

**THE UNIFIED GOVERNMENT OF ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY
COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM**

SUBJECT: Middle Oconee East Trunk Improvements Project - Phase I: Approval of Preliminary Construction Plans

DATE: April 25, 2023

BUDGET INFORMATION: N/A

REVENUES:

EXPENSES:

FUNDING SOURCE: N/A

COMMISSION ACTION REQUESTED ON: June 6, 2023

PURPOSE:

To request Mayor & Commission:

- A. Approve the Preliminary Construction Plans for the Middle Oconee East Trunk Improvements Project - Phase 1; and
- B. Authorize staff to complete the Final Construction Plans, acquire easements and associated permits, & solicit bids for construction.

HISTORY:

1. In March 2010 a catastrophic failure occurred on the Middle Oconee line that required a pump around, a section of pipe to be replaced and a manhole to be repaired.
2. In On June 6, 2017, the M&C approved Armentrout, Matheny & Thurmond, LLC, Hazen and Sawyer, Inc. and Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. to provide on-call engineering services for the PUD.
3. On April 18, 2018, PUD staff identified the Middle Oconee East Trunk (Phase 1) as being in poor condition. This sewer segment was also identified in the Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Study (SSES) as a high priority for capacity.
4. On January 26, 2020, a catastrophic failure occurred on another section of the Middle Oconee line that required a pump around and a section of pipe to be repaired/replaced.
5. On August 4, 2020, the M&C approved the Updated 2020 SDP Infrastructure and Capital Improvements Element.

6. On August 4, 2020, the M&C approved a task order for Armentrout, Matheny, & Thurmond LLC (AMT) to design sewer line improvements for the Middle Oconee East Trunk Project - Phase 1 (MOE) segment of sanitary sewer.
7. On January 7, 2021, PUD issued a Notice to Proceed (NTP) to AMT to design sewer line improvements for the MOE Project – Phase I segment of sanitary sewer.
8. On October 28, 2022, the M&C was provided an update by the Public Utilities Department on the condition of the Middle Oconee East line as it relates to life cycle cost.

FACTS & ISSUES:

1. This project will upgrade and realign 8,700 Linear Feet (LF) of 48” sewer within the Middle Oconee East sewer basin. This is Phase 1 of the project (**Attachment #1**).
 - Phase 2 will replace 10,900 LF of 30” sewer
 - Phase 3 will replace 4,000 LF of 36” sewer
 - Phase 4 will replace 13,700 LF of 48” sewer
2. The existing sewer line extends from the Middle Oconee Water Reclamation Facility to Duncan Springs Ct. This sewer line is in poor condition and has caused multiple maintenance problems over the last several years. The line currently follows along the side of the Middle Oconee River and crosses the tributaries that flow into the Middle Oconee River. The line is exposed in many places due to erosion along the riverbanks and tributaries and is extremely hard to access for maintenance.
3. Staff worked with AMT to evaluate different rehabilitation/replacement options. Replacement of the pipe will be predominantly in the same trench while incorporating new alignments in areas possible to improve access, gain grade and shorten lay length.
4. Individual permanent easements and temporary construction easements are required to accommodate the realigned project construction. The new and existing alignment is also anticipated to encroach into the EPD 25-foot state water buffer, requiring Georgia EPD concurrence.
5. Preliminary Construction Plans for the subject project are available for review in the PUD Administration Office located at 124 E. Hancock Avenue.
6. The estimated construction cost for the replacement project is \$16.3 million.
7. Anticipated Project Schedule:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| M&C Approval of Preliminary Plan | June 2023 |
| Completion of Final Design | October 2023 |
| Permitting Completion | January 2024 |
| Easement Acquisition Completion | January 2024 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Bid Phase | March 2024 |
| M&C Approval of Contract Award | June 2024 |
| Project Start | September 2024 |
| Project Completion | August 2025 |

8. This recommendation supports the following ACCGov Strategic Plan Goal & Strategy:
- Built and Natural Infrastructure Goal, Strategy C: *Provide adequate funding for maintenance of existing and newly constructed infrastructure.*

OPTIONS:

1. Mayor & Commission:
 - A. Approve the Preliminary Construction Plans for the Middle Oconee East Trunk Improvements Project - Phase 1; and
 - B. Authorize staff to complete the Final Construction Plans, acquire easements and associated permits, & solicit bids for construction.
2. Mayor & Commission deny the request.
3. Mayor & Commission defined option.

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDED ACTION: Option 1 A & B

DEPARTMENT: Public Utilities

Prepared by: Hollis Terry IV

Hollis Terry IV

April 25, 2023

Date:

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMENTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION: Option 1 A & B

Manager

May 10, 2023

Date:

ATTACHMENTS:

Att#1 - Plat



The Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County
Department of Public Utilities

124 E Hancock Ave. Athens Ga, 30601

Reference Scale: 1:8,500

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

