

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

SUBJECT: Lake Meeler S/D Sewer Realignment Proj - 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 Lake Meeler Subdivision Sewer Realignment Project; and
- B. Authorize staff to complete the Final Construction Plans, acquire easements and associated permits, & solicit bids for construction.

HISTORY:

1. On April 18, 2018, Public Utilities Department (PUD) staff identified the Top Ten troubled segments in the ACCGov sanitary sewer system. This sewer segment was included on the Top Ten list.
2. On October 2, 2019, PUD issued a Notice to Proceed (NTP) to Armentrout, Matheny, & Thurmond LLC (AMT) to design Sewer Line Improvements for this segment of sanitary sewer.
3. On August 4, 2020, the M&C approved the Updated 2020 SDP Infrastructure and Capital Improvements Element which included Prioritized Sewer Rehabilitation and Replacement.

FACTS & ISSUES:

1. This project is included in the 2020 SDP as Project #3-318, "Prioritized Sewer Rehabilitation and Replacement," (History #3).
2. PUD staff identified the highest priority problem sewer lines in the sanitary sewer system that require a) extraordinary maintenance to maintain flow and service and b) are in poor

condition, thus needing rehabilitation, replacement or realignment. The Top Ten Troubled segments are listed in priority order:

- Memorial Park Sewer Replacement – Under construction
 - Merlin Drive Right of Way - Requesting preliminary approval
 - Branch St Right of Way
 - **Laurel Springs Dr & Lake Meeler Subdivision Sewer Realignment – Requesting preliminary approval**
 - Firewood St & Langford Ct Sewer Rehabilitation
 - Gail Dr & Laurel Dr Sewer Rehabilitation
 - Gatewood Cir & Lake Vista Way Sewer Rehabilitation – Task Order issued for initial design
 - Knottingham Dr Sewer Rehabilitation
 - Oakland Way Sewer Rehabilitation
 - Olympic Dr @ the Loop Sewer Rehabilitation
3. The sanitary sewer system that serves the Lake Meeler Subdivision area is one of these problem sewer areas. The sewer shed is approximately 250 acres and includes Georgia Square Mall, Lake Meeler Subdivision, Laurel Springs Subdivision, part of Huntington Shoals Subdivision, and several commercial parcels along Atlanta Highway. **Attachment #1.**
 4. The existing sewer line that extends from Georgia Square Mall to Huntington Shoals Drive is in poor condition and has caused multiple maintenance problems over the last several years. The line currently follows an unnamed tributary of the Middle Oconee River and crosses the tributary at least three times. The line is exposed in many places due to creek erosion and is extremely hard to access for maintenance.
 5. Staff worked with PUD's on-call design engineer, AMT, to evaluate different rehabilitation options. Replacement of the pipe in the same trench was determined to be a poor option due to the creek erosion that has encroached on the existing alignment. A new sewer main route was designed in order to position the proposed main farther away from the creek's banks so that the line will be better insulated from the effects of creek erosion.
 6. Individual permanent easements and temporary construction easements are required to accommodate the realigned project construction. The new alignment is also anticipated to encroach into the EPD 25-foot state water buffer, requiring Georgia EPD concurrence.
 7. Preliminary Construction Plans for the subject project are available for review in the PUD Administration Office located at 124 E. Hancock Avenue.

8. The estimated construction cost for the replacement project is \$2.2 million. PUD seeks authorization to solicit bids for sewer contractors to construct this sewer project.

9. Anticipated Project Schedule:

M&C Approval of Preliminary Plan	June 2023
Completion of Final Design	Oct 2023
Permitting Completion	2023
Easement Acquisition Completion	Jan 2024
Bid Phase	Feb 2024
Project Start	Sept 2024
Project Completion	July 2025

10. 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 Lake Meeler Subdivision Sewer Realignment Project; 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: 1:8,000

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

