governments, and (4) borrowing from the Federal Government. These are listed in a descending order of apparent dollar magnitude. Sewers constructed by land developers would normally be financed by private financial institutions.

The majority of respondents to the APWA questionnaire stated that capital needs would exceed the amounts available from all presently known sources of funds. The survey indicated that, of the \$16 billion required by local public agencies during the decade (1966-75) for financing the construction of storm sewers, it appears that approximately 60 percent can be obtained from sources presently available to local government. The information was supplied by local governments representing 15.6 million persons. Therefore, 40 percent of the total need (approximately \$6.5 billion) must be obtained from other sources or through adjustments of present methods of producing revenue. Some increases of the usual allocations of funds to capital expenditure programs may be feasible within certain units of government.

In response to a question inquiring how the cities propose to bridge this gap, the respondents replied with the following answers:

(a) Increase the general property tax rate. (This increase may conceivably be applied to all property within the jurisdiction, or only to property benefited by the sewer construction program.)