



Richland County Council

SEWER AD HOC COMMITTEE
December 15, 2020 – 3:00 PM
Zoom Meeting
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

Dalhi Myers District 10	Bill Malinowski District 1
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1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. **December 8, 2020 [PAGES 3-8]**
3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**
4. **ITEMS FOR ACTION:**
 - a. **Eastover Plant Upgrades – Southeast Sewer Project Flow Increase [PAGES 9-12]**
 - b. **Sewer Service for Albene Park [PAGES 13-88]**
 - c. **Council Motion: I move to direct the County Administrator to work with staff to develop a modified sewer plan that:**
 - **Corrects the disparity in sewer rates for the new Richland County sewer customers transferred from City of Columbia sewer service in January 2020; and**
 - **Assesses and updates the County’s long-term sewer strategy to ensure the sustained health of the system while also preserving fair, consistent rates for all sewer users.**

This plan should be comprehensive in nature and include a timeline, benchmarks, and a methodology for tracking its success. It should also identify the parties responsible for completing proposed work as well as a robust constituent communication strategy. The plan should move to Council for review and action as soon as possible and no later than Council March 17th meeting (or not more than four (4) weeks from the date of Council’s February 18th meeting). [NEWTON] [UNDER SEPARATE COVER]
5. **ADJOURNMENT**



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Richland County Council
Sewer Ad Hoc Committee
December 8, 2020 –3:00 PM
Zoom Meeting

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Malinowski, Chair, and Dalhi Myers

OTHERS PRESENT: Paul Livingston, Michelle Onley, John Thompson, Leonardo Brown, Jennifer Wladischkin, Tamar Black, Angela Weathersby, Kyle Holsclaw, Ashiya Myers, Ashley Powell, Elizabeth McLean, Jessica Mancine, Stacey Hamm, Bill Davis, and Tariq Hussain

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Malinowski called the meeting to order at approximately 3:00 PM.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** –

a. **June 30, 2020** – Ms. Myers moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to approve the minutes as distributed.

In Favor: Malinowski, Myers

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA** – Ms. Myers moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to adopt the agenda as published.

Mr. Malinowski noted on p. 8 of the minutes there was a deferral of an item to the next committee meeting. He requested staff to explain why this item was not on the current agenda.

Mr. Brown responded he would have to check, but he believes the rate agreement went to Council, and Council voted on the rate agreement, which included information about deferring the rates. We talked about the rates, and rate structure, early on during the pandemic.

Mr. Malinowski requested Mr. Brown to follow-up on this item.

Ms. Myers stated, for clarification, it spoke to a narrow group of ratepayers, but the problem was that everyone was being negatively impacted. Her question had to do with redoing the rate study.

Mr. Brown noted the document Council voted on did include all ratepayers for Richland County Sewer.

Ms. Myers responded it did not speak to whether we needed to redo the rate study, and that is specifically what this was about. The rate study is the question that remains before us, and she would like Mr. Brown to look at it.

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In Favor: Malinowski, Myers

The vote in favor was unanimous.

4. **ITEMS FOR ACTION**

EASTOVER PLANT UPGRADES – SOUTHEAST SEWER PROJECT FLOW INCREASE – Mr. Davis stated we are in a position where there is some maintenance that needs to be done at Eastover Wastewater Treatment Plant in order to bring them up to the full capacity of 750,000 for the flowing going from the transfer area, as well as the Southeast Sewer. This plant will be near capacity at that time. He noted Mr. Wood is currently working on the permit upgrade to 1.2 million, but until that time, we will need the 750,000 gallons in order to bring the new sewer system to Eastover, and deflect it from the City of Columbia and the current discharge points.

Ms. Myers inquired if this was temporary.

Mr. Davis responded, what is happening right now is, the flow from the transfer area is discharging into the City of Columbia's system. About 1,400 customers are discharging into the City system. We have Franklin Park, which is a separate permit and then we have the other smaller systems that are still in operation until we discharge into our new trunk line which we have been calling the backbone. Once the backbone comes online, all of the flow will go to Eastover. Eastover currently only has two customers, the the Town of Eastover and Kemira Chemical plant, which has a few bathrooms that discharge there, so it is a really low flow currently.

Ms. Myers stated, for clarification, Mr. Wood is working on a permit, and until that permit is ready. She did not understand the nexus between what Mr. Davis was saying and the permit Mr. Woods in working on.

Mr. Davis stated, for clarification, we currently have a permit for 750,000 gallons, but we do not need anywhere close to that; we need about 120,000. We have not been using the other side of the treatment plant because it was not needed. We used parts from it to keep the other side running, because that piece of the plant is what we have been using since it started up. The other part of the plant was not needed because they only had 120,000 every day, but now we are going to seeing close to 700,000 gallons with the transfer of these customers into the Eastover plant. The current permit will be fine, but they were going to go ahead and upgrade to the 1.2 million, for future capacity. Once you get to about 90% of your permitting capacity, you should already have a plan underway to upgrade the plant. That is already underway with Mr. Wood and a permit upgrade.

Ms. Myers inquired why this was not a part of the original bond and plan. Since we knew we took the pieces out of it to use on the other side, and we have essentially downgraded the capacity. We could forecast and plan for what the capacity was going to be, pre-bond, so why are we needing more money.

Mr. Davis responded it was probably because maintenance is done annually anyway. When you do maintenance on items that you are using, and you are replacing pumps, fixing pipes and things like that all the time. We have a large maintenance budget that is usually used for that. In this case, they did a thorough analysis because we needed to make sure the plant was at full capacity. In order to do that analysis, they brought the equipment manufacturer to the plant to make sure that all the pieces were functioning properly and were able to upgrade to make the plant fully operational. It has never run at full capacity.

Ms. Myers stated she was making sure that this is not what happens at Broad River because we did not

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check that out pre-bond either. Her inquired, if we knew we were bonding to do the new system, and we knew we were bonding to do maintenance, why did we not check this out to get the maintenance number right before the bond rather, than coming back for more money? Have we done that at the Broad River plant? And, are we going to need more money there too?

Mr. Davis assured Ms. Myers they are doing their homework, and looking at other aspects of the Broad River System, as well. In the past, we have not had a robust Capital Improvements Plan. From this point, We are going to try to make sure we stay ahead of the curve on maintenance.

Ms. Myers stated she agreed with Mr. Davis. She thought when they did this Capital Improvement Bond, and the Sewer Bond, what we were accounting for was this long languished maintenance and adding to the system.

Mr. Malinowski inquired as to what the original contract with Brigman was let for, and the request by procurement.

Mr. Davis responded the original plan was to the installment the backbone, as well as, the interconnectivity of all the systems along the way. Maintenance was the part that is normally done annually, but that did not need to be done because we did not need that part of the plant. Now it needs to be done because we are about to come online. We could have done it one piece at a time, but we are going to do it at one time to make sure we are ready in time for the new project to come onboard.

Mr. Malinowski stated his question was, when this particular contract was let, and a request for proposals was given out, was the proposal based on the full capacity, or the capacity that is being built to right now by the Brigman company.

Mr. Davis responded the capacity was not in question.

Mr. Malinowski stated he understands what was permitted. He wants to know what the contract was allowed for. Was the contract out for doing the work that has been done up-to-date by the Brigman Company? If so, it seems to him, this additional request would be a new contract and a new procurement matter.

Mr. Davis stated they bid it out with three different contractors that are currently working on the project. This is a way of saving a lot of money and time because it is bid out to three contractors that are currently working for us, under the contingency of the money, which is available for the project and such things as this. This is not necessarily a change order, as much as an additional service, where we got prices from three different people.

Mr. Malinowski responded this exactly where he was going. It is not really a change order, as people are being led to believe. It is new work being done. While you say it was bid out among three contractors doing work here, we only have the benefit of the one company in front of us, to see what they were willing to do the work for. There could be \$1,000 difference between this company and one of the others. We do not have that in front of us. Additionally, when the initial procurement contract was advertised, Richland County could have maybe gotten a better deal, if the entire plant was advertised for what we totally wanted. We did not do it that way, so it does not seem fair to the other bidders that now, late into the game, we are saying, by the way we are changing the rules a little bit, and we want you to bid on what is left that we want to do in the future. That does not seem like the way we should be doing business.

Mr. Davis responded it is a change order, by contract, but the services were not an error or an omission, we

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are asking them to do something, and they have prices that are low bid unit prices and hourly rates that they are using for the same contract for Division Two. We have unit prices and hourly rates that were already the low bid, which gives us the better deal, because those prices were fixed.

Mr. Malinowski stated, he understood that. He wants us to get the better deal, but not to the exclusion of fairness for all involved. He would have to go back to the original bids, when the contract was initially awarded, and see how close the other bidders were. Those other bidders may have come in at a lesser price overall than Brigman had they known the full extent of the contract. We do not have the benefit of that now because it was not done that way. He would like to know from Procurement or Legal, if this is a proper way of doing things. It is not really a change order. It is a new contract for new work to be done.

Ms. Mclean stated she took a look at this, and she does not see an issue with it being a change order, even though it is additional services. Most of the contracts are set up so we can add additional services, if we need to. Generally speaking, these items go through Procurement before they come to her, but she did not see an issue.

Mr. Malinowski stated the contract the Brigman Company has for doing work on the Eastover sewer plant was awarded to them because they were the low bidders, at the time. Now, we are coming forward and saying we want to do additional work, which technically would be another contract. Yet, if it was all bid out the first time, the bidders may have come in at a lower overall price, but they did not have that benefit. He does not know if this is the way it should be done Procurement-wise, or not. Also, he does not have the benefit of seeing the difference in prices, and what the bids were.

Ms. Wladischkin responded Mr. Malinowski has a valid point. Nobody knows what would have happened, if this work had originally been included. We cannot really say what the bidders would have bid. From a Procurement standpoint, Brigman was awarded the project. It was her understanding, after discussing with Utilities and Operational Services, and the other parties involved, this work was being recommended to be performed by this particular contractor because they were already out there. This would afford the County some savings versus resoliciting, as a separate bid, and having contractors come in who would have mobilization costs. It is in the County's best interest to achieve better cost savings by using the contractor that is already in place, and doing work in the same area. From the Procurement standpoint, it is not a matter of whether the bid process should have been done or not. It is more a matter of what is in the best interest of the County.

Mr. Malinowski responded, if we use that attitude, does this mean in the future, when bids come in and we accept the low bid, we can just tack something on again to the exclusion of all other bidders.

Ms. Wladischkin responded that would not be something we would typically do, but if it fell into the same exact pattern of this, where there is a contractor there that can perform the work, and the additional work is in the same realm as that work. The best case scenario is for this work to have been included in the original bid. She is not sure why it was not. She does not know if this issue just came up. Maybe with different departments, they did not know what the other department was doing. It is not a standard practice we would like to engage in, but because it happened in this case, she felt like it was in the best interest to move forward with the work.

Mr. Malinowski stated Mr. Davis mentioned a figure of 1.2 million gallons, but in the information they have the highest figure he sees is 750,000 gallons per day. He inquired where the 1.2 million gallons come from.

Mr. Davis responded that is actually the next step. Once you get to 750,000 gallons, less 10%, you should have a plan in place to begin the upgrade. We are very fortunate in the sense that our predecessor, Andy

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Metts, had actually planned for this plant to be larger. There are going to be minor upgrades required to get the 1.2 million. Early on, when the plant was built, it was big enough, but we did not permit it for that because we did not need it. It would add some additional requirements, which we did not need until now. The permitting is not a part of this project. The permitting is a separate contract with Mr. Wood.

Mr. Malinowski stated, for clarification, Mr. Davis said there were three bids for the new work.

Mr. Davis responded they invited three people and the next closest bidder was Stuntz and Williams at \$517,625. The mobilization cost is probably where Brigman was able to save a lot of money, and give us a better price because they are already mobilized at the plant.

Mr. Malinowski stated maybe that second bidder would have been able to give a better price had they been there too. He does not think we are being fair about this. He is all about saving the County money but, not at the expense of fairness to our business community.

Ms. Myers agreed with Mr. Malinowski was saying. She noted, in these economic times, we do not know what any company would have been able to do to get to work. They might have been willing to forego some of those cost in order to keep their people working. She too has problems with the process we used, and she has some questions about why this was additional work, rather than previously scoped work, given that it is not new information

Mr. Malinowski inquired how long it would take to re-advertise for everyone to be able submit a bid.

Ms. Wladischkin responded it would probably take a couple of days to put together a bid package and get it advertised. Typically, they have to be advertised for 30 days, unless the County Administrator reduces that time period. Then it would a day to evaluate the responses and recommend the lowest response bidder. Traditionally, it can take up to 35 days altogether, but we do have a couple of holidays in there.

Mr. Malinowski inquired, if this company that is in there now, is there an anticipated completion date for the current project.

Mr. Davis responded, the current project, as well as this additional service, would be completed by July 1.

Mr. Malinowski inquired, if Council were to decide they wanted to re-advertise this, and see if an additional bidder would maybe come in lower, it is not going to delay the overall project is it?

Mr. Davis responded it would delay the project. When you negotiate with a contractor you already have under contract, you can go out to the site and point to the various issues because they are already familiar with the project. If you re-bid it, you have to put together an entire set of specifications and a drawings/sketches that shows everything that needs to be replaced, which can take 30 – 60 days, at a minimum. Then you have to go through Council to get the bid out, get it awarded, and get them started. We are paying about \$1,500 a day, or approximately \$500,000 per year, to the City of Columbia to treat our sewer.

Ms. Myers inquired how long the work will take once the bidding and the back office work is done.

Mr. Wood responded it would take approximately 90-100 days. Nobody can order equipment yet because nobody has been awarded a contract. The big issue is getting the materials delivered.

Dr. Thompson asked what the total time from ordering of assets to the completion of the project.

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Mr. Davis responded about 90 days. It is all about delivery of big equipment.

Ms. Myers moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer this item until the next meeting, so the committee members can have conversations with the staff offline.

In Favor: Malinowski, Myers

The vote in favor was unanimous.

5. **SEWER SERVICE FOR ALBENE PARK** – No Action was taken.
6. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:30 PM.

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Agenda Briefing

Prepared by:	Bill Davis	Title:	Director
Department:	Utilities	Division:	Utilities
Date Prepared:	November 20, 2020	Meeting Date:	December 08, 2020
Legal Review	Elizabeth McLean via email	Date:	December 01, 2020
Budget Review	James Hayes via email	Date:	December 02, 2020
Finance Review	Stacey Hamm via email	Date:	December 02, 2020
Approved for consideration:	Assistant County Administrator	John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM	
Committee	Sewer Ad Hoc Committee		
Subject:	Eastover Plant Upgrades – Southeast Sewer Project Flow Increase		

STAFF’S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff recommends that County Council approve the additional services for rehabilitation work at the Eastover Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) listed herein and added to Tom Brigman Contractors, Inc.’s current Division 2 Contract for the Southeast Sewer and Water Expansion Project (Project). The rehabilitation work at the Eastover WWTP will bring the plant to its full rated capacity of 750,000 gallons/day and enable the County to take on the additional sewer flows from the transfer area and other customers along the project route once the project comes online.

Request for Council Reconsideration: Yes

FIDUCIARY:

Are funds allocated in the department’s current fiscal year budget?		Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No
If no, is a budget amendment necessary?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes		No

ADDITIONAL FISCAL/BUDGETARY MATTERS TO CONSIDER:

The Southeast Sewer and Water project has sufficient funds allocated to pay for the change orders and additional services for the project. Current funds will cover the estimated cost not to exceed \$450,000 for the additional services.

COUNTY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE FEEDBACK/POSSIBLE AREA(S) OF LEGAL EXPOSURE:

None.

REGULATORY COMPLIANCE:

Though the current WWTP is permitted for 750,000 gallons per day, only one-half of the WWTP is needed to serve the existing operational demand (see images below from 2012 to 2020). If additional flows are added to the current flows, all of the plant capacity available is necessary for operations. Also, because we will receive flows totaling 90% or more of the rated capacity, the County will need to continue its current plan for submitting a preliminary engineering report for the design and permitting of an upgrade at the WWTP over the next few years.

Eastover WWTP Circa 2012



Eastover WWTP Circa 2020



MOTION OF ORIGIN:

There is no associated Council motion of origin.

Council Member	
Meeting	
Date	

STRATEGIC & GENERATIVE DISCUSSION:

The Eastover WWTP repair and maintenance work is mandatory for the plant to operate at full capacity and to be able to receive the flows from the Southeast Sewer and Water Project. The current plant has a rated capacity of 750,000 gallons/day, but it is only able to run at 375,000 gallons/day with reliable capacity since only half of the plant is in operation. When the project is completed, the plant is expected to receive about 700,000 gallons/day as opposed to an average of only 120,000 gallons/day from the Town of Eastover and Kemira. Due to the low flows received at the plant historically, there has not been any need for the plant to operate at its full design capacity. However, with the large volume of flow that will be delivered from the project, we will need to be at full capacity to take on the additional flows. Performing these repairs will put us on schedule for a plant to be at full capacity before the project is completed in July 2021.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

The Eastover WWTP rehabilitation is listed on the attached Brigman quote. Quotes were requested from the contractors currently working on the project and were received and evaluated by the project consultant, Joel Woods & Associates. The recommendation was to award the work to Brigman who has plant repair experience as well as provided the lowest total quoted price of \$437,374.05. We are requesting approval of a “not to exceed” amount of \$450,000 which gives us a contingency to cover unforeseen items of about 2.5%.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Brigman Quote

Attachment 1 – Brigman Quote

Date of Quote: 11/12/2020 3:02:00 PM

Job Name: Eastover Wastewater Plant Rehabilitation

Project: Southeast Water and Sewer Expansion Project - Division 2

Contractor: Tom Brigman Contractors, Inc.

Item No.	Item Description	Item Cost
1	Contractor Mobilization	\$ 7,187.50
2	Weir Plates	\$ 7,150.00
3	Electrical Connections	\$ 23,000.59
4	Mixer Guide Rail in Basin #1	\$ 15,370.00
5	Install (1) New and (3) Existing Mixers	\$ 31,687.50
6	Hoists for Each Mixer	\$ 45,001.14
7	Install Existing Mixers in Basin #2	\$ 11,625.00
8	Not Used	\$ 0.00
9	Floating Decanter, Pump, and Piping	\$ 25,638.64
10	Replace Gate Valves at Contact Chamber with Plug Valves	\$ 76,750.00
11	Replace SBS Discharge Piping	\$ 15,637.50
12	Refrigerated Influent Sampler and Cover	\$ 13,837.50
13	Add Cover Over Existing Effluent Sampler	\$ 6,250.59
14	Magnetic Flow Meter in Precast Vault at Pump Station	\$ 65,763.64
15	Clean Walls in Basin #1	\$ 58,125.00
16	Remove and Dispose of Sludge	\$ 15,286.95
17	Assist Plant Operators with Start-Up	\$ 19,062.50
	Sub-Total	\$ 437,374.05
	Contingency	\$ 12,625.95
	Total	\$ 450,000.00



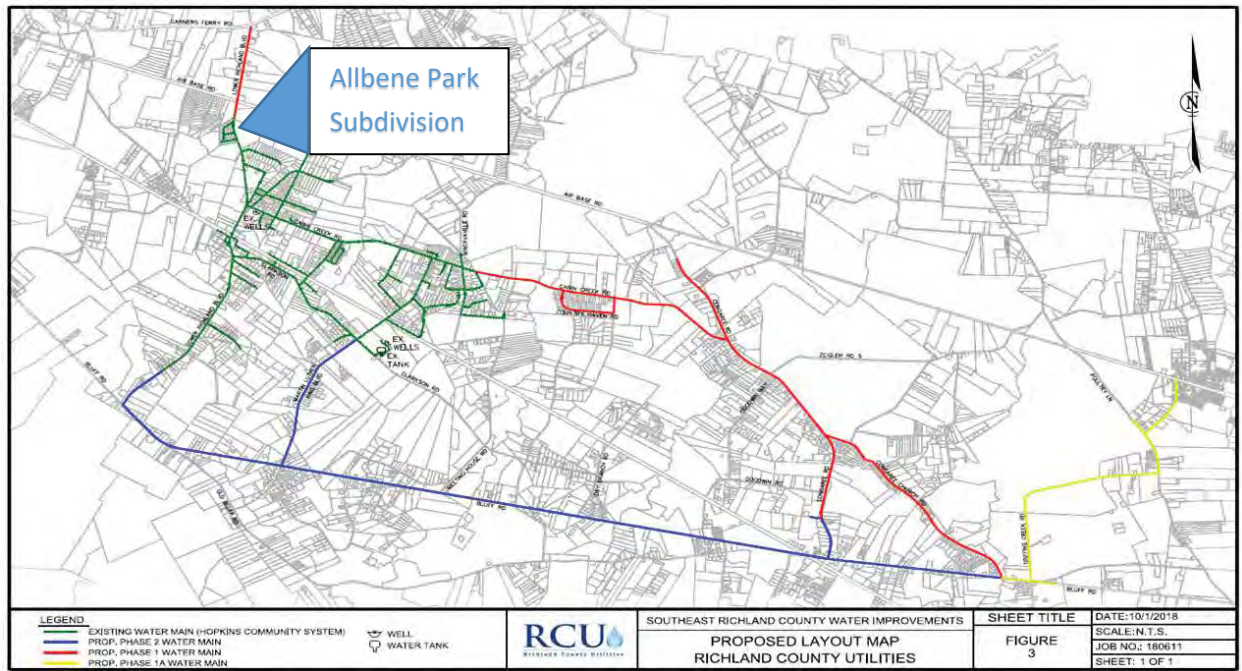
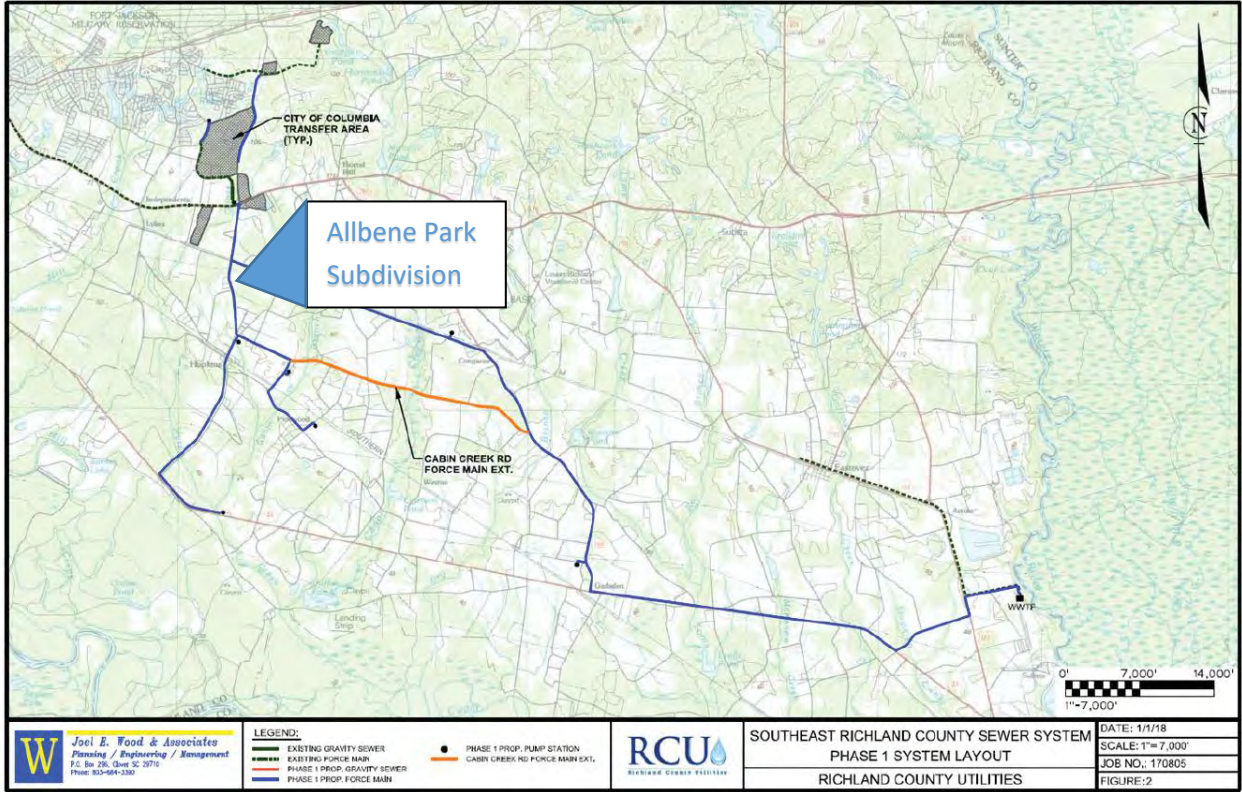
Memorandum

To: Chair of the Committee and the Honorable Member of the Sewer Ad Hoc Committee
Prepared by: Bill Davis, Director
Department: Utilities
Date Prepared: December 5, 2020 **Meeting Date:** December 8, 2020

Legal Review	Brad Farrar	Date:	December 7, 2020
Budget Review	James Hayes	Date:	December 6, 2020
Finance Review	Stacey Hamm	Date:	December 7, 2020
Approved for consideration:	Assistant County Administrator	John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM	
Committee	Sewer Ad-Hoc		
Subject:	Sewer Service for Allbene Park		

Background:

The last change in the design that we could identify was presented to council for The Southeast Sewer and Water Expansion Project (SESWEPE) design plan for Phase 1 was as presented on May 21, 2019, see Attachment 1A – Council BD from 5-21-2019 and Attachment 1B – Council Minutes from 5-21-2019 (see Item 20.e on page 24). The construction of Phase 1 Divisions 1 and 2 of the project (the “backbone” of the system) were approved by council on December 17, 2019, see Attachment 1C – Council BD from 12-17-2019 and Attachment 1D – Council Minutes from 12-17-2019 (see Item 9.c on page 4). Sketches of the original plans for sewer and water are shown below. Phase 1 is currently under construction with a total of four (4) “Divisions” and is scheduled to be completed by July, 2021. Sketches of the original plans for sewer and water are shown below (Allbene Park has been identified on each map with a label). The current water and sewer plans under construction are included in the weekly project report, see Attachment 2 – SESWEPE Weekly Report.



Allbene Park is an existing 42-home residential development located in the Hopkins area of Richland County, see image below for location and lot layout from the Richland County GIS. Currently, all 42 homes are on septic tanks. The SESWEP included water service for Allbene Park in Phase 1, however the closest sewer line in Phase 1 is a forcemain located on Lower Richland Boulevard. Allbene Park sewer service was not included as part of the approved Phase 1 Project Divisions.



Allbene Park and other areas desiring sewer service or where developers are inquiring about service are being considered for sewer service as staff defines the boundaries for the Phase 2 Project area. A Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for Phase 2, along with subsequent design Project “Divisions”, will be developed as part of our Capital Improvement Plan for 2021 in conjunction with recommendations in the PER.

The Sewer Ad-Hoc committee has requested more information regarding sewer service to Allbene Park as part of Phase 1 of the SESWEP. It is our understanding that Mr. Joel Wood and Councilwoman Myers attended multiple public meetings with residents in the Allbene Park subdivision. It was brought to staff’s attention by Councilwoman Myers that Mr. Wood promised sewer service to the residents of Allbene Park, see Attachment 3 – Email with replies from Councilwoman Myers and Councilman Malinowski.

Staff located a BD that was requested by Councilwoman Myers for Allbene Park and other areas in consideration for sewer service, see Attachment 4 – BD Allbene Park Bluff Road Community and St Johns Church 06-16-20. This BD was sent to Councilwoman Myers by staff and subsequently put on hold, see Attachment 5 – Email from Councilwoman Myers.

In order to connect Allbene Park to the sewer forcemain, a sewer collection system must be designed and constructed that will allow gravity flow to collect sewer and transport it to a pump station that will pump the sewer from the neighborhood and preferably other areas to the forcemain on Lower Richland Boulevard. Pump stations are the highest cost item in the collection system. The capital cost for developing a sewer collection system is greatly reduced by the number of customers that are connected to each pump station. If a decision to move ahead with a separate design to serve only Allbene Park is presented, the estimated cost for the design and construction of this system is \$1,482,000.00. This project is not in the budget for the Phase 1 Divisions 1-4. The project will have to be approved by full council and then it will have to be surveyed, designed, easements obtained, permits acquired, and bids received in order to proceed with construction. The time frame for a typical project like this is about 6-12 months for design and 9-12 months for construction (15-24 months total following council approval).

**RICHLAND COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION**

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069
Columbia, SC 29204
803-576-2050



Agenda Briefing

To: Richland County Council
Prepared by: Shahid Khan, Director, Richland County Utilities
Department: Utilities
Date Prepared: May 14, 2019 **Meeting Date:**

Legal Review		Date:	
Budget Review		Date:	
Finance Review		Date:	
Other Review:		Date:	
Approved for Council consideration:	Assistant County Administrator	Sandra Yúdice, Ph.D.	

Committee

Subject: Design of Southeast Water system expansion project (Phase 1)
 Design of Southeast Utility System expansion

Recommended Action:

- a. A change order to the engineering services contract with Joel Wood & Associates for the Southeast sewer expansion project. The change order would require the reallocation of funds (\$270,000) from the sewer expansion project to initiate the procurement process for engineering services for the Southeast water expansion project.
- b. Include the reallocated funds in the FY 2020 budget to replenish funds for the sewer expansion project.
- c. Replace connector along Cabin Creek Road to accommodate citizen input provided to Council in public meetings, and most recently during a Community Meeting attended by Acting County Administrator Thompson, Councilwoman Myers, and Councilwoman Newton. This addition will allow approximately 100 additional homes to connect to the sewer system, reducing overall costs. (See figure 2).

Motion Requested:

“Move that Council approve (1) the design and construction of the Southeast Water the reallocation of \$270,000 from the Southeast sewer expansion project to the Southeast water expansion project; (2) a change order to the contract with Joel Wood & Associates for the Southeast sewer expansion project to allow engineering services for Southeast water expansion project; and (3) to authorize the reallocated funds (\$270,000) to be included back in the Southeast sewer expansion project in FY 2020.

“Move that Council approve that proposed Southeast sewer expansion layout as modified to extend the sewer line along Cabin Creek to connect to the sewer line on Congaree road.”

Fiscal Impact:

At this time, there is no fiscal impact for this project as previously appropriated funds will be reallocated from the sewer project to water project. Funds required are available in the allocation of engineering services for sewer expansion project. Reallocated funds will be replenished in the FY 2020 budget for the sewer expansion project.

Motion of Origin:

<i>Council Member</i>	Dalhi Myers, Vice-Chair, District 10
<i>Meeting</i>	n/a
<i>Date</i>	5/14/2019

Discussion:

The Southeast region has been identified as a community with urgent need for safe water supply. Currently, the majority of citizen in this region depend largely on the use of privately owned wells many of which are in poor conditions and considered a health risk to its users. The unavailability of county owned/managed water facility within this region has limited the capacity to expand water services and provide safe water supply to the citizens within the Lower Richland area. To address this need and following directives by County Council, a feasibility study was conducted and presented to Council’s Development and Services Committee on October 23, 2018. This study identified areas for potential growth, recommended best engineering alternatives and the most cost-effective method to meet the desired goals for water supply in the region. Subsequently, County Council reviewed and approved the Water Feasibility Study on November 13, 2018, which recommended the system expansion for Southeast water as indicated in Fig 1 attached. It was also stated that the such system expansion will provide:

- Opportunity for safe dependable water supply and distribution system for existing customers and future users.
- Availability of a safe and dependable water source that meets SCDHEC standards to the residents.
- Prevents residences from reliance on currently contaminated individual wells for water supply.

Summary of Feasibility Report Southeast:

Richland County Utilities (RCU) owns, operates and maintains water systems in the planning area (i.e. Hopkins and Pond drive). The feasibility study proposed the expansion of the existing Hopkins water system. Figure 1 shows the planning areas and the recommended layout out for proposed water expansion. The proposed plan was presented as a preliminary layout with the potential to evolve to address identified needs and citizen’s inputs.

Pending Issue(s):

On October 2, 2019, the County Council approved the design of an amended layout for the Southeast sewer expansion project and consequently approved funds (\$750,000) to procure engineering services for the approved layout. Following the required procurement process, engineering services for the approved layout was awarded to Joel Woods & Associate. A review of the approved layout for sewer expansion and

the preliminary layout for water expansion shows that a significant portion of the proposed sewer lines will be installed along the same route of the proposed for water expansion. (See Figures 1 & 2). Typically, the design and construction of “similar” utilities (such as sewer and water lines) requires a number of project items that are either interdependent of the same activity (e.g. survey, land clearing, engineering design, permit approval etc.). Since both the sewer and water projects are within the same region, a simultaneous execution of both projects can potentially save time and total projected cost. Also, because both projects are within the same area, communications with citizens within the community is optimized to address both projects at every scheduled meeting. Richland County Utilities recently requested for a proposal from Joel Woods & Associates for engineering services for Southeast water expansion project. The proposal received is attached.

Attachments:

- Joel E. Wood & Associates Change Order Cost Proposal
- October 23, 2018, Presentation to the D&S Committee (excerpt)

Figure 1: Preliminary Layout Water Expansion

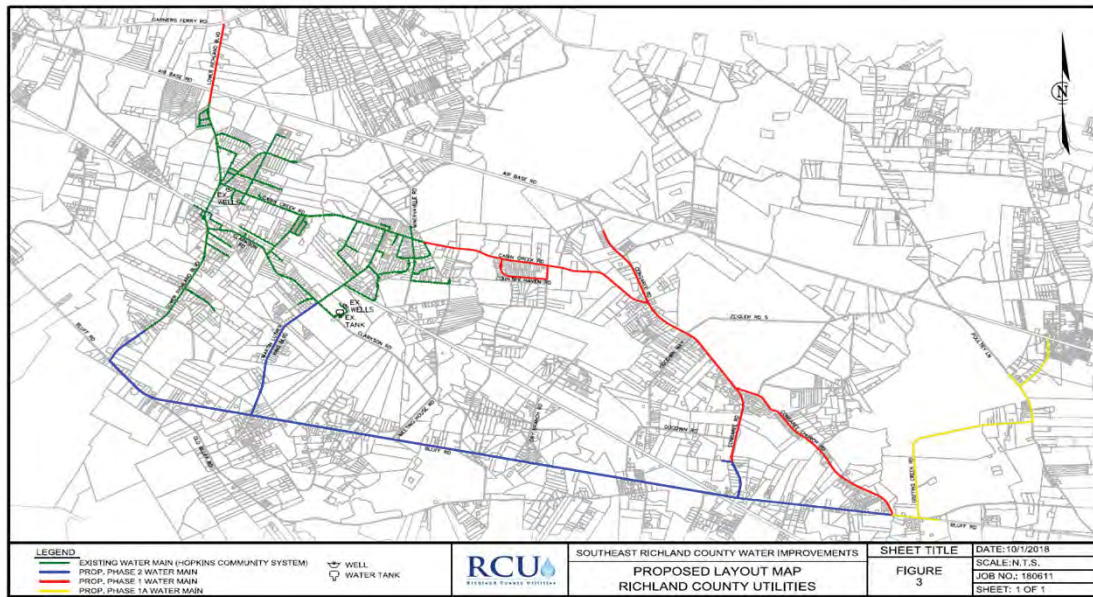
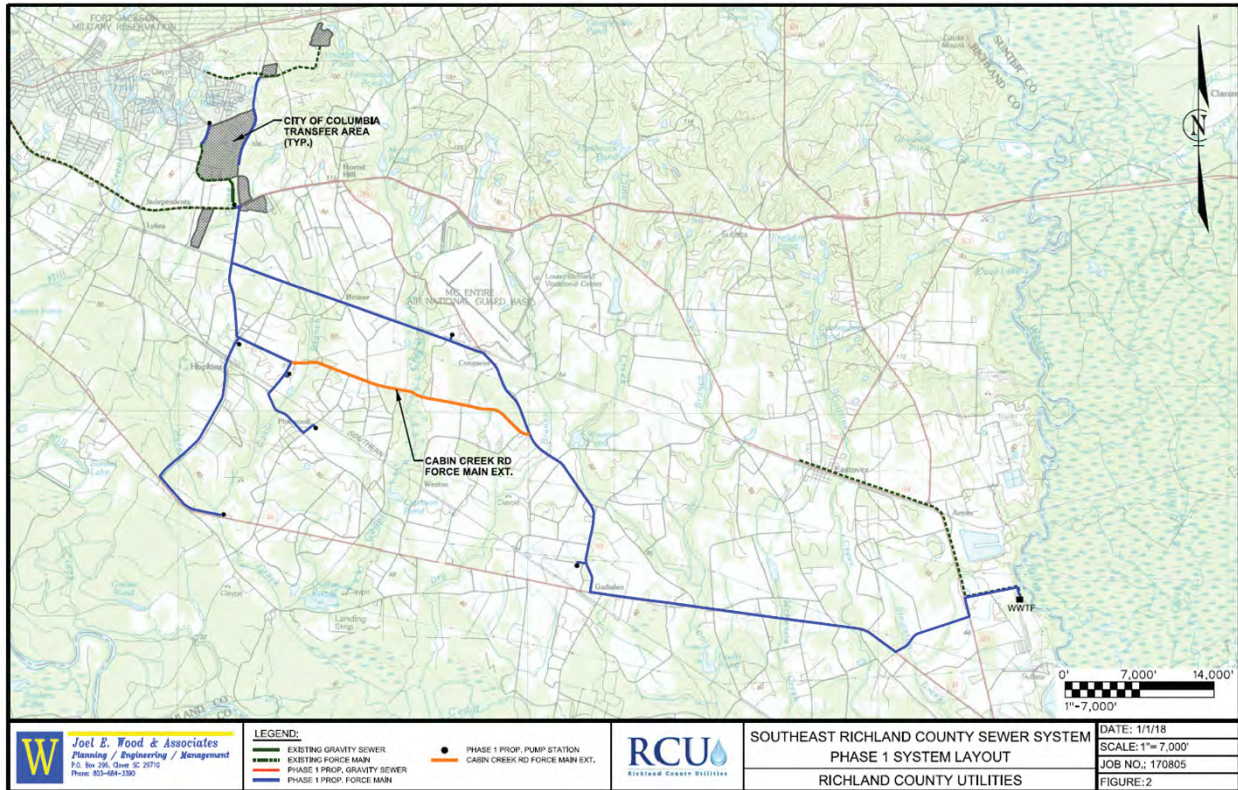




Figure 2: Proposed Layout Sewer Expansion





Main Office

2160 Filbert Highway
York, SC 29745

P.O. Box 296
Clover, SC 29710

Tel.: (803) 684-3390
Fax.: (803) 628-2891

Kings Mountain, NC

104 N. Dilling St.
Kings Mountain, NC
28086

P.O. Box 296
Clover, SC 29710

Tel.: (704) 739-2565
Fax.: (704) 739-2565

May 15, 2019

Mr. Shahid Khan, Director
Richland County Department of Utilities
7525 Broad River Road
Irmo, South Carolina 29063

**REF: SOUTHEAST RICHLAND COUNTY WATER PROJECT
FEE PROPOSAL CO #1**

Dear Mr. Khan:

In the Kick-Off Meeting for the Southeast Richland County Sewer Project on April 30, 2019, Councilwoman Myers expressed a concern that we were not also preparing plans for water lines to serve the area that will be served by the sewer project. As you know, we prepared and presented a "Feasibility Study" for providing water service to Southeast Richland County and we were the design engineers for the original Hopkins Community Water System. We are now working on field surveys and plan preparation for the Southeast Richland County Sewer System. The proposed project location for the water lines as outlined in the "Feasibility Study" is in essentially the same area that we are now working in for the sewer project. I am attaching a map showing the proposed location of the water project that is similar to the route for the Southeast Richland County Sewer Project.

Richland County staff has asked us to provide a cost to prepare plans for Phase 1 of the water system as shown on the attached map. While we are surveying in this area and providing plans for the sewer system, we can prepare the plans for submittal to South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC) for a lump sum fee of \$201,450.00.

Subsequently, staff has requested that we include the waterlines as shown on the attached map as Phase 1A in the revised project that will provide water service to Southeast Richland County. While we are surveying in this area and providing plans for the sewer system, we can include Phase 1A as a part of this project for a lump sum fee of \$55,000.00. This design will be done under the consideration that no new water sources (wells) or storage will be necessary. If the need for either arises during the design phase additional change orders may be required.

This change order will also include the design of a force main along Cabin Creek Road for the Southeast Richland County Sewer Project utilizing information developed on previous projects for Richland County. We can include the proposed force main extension down Cabin Creek Road as a part of this project for a lump sum fee of \$13,550.00. I am attaching a map showing the proposed location of the proposed force main extension in relation to the Southeast Richland County Sewer Project.

In addition, there could possibly be cost savings in construction if the projects are built together and the lines can be installed simultaneously. Sediment and erosion control features could be greatly reduced, the limits of disturbance would be reduced, seeding and mulching reduced and other similar items. We would be able to inspect the water and sewer projects for the same fee as in our original proposal for the sewer project and there would be no increase in construction period fees from those in our original proposal.

We have taken into consideration the variations in the routes and have included this in our cost. Richland County would be required to pay all review fees and arrange for project financing. We will provide any needed information to your financing agency for the project. Time is of the essence and we need to have an answer prior to the 30% project submittal date of June 7, 2019 for the sewer project if we are going to include the water project along with the sewer project and stay on schedule. Also, this will no longer be just a sewer project but a utility project providing both water and sewer service to the community.

As a summary see below for the lump sum fee of design for each additional item that will be added to the project scope as part of Change Order #1.

Item 1 - Southeast Richland County Water Phase 1 :	\$201,450.00
Item 2 - Southeast Richland County Water Phase 1A :	\$55,000.00
Item 3 - Cabin Creek Rd Force Main Extension :	<u>\$13,550.00</u>
Total Increase for CO #1 :	\$270,000.00

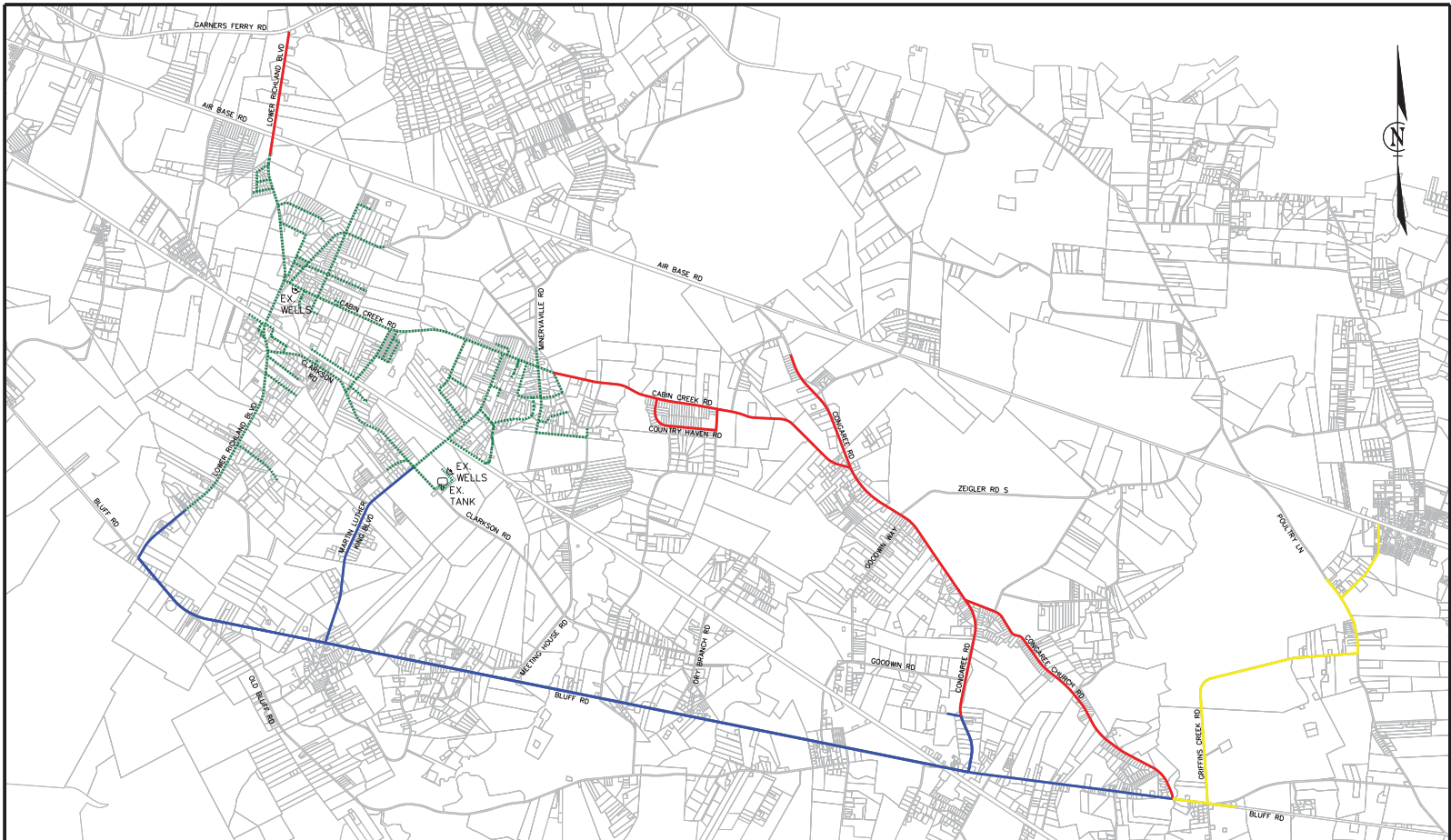
Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me. We are available to meet and discuss the proposed change in project scope at your convenience.

Sincerely,

JOEL E. WOOD & ASSOCIATES, L. L. C.



Joel E. Wood, PE
Managing Partner



LEGEND

- EXISTING WATER MAIN (HOPKINS COMMUNITY SYSTEM)
- PROP. PHASE 1 WATER MAIN
- PROP. PHASE 1A WATER MAIN
- PROP. PHASE 2 WATER MAIN

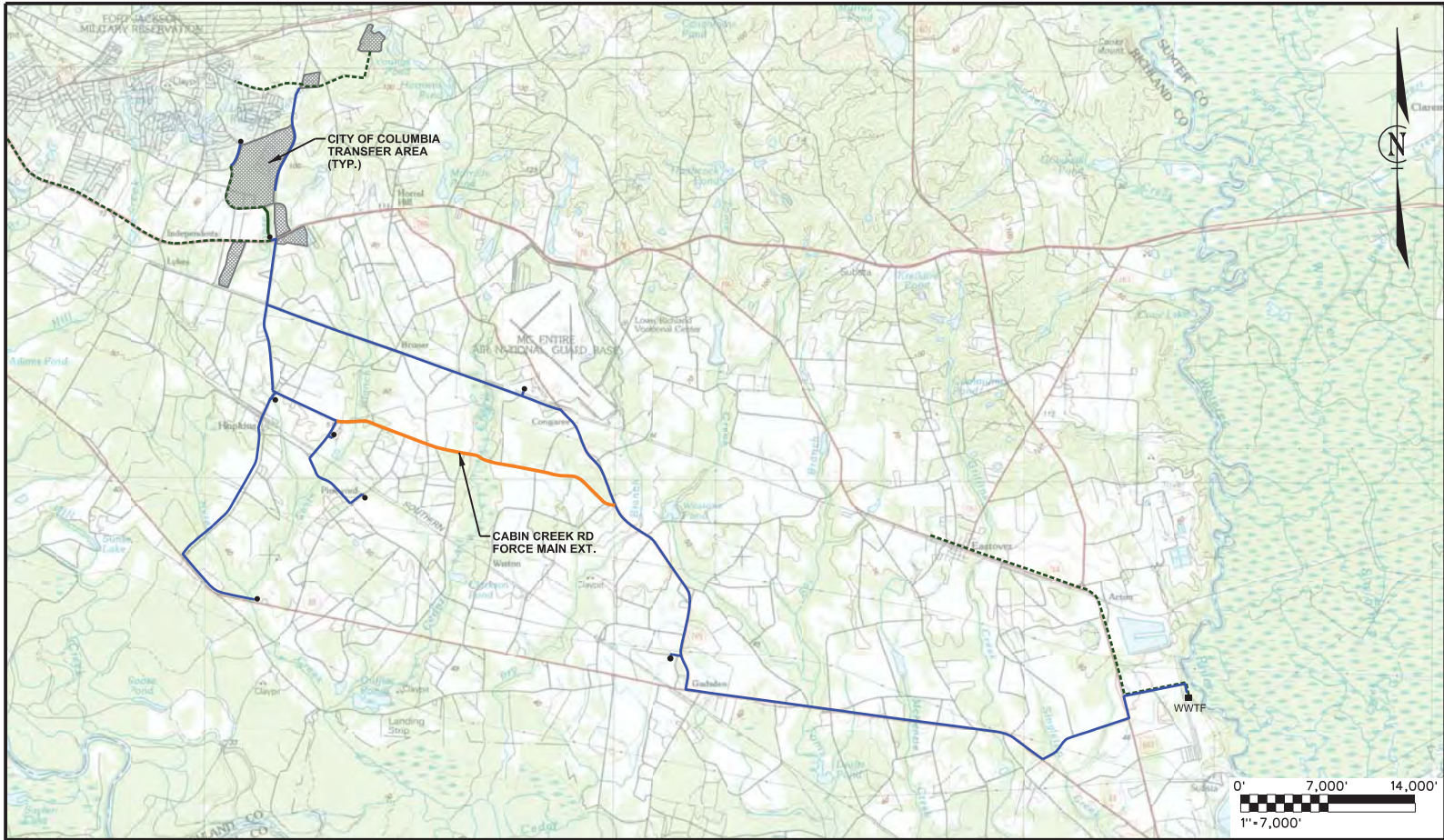
- WELL
- WATER TANK



SOUTHEAST RICHLAND COUNTY WATER IMPROVEMENTS
PROPOSED LAYOUT MAP
 RICHLAND COUNTY UTILITIES

SHEET TITLE
 FIGURE
 3

DATE: 10/1/2018
 SCALE: N.T.S.
 JOB NO.: 180611
 SHEET: 1 OF 1



W Joel E. Wood & Associates
 Planning / Engineering / Management
 P.O. Box 296, Clover, SC 29710
 Phone: 803-684-3390

LEGEND:	
	EXISTING GRAVITY SEWER
	EXISTING FORCE MAIN
	PHASE 1 PROP. GRAVITY SEWER
	PHASE 1 PROP. FORCE MAIN
	PHASE 1 PROP. PUMP STATION
	CABIN CREEK RD FORCE MAIN EXT.

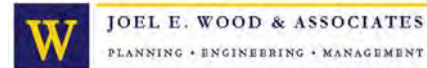
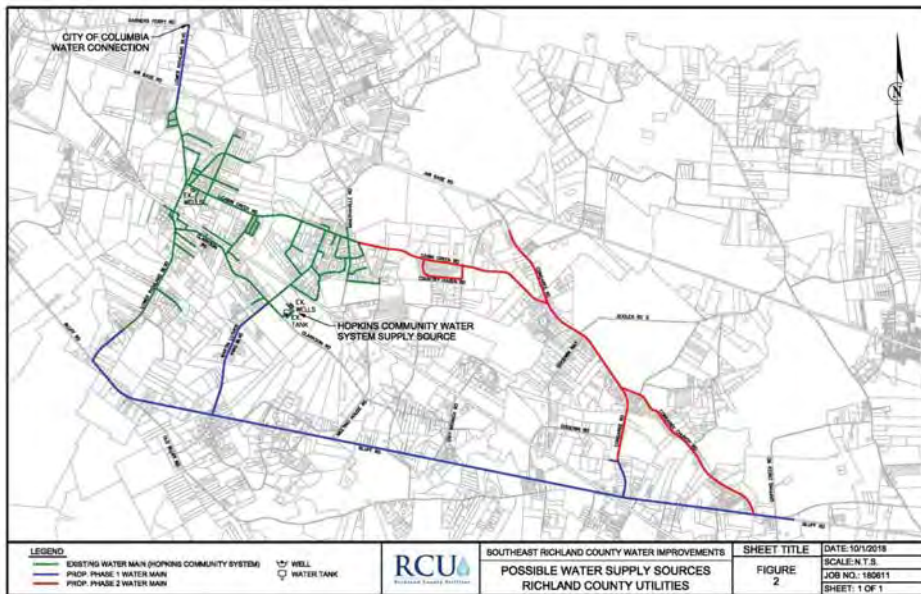
322 of 324

RCU
 Richland County Utilities

SOUTHEAST RICHLAND COUNTY SEWER SYSTEM
 PHASE 1 SYSTEM LAYOUT
 RICHLAND COUNTY UTILITIES

DATE: 1/1/18
SCALE: 1"= 7,000'
JOB NO.: 170805
FIGURE: 2

IV. POTENTIAL PROJECTS & WATER SOURCES



VII. Summary & Recommendations for Southeast Project Area

SUMMARY

System Expansion Will Provide :

- Opportunity to provide safe dependable water supply and distribution system for approximately 505 existing customers and future users.
- Availability of a safe and dependable water source that meets SCDHEC standards to the residents.
- Prevents residences from reliance on currently contaminated individual wells for water supply.

The project as defined by this Report should not have an adverse impact on the environment.



Richland County Council
Regular Session
May 21, 2019 – 6:00 PM
Council Chambers

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Livingston, Chair; Dalhi Myers, Vice-Chair; Joyce Dickerson, Calvin “Chip” Jackson, Bill Malinowski, Jim Manning, Yvonne McBride, Chakisse Newton, Allison Terracio and Joe Walker

OTHERS PRESENT: Michelle Onley, Beverly Harris, John Thompson, Stacey Hamm, Eden Logan, Larry Smith, Jennifer Wladischkin, Trenia Bowers, Ashiya Myers, Sandra Yudice, Shahid Khan, Nathaniel Miller, Michael Niermeier, James Hayes, Ashley Powell, Dwight Hanna, Ismail Ozbek, John Hopkins, Tiffany Harrison, Jeff Ruble, Kimberly Williams-Roberts, Bryant Davis and Cathy Rawls

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Livingston called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 PM.
2. **INVOCATION** – The invocation was led by the Honorable Joe Walker
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the Honorable Joe Walker
4. **PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS**
 - a. **Resolution Honoring the Ridgeview High School Boys’ Basketball Team on their championship** – Mr. Jackson and Mr. Manning presented a resolution to the Ridgeview High School Boys’ Basketball Team.
 - b. **Resolution in conjunction with the National recognition that Richland County recognizes May as Lyme Disease Awareness Month** – Mr. Manning presented a resolution to Ms. Arielle Riposta in honor of Lyme Disease Awareness Month.
 - c. **A Proclamation Honoring the Magnet Schools of America 2019 National Principal of the Year Dr. Sabrina Suber** – Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Manning presented a proclamation to Dr. Suber.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. **Regular Session: May 7, 2019** – Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Kennedy, to approve the minutes as presented.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Regular Session
May 21, 2019

6. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA** – Ms. Kennedy moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to adopt the agenda as published.

Ms. Newton stated the Airport Commission vacancy needed to be added to the agenda under the Report of the Rules and Appointments Committee as Item 19(o).

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to adopt the agenda as amended.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers Kennedy, Walker, Dickerson and Livingston

Present but Not Voting: Manning and McBride

The vote was in favor of adopting the agenda as amended.

7. **PRESENTATION**

- a. Experience Columbia SC – March Madness: Bill Ellen, President & CEO, Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center – Mr. Ellen thanked Council for their support of the “March Madness” event at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center.

- Over 47,000 visitors during the 5-day period
- All 6 games were on live TV
- Duke vs. University of Florida game drew the largest audience of the regional games
- Over 30 Community events were going on
- Produced and distributed 66,619 pieces of marketing materials
- 10 welcome tables throughout the hotels and airport
- Over 70 volunteers that donated 326 hours of their time
- The tournament garnered 600 media mentions of the region, which resulted in \$1.1 million worth of publicity value
- There were 647,493 impressions on social media
- All of the hotels in the region saw a significant increase in occupancy, which resulted in increased Accommodations and Hospitality Taxes.
- Next time Columbia will be eligible to host is 2023, but they have start preparing in August for them to be able to submit the bid by October. The bid will be for years 2023 – 2026.

8. **REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS** – Mr. Smith stated the following items are eligible for Executive Session.

- a. Adoption of Economic Development Policy
- b. Lower Richland Sewer Agreement with the City of Columbia (Purchase Option)
- c. Administrator Search Update

Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Kennedy, to go into Executive Session.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Myers, Kennedy, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Newton and Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

**Regular Session
May 21, 2019**

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Council went into Executive Session at approximately 6:30 PM and came out at approximately 7:06 PM

Ms. Terracio moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to come out of Executive Session.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Myers, Walker, Dickerson and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Newton, Kennedy, Manning and Livingston

The vote in favor as unanimous.

- a. Adoption of Economic Development Policy – Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to adopt the Economic Development Policy, as discussed in Executive Session.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning and Kennedy

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Myers moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to reconsider this item.

In Favor: McBride

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Walker, Dickerson and Livingston

Present but Not Voting: Kennedy and Manning

The motion for reconsideration failed.

9. CITIZENS' INPUT: For Items on the Agenda Not Requiring a Public Hearing – Mr. Willie Farmer spoke about improving the SLBE experience for businesses in the County.

10. CITIZENS' INPUT: Must Pertain to Richland County Matters Not on the Agenda – No one signed up to speak.

11. **REPORT OF THE ACTING COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR**

- a. DHEC/Westinghouse Consent Agreement – Dr. Thompson stated the significant portion of the consent agreement serves to investigate and remediate the contamination at the Westinghouse site, and for Westinghouse to communicate and respond to future releases of pollutants on their premises.

Mr. Jackson stated that last year Ms. Myers, and others, were having discussions with regards to whether or not appropriate level of testing was being done. He is not sure we ever got any follow-up on this matter.

Mr. Khan stated, to the best of his knowledge, DHEC has gone in and done a thorough investigation. They provided the County a copy of the results in the last few weeks. In parallel, Council approved the proceeding to do individual well testing. Approximately 60 – 80 citizens signed up for the

testing and had their wells tested. The results were satisfactory, and there are no issues.

Dr. Thompson stated Council also approved for the County to a hydrology study, but because the consent agreement came forth, we are honoring what the State is doing, at this point.

Ms. Myers stated, for clarification, we have suspended the study.

Mr. Khan stated there was not a hydrology study approved. There was a study approved, which included the well testing. If needed, we would have taken it to the next level and conducted an additional investigation. Bear in mind, all of those actions were taken when we had limited information from DHEC, and we did not have any data. He stated DHEC has done a thorough underground geological investigation, which should serve all objectives we intended for the residents and customers.

Ms. Myers stated it would have been helpful to have had some memo, or something, so that when she met with the citizens on the Westinghouse Community Committee, she would not have told them we were continuing the County's work in parallel.

Mr. Khan stated the decision, by Administration, was to put the study on hold until we got additional information, which we got, including the consent order. Essentially, we are at a point to make a decision whether we want to continue and spend taxpayer dollars to repeat the same volume of work, or rely on a State agency, which we believe has done the job.

- b. Cherry Bekaert – PDT FY2017 Financial Audit – Mr. Alan Robinson stated Cherry Bekaert was engaged to conduct a financial statement audit of the Richland PDT. Ms. Bonne Cox who specializes in construction contractor auditing was tasked with conducting the June 2017 PDT audit.

Ms. Cox stated they have issued their audit of the Richland PDT for the year ending June 2017. The audit results are included in the agenda packet. She stated they were engaged to audit the financial statements of Richland PDT. The engagement came to them in January 2018 under the United States Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, which are for private companies. Included in that are accounting estimates. One of the required communications is to discuss with you what those significant estimates are. In the Richland PDT financial statements, there is an estimate for allowance for doubtful accounts. While there was a delay in the timing of us being able to conduct the audit, at the end of the day they were able to obtain evidence to finish the procedures. When they reviewed and did their procedures, they had conflicting evidence, so what they have issued is a disclaimer of an audit opinion on the financial statements of the Richland PDT due to material uncertainty. They did not have any uncorrected misstatements, which are known differences when we have audit evidence that says one thing and the financial statement says something else. There were some adjustments made to the year-end statements, but those adjustments were reflected in the financial statements. There were no disagreements with management, based on what they were providing. Management signed a representation letter that states they were truthful in their inquiries and did not withhold information that would have been relevant. If they were aware that PDT management was also consulting with other independent accountants, it would be brought to Council's attention. They did have difficulty involving a legal dispute regarding the contractual arrangement with its sole customer, the County. Due to the uncertainty surrounding this ongoing legal matter, they determined it to be both material and pervasive to the financial statements of the PDT. Because of the significance they did not deem it to have sufficient evidence in order to issue an opinion on the financial statements. Another letter that was issued, is in regards to the consideration of internal controls of the financial statements of PDT. They noted 2 matters they

deemed significant deficiencies in internal control. One of those relates to the preparation of the financial statements and year-end adjustments. The auditors did draft the financial statements, which includes some year-end adjustments and disclosures to financial statements. Richland PDT did not do that internally, but the auditors did that. Because they drafted the statements and posted the adjustments, it was a deficiency in the internal controls of PDT. A second matter they noted, related to the internal controls of the financial controls, was the lack of segregation of duties. The joint venture subcontracts with partners, in order to perform work as vendors. They noted that change orders, for those subcontracts, and vendor invoices, were approved by management of the partner of the joint venture. As a result, there is inherent conflict of interest, due to the lack of an outside parties' involvement in the approval process of the change orders between the vendors of PDT and the partners of PDT. It was noted in the opinion letter issued that they were engaged to audit the accompanying financial statements, but as discussed in Note 4 to the statements, the joint venture is involved in ongoing legal matters with its sole customers. Because multiple account balances in the statements of the joint venture are driven by the business conducted with its sole customer, the uncertainty is considered both material and pervasive in nature. Because of the significance of this matter, they have not been able to obtain sufficient evidence to issue an audit opinion on the financial statements.

Mr. Walker inquired, as it pertains to the findings, specifically the significant deficiencies, which jump off the page, in your experience is it normal for a program of this magnitude to not prepare its own financial statements.

Ms. Cox stated it is not that uncommon for people to not prepare statements internally. This is a fairly common finding in small businesses.

Mr. Walker inquired, as it pertains to publicly managed and audited funds...

Ms. Cox stated she has seen both.

Mr. Walker stated, in the findings, a conscious decision on the part of management to conduct internal financial reporting does not comply with GAAP was noted. He referenced p. 44 of the Program Management Agreement, subparagraph (3), "All financial records shall be maintained in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Procedures, consistently applied. Subcontractors shall do the same." He requested Mr. Smith to opine on his interpretation of the auditor's findings versus the PDT contract. Another point in the findings states, "...we noted that all change orders on subcontracts and vendor invoices were approved by management of a Partner of the Joint Venture. As a result, there is an inherent conflict of interest due to the lack of an outside party's involvement in the approval process." In this arrangement, the County would be the outside party that would typically be included in the approval process. Additionally, on p. 24 of the PDT contract, it states, "A Change Order is a written order to the Contractor signed by the County..." He inquired if that was the practice being followed.

Ms. Cox stated there was a lack of segregation of duties between the people approving changes to contracts and people receiving the benefit of those contracts.

Mr. Smith stated the audit concluded the generally accepted accounting procedures was not being followed. The specific portion of the contract, that Mr. Walker referred to, requires that all records be maintained in accordance with generally accepted account procedures. There is a specific provision in the agreement, which requires GAAP to be applied to all the financial records that are maintained. In reference to the provision regarding change orders, there is a requirement those

change orders be approved by the County, or County personnel. He does not know whether or not the change orders got any County approval.

Ms. Cox stated the documentation they saw, on the actual approval of the change order, had the PDT partner and then the vendor of the PDT signing off on the change order. They also saw when the amounts were invoiced to the County, the change orders were listed on the supporting documentation provided to the County. Those amounts were approved by payment by County management, so the County did see the change orders, as listed on the supporting documentation when those were submitted for payment to the County. The execution of the change order was between the Richland PDT member, partnership represented and the vendor of the PDT. There was not County signoff on that.

Ms. Myers stated, for clarification, the auditors had the change orders, and they were approved by the PDT and the partner receiving the benefit, but when it got to the County level was it a number on the invoice or was it a number with the change order attached.

Ms. Cox stated, when she says the change order that was approved by the partner of the PDT, and the vendor of the PDT, that is the subcontracts from the PDT to the actual contractors that were doing the work for the PDT.

Ms. Myers stated, for clarification, the invoices that came to us later, bore the amount of the change order, but not an approved supporting piece of paper.

Ms. Cox stated it was a supporting piece of paper, in that it was a typical construction application for payment.

Mr. Walker stated he found it interesting that this contracted party (PDT) could not, would not or otherwise chose not to provide information that could have been substantive to the audit because of the ongoing litigation. He inquired if they felt like they got everything they needed to complete a full financial audit.

Ms. Cox stated one of the standard audit procedures, they perform, is they inquire of management if there is ongoing litigation. A summary of the litigation is provided to the auditors. Typically, a confirmation letter will be sent to the entity's lawyer to have them represent their opinion on potential liability related to any pending litigation. They were made aware of the pending litigation between the PDT and the County. Management represented to them that their opinion was that they were correct, and they stood behind the amounts they had billed to the County and those were appropriate revenue to the PDT, which was the nature of the litigation between the 2 entities. PDT's attorney gave them the letter that said, "Yes, we agree. We believe that we are in the right, and the amounts that have been billed to the County, under the contract, are appropriate with the contract. The information they received from the County said exactly the opposite. Those conflicting pieces, from outside parties, were why they had to disclaim the opinion because there is no reconciling that when it comes to audit evidence.

Mr. Walker stated he is trying to figure out what to do with moving forward. He inquired if he is misinterpreting this, and is it other than what he has stated it as.

Mr. Smith stated, in terms of the issue of whether or not they were required to utilize GAAP and they did not, he thinks the contract speaks clearly that this is a requirement. On the other issue related to the change orders, he would need to see the documents Ms. Cox is referring to. To the

extent that there was no approval of the change orders, which he believes is what the contract calls for, that could be a potential issue that we would have to look into.

Mr. Walker stated, under Note 3 - Related party transactions, it states, "At June 30, 2017, the Joint Venture has accounts payable due to an entity related through common ownership of one of the Partners in the amount of \$105,673. The Joint Venture pays expenses to this entity for consulting services. During the year ended June 30, 2017, the Company paid \$618,274 and the amount is included in costs of revenues earned in the accompanying statement of income." He inquired, if it was ever discovered, or can you tell me what entity was presumably getting paid twice for consulting. He stated he is not being accusatory, but the PDT was engaged to be a consultant; therefore, a related party charging for the same thing concerns him.

Ms. Cox stated she did not have all of the detailed records with her, so specific names or amounts she would need to follow-up with that information. She stated related party transactions, under financial statement, and in the accounting world, means that if you have any related companies, through common ownership, then it is required disclosure of that. So, when it reads, "The Joint Venture has accounts payable to the Partners in the amount of \$105,673." Those are the actual partners of the PDT. The next paragraph that describes some dollar transactions to an entity related through common ownership of one of the partners, then that is not the actual partners of the PDT, but there is some overlap in ownership with a separate entity.

Ms. Newton stated she has read many audits, but she has never received a disclaimer before. The first thing mentioned is conflicting evidence while the audit was being conducted. For clarification, when they are referring to conflicting evidence, they are referring to the PDT's representation of the merits of our lawsuit vs. the County's representation of the merits of our lawsuit.

Ms. Cox stated that is correct.

Ms. Newton stated during the presentation it was mentioned there were material and pervasive weakness. She stated she is trying to figure out if the information received had material and pervasive weaknesses the auditor wanted to be expounded upon, or if they are saying they did not receive all of the information they would have expected to receive and that missing information is the material and pervasive weakness.

Ms. Cox stated the phrase "material and pervasive" are what they are referring to as the ongoing legal matter. They are saying the ongoing legal matter, with the conflicting audit evidence, is material and pervasive to the financial statements of PDT. Meaning it affects multiple accounts, and it is so material to the statements that they have to issue the disclaimer of opinion. The "material and pervasive" language is what the professional standards guide them to use when we are in the position to determine what type of opinion they are going to issue. If it is determined to be material and pervasive to the financial statements, then they are guided to issue a disclaimer on the opinion.

Ms. Newton inquired, if despite the dispute, they received all of the financial information they would have expected to receive, so that you could evaluate the PDT financially.

Ms. Cox stated there was no financial information, or data, they asked for that they were not provided with. It was the revenue recognition, if you will, that was the difference of opinion. PDT held that they were allowed to bill these amounts; therefore, recorded them as revenue. But, then the County came back and said, "No, this is not revenue. We are not going to pay this." That difference of audit documentation is the problem. It was not that they did not give them the data.

**Regular Session
May 21, 2019**

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Ms. Newton stated we are required to audit the PDT annually, and we also have some auditing requirements based on the Supreme Court ruling. If we conduct an audit, and the audit has a disclaimer, but not specific findings how does that relate to the obligations that we have from an audit perspective.

Mr. Smith stated your ordinance requires that anybody that is receiving these funds must provide the County with an annual audit to show how the funds were being expended. In this instance, he does not know that this occurred. The County, through Cherry Bekaert, engaged them to do an audit, so there was not an independent audit given to us, pursuant to the ordinance, by the PDT. That is an issue, in terms of compliance, with the ordinance that required that.

Mr. Jackson inquired, if every time management is mentioned, throughout the document, they are referring to the PDT, or at any time are they referring to the County.

Ms. Cox stated, in the conduct of their audit, they are referring to the management of the legal entity of Richland PDT.

Mr. Jackson stated, in some instances, they refer to the PDT as the vendor, and other times PDT is referred to as the management.

Ms. Cox stated the legal entity PDT is a joint venture with 3 partners. Each of those entities has a partnership represented that is governed by their operating agreement. Those 3 partners also have contracts with the PDT, so they are vendors and partners of the PDT. When they say management, they mean management of the PDT, but sometimes those are the same people.

Mr. Jackson stated, when they were talking about the change orders, were they talking about the change orders from the County or change orders that were done internally, among the 3 groups.

Ms. Cox stated the change orders PDT executed with its subcontractors.

Mr. Jackson stated the question now is whether or not the PDT were allowed, or not allowed, to do change orders among their entities once they had been given the funds from the County.

Ms. Cox stated that is correct. The change orders they looked out were not between the County and the PDT. It was the change orders between PDT and its subcontractors.

Mr. Jackson inquired, in the auditor's opinion, once the authorized payments have been given to the PDT, if a change order internally, among their group, is the same as a change order they would be making to the County entity.

Ms. Cox stated what they saw was there were change orders with PDT and its subcontractors. Some of those subcontractors were related entities, and some of those subcontractors were not related entities. The process PDT followed, for executing change orders with its subs, was the same whether or not it was with PDT itself, and its members, or with outside members.

Mr. Jackson stated, for clarification, this audit was done in 2017.

Ms. Cox stated it was done for the time period of the 12-month period ending June 30, 2017. The audit began in 2018 and was completed in February 2019. The PDT's internal financial statements are maintained on a calendar year basis, so management had to put together July 1 – December 31,

2016 and then January 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017 documentation.

Mr. Jackson inquired if they reviewed the organizational chart to determine the separation of duties, as defined in the chart presented to the County, and where the County's management and oversight was in place.

Ms. Cox stated she is not sure if it was the same organizational chart that was presented to the County. In the documentation they reviewed, they looked at names, and what that representative was for the PDT, and the name of the company, and what that representative was for that company. That is where they noted overlap. Both in title and, at times, in name.

Mr. Jackson inquired if they looked at that, in terms of those authorized signatures for approval of contracts.

Ms. Cox stated they did look at approval in the same way. They looked at the Project Manager approval, Construction Engineer approval, as well as, the approval from the County side of authorizing those disbursements. They reviewed that based on the position, and the title, corresponding to whatever entity it said it was, to ensure that the appropriate person was signing those documents.

Ms. Dickerson stated one of her concerns is the change orders. She thought if there was a request for a change order that County Council should have approved those changes. She inquired if the change orders took place between the PDT, their legal team, and whoever was paying from the County. Those 3 entities were the ones that approved those change orders, without Council members being engaged or involved in the request for change.

Ms. Cox stated she does not know what the Council was to be involved in on those change orders that were done within the PDT.

Mr. Smith stated, his understanding is, that any change orders would need to be approved by the County. His recollection is that it does not necessarily specify where in the chain that approval process may need to take place. That may be based on the dollar amount, but from what he heard them say, is that these change orders were being approved by the partners themselves of the PDT, without any 3rd party overseeing that approval.

Ms. Cox stated the documentation she saw, when they were doing the audit, was a change order between PDT and PDT's subcontractors, some of which were related to PDT, some of which were not related, in accounting terms. Those were approved by PDT directly. There was no direct sign off on that documentation by anyone from the County. The signoff from the County came when the invoice was submitted to the County for payment. The supporting documentation, which included the change orders on the pay apps was included, and they did see signoff by the County, at that point.

Ms. Myers stated she asked earlier, when the pay request came to the County, was the change order attached, and the response was, "No." It was stated that what was there was an amount. For clarification, the pay app included an amount, but not a change order.

Ms. Cox stated, what she meant by the change orders were included was, every pay app has an original contract amount, change orders to date, and then a revised contract amount. So, when she says the change orders were included, the dollar amounts of the change order were included on the

pay app.

Ms. Myers stated the reason she is being pedantic about this is that it would mean, by the time that came, the change had been made and all that is happening is paying money.

Ms. Cox stated it is correct that the change order had already been executed.

Ms. Dickerson stated monies were being paid, without the Council seeing the request. It was done without our approval, and that is funds that were not a part of the original contract. In her opinion, that is a breach.

Ms. Cox stated that the not to exceeds were not exceeded, so it may be that it was within the thresholds and dollar amounts. She does not know at point, and at what time, it should have reached the County's procurement policy to come before Council. They were not looking at it at the Council level, but the PDT level.

Mr. Malinowski stated, based on the contract, if it states where funds should be placed until they are used for payments. According to the audit report, it says, the dollars were kept in not fully insured accounts. Secondly, it indicated they purchased certificates of deposit. The way he read the report, it stated, if any penalties were incurred because they had to cash them in, prior to the maturation of them, those penalties were handed along as a cost to do business. He is assuming the County is paying the cost. He does not know why they are putting taxpayer money into CDs anyway, and it was not the County's job. Thirdly, why was the PDT allowed to earn interest on taxpayer dollars. He inquired if the interest has been credited to the County, as a payment to them, or did they take it and include it in their profits by putting it in their own accounts. Lastly, this audit is dated February 4, 2019, and he wondered why we are getting it 3 months later.

Dr. Thompson stated he just received the report last week, or the week before. It is his understanding Cherry Bekaert provided the report to Mr. Gomeau, so obviously, as he departed, it did not get to you.

Ms. Myers stated the auditors, essentially, saw a contract that said, for an amount not to exceed \$1,000. Let's assume that, at some point, some work was done and that work was a \$500 amount. Then, there were change orders that would have been approved internally, not externally, that got up to \$1,000. We could have conceivably said there is \$500 left. Mr. Livingston what can you do? Mr. Jackson what can you do? And, then she will sign it, and we will submit the total payment for \$500, plus two \$250 change orders. She inquired if that is the finding that they are saying is concerning in the books reviewed.

Ms. Cox stated that characterized what they saw.

Ms. Myers stated it could be because there was work left, or it could be because there was money left. You make no assertion, as to which one, but it got up to the top number.

Ms. Cox stated she would not say that it got up to the top number. She would say it never went above the not to exceed.

Ms. Myers stated, on p. 24 of the contract, which deals with change orders, it states, "A Change Order is a written order to the Contractor signed by the County, issued after execution of the Contract, authorizing a change in the Services or an adjustment to the Contract Price or the

schedule for a Project. The Contract Price and the schedule for a Project may be changed only by an executed Change Order. A Change Order signed by the Contractor indicates its agreement herewith, including that the adjustment in the Contract Price or the schedule contained in the Change Order is sufficient to compensate the Contractor for all Claims that Contractor may have outstanding at the time the Change Order is signed by the Contractor.” She inquired, on the strength of Section 10, which deals with change orders, would it be correct to say that a change order, not signed by the County, is improper.

Mr. Smith stated, even if we were talking about a situation where it was authorized by the Council, the language here seems to indicate that a change order is only appropriate after it has been signed by someone from the County.

Ms. Myers inquired if we conflict pay apps and change orders sometimes.

Dr. Thompson stated the team he assembled, when he became Director last year, does not conflict the two.

Ms. Myers stated, on p. 23 of the PDT contract, it states, “When any payment is withheld pursuant to this Section, the grounds for such withholding shall be provided to the Contractor. When the grounds for nonpayment are removed, payment shall be made for amounts withheld because of them, within 30 Days after the last ground for nonpayment is removed, provided all other conditions precedent to payment have been satisfied.” Then, on p. 45 of the contract, it states, “If any inspection by County, or its representatives, of Contractor’s records, books, correspondence, instructions, drawings, receipts, vouchers, memoranda and any other data relating to the Contract Documents reveals an overcharge, County may deduct said overcharge from any payments due Contractor, or, if no funds remain due to Contractor, Contractor shall, within seven (7) calendar Days of receipt of such written demand for repayment, tender the amount of such overpayment to County or otherwise resolve the demand for repayment to County’s satisfaction.” Under that section, it seems to her, that the materiality of the dispute is resolved under the contract because it is within the County’s sole discretion. The County has the ultimate right to say whether or not an amount is due and owing, and to set off that amount, or demand payment for that amount.

Mr. Smith stated, in terms of the overpayment issue, and as it relates to the current dispute, he is not certain the dispute is an overpayment issue. He thinks it is a contract interpretation matter. We paid it and said we should not have paid it, but the terms under which we said it should not have been paid, related to the interpretation of the contract vs. their interpretation of the contract, as it relates to a specific exhibit (Exhibit F) and whether it applied or not. That particular exhibit applies under certain circumstances, which had occurred at that point.

Ms. Myers stated, let’s assume the term does not apply, who gets to resolve contractual disputes. In this contract there are 4 places where contract disputes are resolved by the County. Are we not invoking that anymore? If it is here, and the reason they are demanding payment is under the contract, but also under the contract it says, “once decided by the County, these disputes are final.” Why are we at the point where we cannot get an audit because we are going back and forth over whether or not \$1.5 million causes us not to be able to get a clean audit. There is some question in her mind about the magnitude of the dispute in the scheme of things, but also parties’ rights. She stated we have pretty clear rights here, so she does not understand how we get to where we are standing, 2 years behind the audit. She would like the Legal Department to further look into the contract to see if we should be spending taxpayer money defending a suit. It seems to her that we have the right not to. She inquired if this is the only audit Cherry Bekaert had conducted on the PDT

for the County.

Ms. Cox stated the audit for the 12-month period, ending June 30, 2018, is currently in process.

Ms. Myers stated, given that we are almost at the end of the contract period, it would make sense to her, pursuant to Section 5, that within the next 7 days we make a request to have a copy or originals of all books and records, so that we are at least protecting the County's ability going forward to have a record of pay apps.

Mr. Smith stated, in terms of us evaluating the audit, and the findings in the audit, and trying to marry that with the obligations under the contract. They are still in the process of doing that. They just got this information last week. He plans to bring to Council, at some point, my recommendations, as it relates to that, and how it impacts the ongoing litigation. In terms of the records, he forwarded a letter to the PDT's attorney approximately 2 weeks ago pointing out this specific section, as it relates to their obligation to maintain those records for that purpose. In addition, he sent a letter to Administration because they are in the process of determining what County assets will be brought back into the County, as it relates to the transition. In this particular letter, he pointed out this section and noted that one of the things we need to be looking at, is the books and records.

Ms. Myers inquired, in the auditor's experience, is this audit run of the mill or unusual.

Ms. Cox stated there are a couple of things that make it unusual. The audit engagement itself because we were engaged by the County, and not PDT. It is not the typical audit engagement. As far as issuing a disclaimer of opinion, she can think of one other time, in 23 years, that she has issued a disclaimer.

Ms. Newton stated there is a statement in the where it mentions the "inherent conflict of interest due to the lack of an outside party's involvement in the approval process". She stated she interpreted that to mean, if there is a partnership between "Acme Corporation", "Beta Corporation", and "Charlie Corporation" and they together form a business, and then they subcontract with a company that is owned by "Acme Corporation" and the partnership approved change orders that were essentially being provided by the partner subsidiaries.

Ms. Cox stated that is part of what was happening. Also what was happening, if Company "A", "B", and "C" came together for the joint venture, then some of those subcontractors were with Company "A", "B" and "C" directly. Then, one of the partnership representative would approve the change orders with the subcontractors.

Mr. Livingston stated normally management may get a chance to respond or give feedback on the audit. He inquired if an opportunity was afforded the PDT.

Ms. Cox stated they do not issue the audit report without management's approval of the audit report. They also provided drafts of the audit letters, which included the findings. The only response given was to issue the reports.

Mr. Walker inquired as to what led the auditors to use the language "conscious decision".

Ms. Cox stated that language is fairly common in many letters that she issues. Many times when you have relatively small organizations they will chose not to employ someone with sufficient financial

expertise in order to fully comply with GAAP and draft a full set of financial statements with disclosures because they have decided to spend their resources elsewhere. The conscious decision is typical in a cost benefit analysis.

Mr. Walker stated a lot of the questions that are being asked are not necessarily findings that is going to turn up in a financial audit. A lot of the contractual obligations (i.e. change orders, systems, operations and things that are going on within a program) are better explored by way of a compliance audit where you would send an auditor in to look at contractual terms, and understand if those contractual terms are being followed. Are we getting what we are paying for out there in the field? In the auditor's opinion, based on what we are looking at, and as we try to make determinations on how to be the best fiduciary for the taxpayers...He stated he sees issues, and he cannot un-see them. He wants to know how he runs these to ground and determine if this program is sustainable. What he does not want to do is get to the end of this program, and there is no more joint venture, what can we do to appropriately determine if we have a program on our hands that is in the best interest of the taxpayers.

Ms. Cox stated many of the questions that have been brought up are legal and contractual interpretation. She believes, at that particular juncture, a financial statement audit is not going to answer those questions. A compliance audit takes on a lot of different contexts. Generally, a compliance audit, in this particular circumstance, might look like a performance audit, which looks into the performance of the contractor, in conjunction with the terms of the contract.

Ms. Myers requested Ms. Cox elaborate on what a performance audit is.

Ms. Cox stated, when you say the words "compliance audit" you have to define what standards you are complying with. If you are talking about a particular contract, the more specific wording and language for compliance, with a particular contract, under professional standards, would be called a performance audit.

Ms. Myers stated, for clarification, that would have been more appropriate, under these circumstances, to have asked for the performance audit.

Ms. Cox stated you could have requested the performance audit in addition to the financial audit. She stated, it was mentioned, the County has a requirement, in the contract, to maintain books and records in accordance with GAAP. The only way you can get that assurance is with an audit opinion.

Ms. Myers inquired, if a performance audit would quantify the value of the change orders that were approved by, and performed by essentially the same party.

Ms. Cox stated there is another set of audits called agreed upon procedures. The agreed upon procedures engagement, which follow the same standards that the financial statement audit would follow, is where you could go in and specifically define what you want to know. An agreed upon procedure engagement is an assurance engagement that you could lay out exactly what you want to know. A performance audit is going to be for the entire contract, which will involve a lot of legal interpretation.

Ms. Myers inquired if it would subsume agreed upon procedures.

Ms. Cox stated agreed upon procedures would give you the most specific direction as to what you are looking for.

Ms. Myers inquired if the agreed upon procedures audit is what the auditors would recommend.

Ms. Cox stated, based on the questions she heard tonight, an agreed upon procedures audit would give you very specific information.

Ms. Dickerson inquired, if we retained the services of an attorney, to be housed in the County Attorney's office, to assist the County specifically with this.

Mr. Smith stated they hired an attorney to assist us with various things related to the PDT. A lot of it initially had to do with FOIA requests that we were getting. During that process, we determined some things related to the contract itself, which led us into the litigation that we are currently engaged in. At that point and time, we were also being sue by DOR and the attorney came from DOR, so we felt her knowledge would assist us in that regard.

Ms. Dickerson inquired if the Legal Department will be able to get answers to some of Council's questions, and how would the answers be provided to the Council members.

Mr. Smith stated he thinks that some of the questions that were raised have been addressed. As he said earlier, they are still in the process of looking at the audit, the contract, and the current pending matter to determine how we need to proceed. The information will be brought back to Council.

Mr. Jackson inquired about the period of the audit.

Ms. Cox stated the audit was for the period of July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

Mr. Jackson inquired, for clarification, that nothing was included in the audit prior to 2016.

Ms. Cox responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Jackson stated, based upon a decision by Council members that pre-date him and several of his colleagues, that whatever procedures were agreed upon, and whatever contract was agreed upon when this was created, is now left up to new members to figure out what they all agreed upon. The logic behind trying to now recreate, without information in writing, that is not available now would make your job a little difficult without concrete evidence. How do you approach that?

Ms. Cox stated she would not expect a different result than where we are today.

Ms. McBride stated she was struck by one of the auditor's answers regarding nepotism with the partners. She stated that is a procedural issue, and she does not know if that would be wrong or not because it was according to how the contract was written, and the procedures within that contract. She does not want anyone to think that something illegal was done with these contracts, and how the hiring took place. There is so much background information that we do not have, and how this whole process started. Fortunately, we are in a position where the contract will be coming to an end soon, and we can start anew with what we have left to do.

Ms. Myers stated that all of her questions are based on the existing contract. There is a document that guides everything they are supposed to be doing, and how we are supposed to pay them. She believes looking at whether or not the procedures, in the guiding document, were followed is critical.

Ms. Dickerson noted that the contract with the PDT has never been amended since its inception.

Mr. Walker stated he thinks action needs to be taken, as a result of this, and he would like to understand from a timing perspective, when we can expect Mr. Smith's recommendation.

Mr. Smith stated the timeline he envisioned was to allow the auditor to provide their report, and allow Council to ask questions, so that he could get a better idea of Council's concerns. He spoke with the auditors earlier and told them that he would be coming back to them to address the questions raised. They have agreed to have a telephone conference with the interested parties. He wants to make sure that when we look at this we do not lose sight of some other things that are going on that this report may impact.

Ms. McBride stated she believes all Council members want to understand what happened and how to proceed so they will not make the same mistakes.

Mr. Malinowski stated he heard conflicting things from Mr. Smith. Initially, he stated he was hoping to get something done by next Wednesday, but then at the end he requested the time to get it done. The next Council meeting will be June 4th, so he hopes we can get a report by then.

Mr. Smith stated Council will get a report by June 4th.

12. **REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL** – Ms. Roberts reminded Council of the upcoming budget meetings.

a. **Upcoming Budget Meetings:** -- Ms. Roberts reminded Council of the upcoming budget meetings.

1. May 23 – 2nd Reading of Biennium Budget (FY20 and FY21), 6:00 PM, Council Chambers
2. May 30 – Budget Public Hearing (FY20)
3. June 6 – 3rd Reading of Biennium Budget (FY20)

Mr. Malinowski stated, due to circumstances we were advised about previously, the public hearing had to be backed up. Therefore, we had to back up the 3rd Reading of the Biennium Budget for FY20. Normally, when we need to change meetings Council members are asked to provide dates, and we were not on this one. He stated he conveyed to the Chair that he had plans to be out of town at that particular time. He inquired why a date was just chosen, without input from Council members, and if 3rd Reading could be moved to the next week.

Ms. Roberts stated, if she is not mistaken, at the last budget meeting, these dates were discussed and Council agreed on these dates.

Mr. Manning stated that is his memory as well.

Mr. Manning inquired as to when the meeting invite was forwarded to Council.

Ms. Roberts stated she believes the invite was sent on May 10th.

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to reschedule 3rd Reading of Biennium Budget (FY20) to June 10th at 6:00 PM.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Newton, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Jackson, Myers, Kennedy and Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to reconsider this item.

In Favor: Myers,

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Newton, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

- b. Public Works Week BBQ, May 22, 12:00 Noon, Public Works Complex, 400 Powell Road – Ms. Roberts reminded Council of the upcoming Public Works Week BBQ on May 22nd at Noon.
- c. Richland Soil and Water Conservation District’s “Conservation Cookout”, May 22, 6:00 PM, American Legion, 200 Pickens Street – Ms. Roberts reminded Council of the upcoming Richland Soil and Water Conservation District’s cookout on May 22nd at 6:00 PM.
- d. Committee Meetings – May 23 – Ms. Roberts reminded Council that the May committee meetings will be held on May 23rd due to the Memorial Day holiday.
 1. Development and Services Committee – 5:00 PM
 2. Administration and Finance Committee – 6:00 PM
- e. Community Relations Council’s 55th Anniversary Luncheon and Awards, June 12, 12:00 Noon, Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center, 1101 Lincoln Street – Ms. Roberts informed Council of the upcoming Community Relations Council’s Luncheon and Awards on June 12th at Noon.

13. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

- a. COMET Operating/Capital Budget – Mr. Andoh stated, under the SC Code of Laws, Chapter 25 for Regional Transportation Authority Law, the COMET is supposed to get approval of their operating and capital budget before the Board of Directors can adopt the budget. He presented a brief PowerPoint with an overall of the organization and the operating and capital budget.

Ms. Newton inquired, for clarification, that the current route lines have been in place for 127 years, and there is an opportunity to reevaluate the bus system to make sure that we are going the right places and structuring the route service the proper way. What does that process look like, in terms of making that determination, and when, if at all, might it have budget implications?

Mr. Andoh stated the project will be revenue neutral. They are going to engage the stakeholders, member agencies, passengers and people that have never ridden the COMET to give feedback. There will be extensive community workshops, so that people can assist design and reimagine the new system. They are also going to gather data on what people are doing with the transit system.

Mr. Malinowski requested that the Board member listing include the municipality they represent and whether or not they are voting members. He also inquired about the makeup of the \$15 million reflected in the budget.

Mr. Andoh stated it is a summary of the contractor fixed route, the contractor DART, the reserve for service enhancements, and the Federal expense transit operations. It is difficult to break it out

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because of the way the contract is structured. They pay the contractor on a revenue vehicle service hour basis, and they break out how much goes to their administration, drivers, maintenance, and parts.

Mr. Andoh noted that he believes the system is going to be getting to a plateau with our present ridership, based on the current system design. The system is not attracting “choice” riders because it takes 3 hours to get from one point of the service area to another point of the service area, and that is not attractive. In order for us to change that trend, they need to either invest in other technology (i.e. Uber, Lyft, van pool program) or redesign it to make a system for all, and not just those that are transit dependent.

Mr. Jackson inquired, if there is not a new Penny, what will happen?

Mr. Andoh stated the short range transit plan is going to have a special chapter that talks about what the COMET system looks like without a sales tax, which would require significant service reductions. In addition, they plan to go back to the jurisdictions to see if the County and City would be willing to make a limited General Fund commitment. A lot of the systems, especially the systems he has managed in the past, generally go to the member agencies annually.

Mr. Jackson stated he would encourage Mr. Andoh to begin that. He stated he would support the efforts in trying to find an alternative way to subsidize and fund this effort.

Mr. Manning stated, stated for clarification, the Penny has been in existence for 7 years, and you are looking at the portion of that for Mass Transit to run out in 2028.

Mr. Andoh stated that is correct, and with the reserves they should be able to make it to 2029.

Mr. Manning stated, if he recalls, the Penny was going to be for 22 years or until the \$1.1 billion came in. Tracking those years is going to be important because it is easy to talk about having another vote for the Penny, but if this one has not run out that could put us in an interesting position because it would not be extending the Penny. It would be, for some period of time, adding another Penny until the other Penny quit.

Mr. Andoh stated that is why they are starting the education process early and making sure the community sees value in the transit system now. If we do not start now, we could have a situation like when the SCANA money ran out.

Mr. Malinowski stated, he thought, the COMET got the same amount each year, so they were guaranteed that amount for the 22 years.

Dr. Thompson responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if a survey had been done on the percentage of Richland residents that ride the transit system.

Mr. Andoh stated the last time a survey was done was 2009, at the request of County Council. He does not have those numbers, but can provide them to Council. He stated the study they are getting ready to undertake will do that.

Mr. Malinowski requested a copy of the proposed new routes.

Mr. Andoh stated they 9 months to a year away from doing that. His intent would be to have the consultants go to every member agency and seek feedback.

Ms. Dickerson stated this was a City bus. It was very different, and the routes were different. Since the Penny, the routes have had to be redesigned. Now we look at it as a regional transportation system, so the dynamics has changed significantly.

Mr. Andoh stated out of 41 routes, 12.19 routes operate in the unincorporated Richland County, which equates to 29.73% of their service; 22.75 routes operate in the City limits, which equates to 55.48% of their service.

Ms. McBride requested the location for the shelters.

Mr. Andoh stated there are approximately 65 shelters throughout the service area. There are also permitting an additional 40 shelters, and they have an engineer that is aggressively trying to survey all 1,430 bus stops to determine where we can best put bus shelters.

Ms. McBride inquired about the process for selecting shelter locations.

Mr. Andoh responded, public right-of-way access, ridership of at least 50 boardings or more a day, and trip generators (i.e. County Administration, hospitals).

- b. Lower Richland Sewer Agreement with the City of Columbia (Purchase Option) – This item was taken up in Executive Session.
- c. Administrator Search Update – This item was taken up in Executive Session

14. **OPEN/CLOSE PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- a. An Ordinance Authorizing, pursuant to Title 12, Chapter 44, South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, the execution and delivery of a fee agreement between Richland County, South Carolina and Kemira Chemicals, Inc., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware concerning a new project; authorizing and providing with respect to an existing project for the conversion of an arrangement for fee-in-lieu of tax payments between Richland County and Kemira Chemicals, Inc., under Title 4, Chapter 12, South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, to an arrangement under Title 12, Chapter 44, South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended; and matters relating thereto – No one signed up to speak.
- b. Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and incentive agreement by and between Richland County and Eastover Solar LLC, a company previously identified as Project ES, to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes; authorizing certain special source credits; and other related matters – No one signed up to speak.

15. **APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS**

- a. 19-012MA, Roger Winn, HI to GC (5.88 Acres), 8911 Farrow Road, TMS # R17200-03-06 [THIRD READING]

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve all of the items on the agenda, up to

Executive Session.

Mr. Malinowski made a substitute motion, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to follow the agenda.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Newton, Myers, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Opposed: Jackson, Kennedy and Manning

The vote was in favor of the substitute motion.

Mr. Walker moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve the consent item.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

16. **THIRD READING ITEMS**

- a. An Ordinance Authorizing, pursuant to Title 12, Chapter 44, South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, the execution and delivery of a fee agreement between Richland County, South Carolina and Kemira Chemicals, Inc., a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware concerning a new project; authorizing and providing with respect to an existing project for the conversion of an arrangement for fee-in-lieu of tax payments between Richland County and Kemira Chemicals, Inc., under Title 4, Chapter 12, South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended, to an arrangement under Title 12, Chapter 44, South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended; and matters relating thereto – Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to approve this item.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Walker, Dickerson and Livingston

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. Authorizing the execution and delivery of a fee-in-lieu of ad valorem taxes and incentive agreement by and between Richland County and Eastover Solar LLC, a company previously identified as Project ES, to provide for payment of a fee-in-lieu of taxes; authorizing certain special source credits; and other related matters – Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve this item.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Walker, Dickerson and Livingston

Present but Not Voting: Myers, Kennedy and Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

17. **REPORT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- a. **Total Rewards Implementation** – Ms. Dickerson stated the committee forwarded the item to Council without a recommendation.

Mr. Hanna stated the recommendation is to accept the study; endorse the County working toward becoming an Employer of Choice, which includes a Total Rewards focus, authorize the County Administrator and Director of Human Resources to follow-up with employees and departments on the findings in the employee engagement responses; and authorize the Director of Human Resources to work with the consultant on the multi-year plan. As it relates to funding, there are basically 3 points. One, was the 2% pay increase, which Council approved and implemented in January 2019. The 2nd step, as it relates to funding, they propose to approve the new pay grades, and bring employees up to the minimum of those pay grades. That equates to about \$1.4 million, and funding is available in the budget. The next step would be bringing employees up to a more competitive pay structure, based on the study. The cost of that is approximately \$10 million. Mr. Hayes said there would be \$1 million available in 2020 to begin implementation of this phase.

Ms. Newton stated part of the committee’s recommendation was that HR was going to provide an implementation schedule. She inquired if that is something that is going to be developed, or is HR proposing that the \$10 million be approved in FY19.

Mr. Hanna stated, on p. 252 of the agenda, there is Phase I, Phase II, Phase III and Phase IV listed. In August 2019, they would implement the \$1.4 million, with the assistance of the Finance Department. The next phase would be the \$1 million investment in January 2020. The future phases would be subject to funding being approved by the Council in the budget in subsequent fiscal years.

Ms. Newton inquired, for clarification, if the proposal in the timeline that it all be completed by FY2021, or just that we begin disbursing funds to implement the plan in 2021.

Mr. Hanna stated it would be well received by employees if we could implement it in FY2021. Being realistic, he does not think that is going to be the case.

Ms. Myers stated she has been in favor of this since the beginning, but she has also been asking for a more detailed implementation timeline. She would like to know what the timelines and what amounts of money we are planning to inject into it at each of those dates. Secondly, she inquired, if the numbers, in the agenda packet on p. 166, will bring the Public Defender’s Office up to parity with Solicitor’s Office. She stated, if we have lawyers coming into the Solicitor’s Office, and the Public Defender’s Office on equally footing, then they should be paid equal money. We should not be paying more to prosecute people than to defend them. She inquired if the Total Rewards survey has come back and included the Legal Department and the County Attorney.

Mr. Hanna stated the Total Rewards study does include the Legal Department and the County Attorney, but he will have to get back with Ms. Myers regarding the Public Defender’s Office.

Ms. Myers stated, for clarification, once the study is implemented, EMS, Detention Center, and all of the other frontline critical care employees will be up to parity with their counterparts.

Mr. Hanna stated once the study is completely implemented the answer to the question is “yes”.

Ms. Myers stated the reason she has consistently requested a clear implementation schedule was so

Council could decide if they wanted to be more aggressive and phase it in earlier, or if they wanted to move money from other places and get it done. Without the information it is hard for her to advocate to get that, and talk with her colleagues to see if we can do it in a shorter period of time.

Mr. Hanna stated they need approximately \$11.4 million to completely implement the study. In talking with Mr. Hayes, as it relates to the current available budget, we have the \$1.4 million to bring the employees up to the minimum and another \$1 million that would be available in January 2020.

Ms. Myers stated Mr. Hayes gave them a listing last week of a lot of different funds where there was money. If you would be a little bit more aggressive, there might be people on Council that would be willing to get the salaries where they need to be.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer this item to the June 4th Council meeting.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Walker, Dickerson and McBride

Opposed: Livingston

Present but Not Voting: Kennedy and Manning

The vote was in favor.

18. **REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

- a. Authorizing the expansion of the boundaries of the I-77 Corridor Regional Industrial Park jointly developed with Fairfield County to include certain property located in Richland County; the execution and delivery of an infrastructure credit agreement to provide for infrastructure credits to North Main Senior, LLC; and other related matters [FIRST READING] – Mr. Jackson stated the committee recommended approval of this item.

Mr. Malinowski stated he does not recall that we usually approve credit agreements that is being located within a municipality.

Mr. Ruble stated, as you may recall in years past, affordable housing projects were not taxed. The Federal law changed requiring that the entities had to be for profit, in order to take advantage of Federal credits. In doing that, the Federal law put many of these developers in a quandary. If they became for profit to receive these credits, they also became obligated to pay County taxes, which made the deals undoable. They are trying to do a work around at the General Assembly, but they have not got that accomplished. In the meantime, they have come to us and said, "You were not getting these taxes in the past anymore. Would you be willing to do a tax credit, in order to help us achieve our goals?" And the response from the Economic Development Committee, was yes, we think affordable housing is important.

Mr. Malinowski inquired why they get 60 days to pay their administrative fees.

Mr. Ruble stated the question of administrative fees came up in the Economic Development Committee, and the committee asked for, received and reviewed the pro forma.

Ms. Terracio inquired if the project was already under construction.

Mr. Ruble stated he believes the groundbreaking is scheduled soon.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to reconsider this item.

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Walker, Dickerson and Livingston

Present but Not Voting: Kennedy, Manning and McBride

The motion for reconsideration failed.

19. **REPORT OF THE RULES AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE**

I. NOTIFICATION OF VACANCIES

- a. Accommodations Tax – Three (3) Vacancies (2 applicants must have a background in the lodging industry and 1 applicant must have a background in the cultural industry)
- b. Hospitality Tax – Three (3) Vacancies (2 applicants must be from the Restaurant Industry)
- c. Employee Grievance Committee – Six (6) Vacancies (Must be a Richland County employee; 2 seats are alternates)
- d. Board of Assessment Appeals – Three (3) Vacancies
- e. Board of Zoning Appeals – Four (4) Vacancies
- f. Building Codes Board of Appeals – Four (4) Vacancies (1 applicant must be from the Architecture Industry; 1 from the Gas Industry; 1 from the Building Industry; and 1 from the Fire Industry as alternates)
- g. Procurement Review Panel – Two (2) Vacancies (1 applicant must be from the public procurement arena and 1 applicant must be from the consumer industry)
- h. Planning Commission – Four (4) Vacancies
- i. Internal Audit Committee – Two (2) Vacancies (applicant with CPA preferred)
- j. Community Relations Council – Two (2) Vacancies
- k. Library Board – Four (4) Vacancies

- l. Township Auditorium Board – Two (2) Vacancies
- m. Richland Memorial Hospital Board – Two (2) Vacancies
- n. Midlands Workforce Development Board – One (1) Vacancy (Education seat; must represent education sector.
- o. Airport Commission – One (1) Vacancy

Ms. Newton stated the committee recommended to advertise for the vacancies.

In Favor: Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Terracio and Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

20. **OTHER ITEMS**

- a. FY19 – District 4 Hospitality Tax Allocations – Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to approve this item.

Ms. Myers requested Ms. Dickerson amend the motion to include the H-Tax allocation requests for District 11 and District 10, which are on the “Additional Motions List”.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to reconsider this item.

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Walker

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- b. FY19 – District 7 Hospitality Tax Allocations – Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to approve this item.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Walker

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May 21, 2019**

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The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to reconsider this item.

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Walker

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- c. FY19 – District 11 Hospitality Tax Allocations – Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to approve this item.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to reconsider this item.

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Walker

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- d. FY19 – District 10 Hospitality Tax Allocations – Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to approve this item.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Walker

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to reconsider this item.

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Walker

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- e. Design of Southeast Water System Expansion Project (Phase I) – Mr. Khan stated they are

requesting, at this point, is to allow us to utilize the available funding in the Southeast Wastewater Project, and do the Southeast Water Project design and engineering, in conjunction with the wastewater project. Several months back, we had a presentation regarding water accessibility and feasibility to several parts of Richland County. This is one of the areas that was recommended, and blessed during that meeting. If acceptable to you, they could do the design and engineering of 2 projects in the same corridor and save some costs.

Mr. Malinowski inquired as to who came up with this idea originally, staff or Ms. Myers.

Mr. Khan stated it was a project that was identified by staff.

Mr. Malinowski stated under recommended action there is an amount of \$270,000. He inquired if that is the total cost, or will there be a request for additional funds.

Mr. Khan stated for the design and engineer of the project, as shown is the briefing document, that will be the total cost. If there are changes going forward, there will be a need for additional funding.

Ms. Myers stated this is not a pet project that she brought forward. This was the water project that we approved last year, but we did not approve the money to go with it. Because the engineering company is already out in the field doing the engineering for the Southeast wastewater, Mr. Khan suggested rather than sending them back out separately, to let them do both of them at the same time.

Mr. Khan stated we are saving as much as we are spending on this project.

Mr. Livingston inquired if we are appropriating funds from the 2020 budget.

Mr. Khan stated they have an existing contract that has an amount of \$270,000 available, which will not be utilized until Quarter 1 of 2020. In the near future, they will be bringing a CIP in front of you which will include the services for both of those projects. The design for both projects will be done at the same time. For construction engineering services there will be additional amounts needed, which will be presented to you as part of the CIP. If approved, they will go forward with the construction stage. Essentially, they are taking money out and reallocating it temporarily and will replenish it in the 2020 budget.

Ms. Myers stated the urgency of the request is that they are already out in the field doing the engineering now, and if we wait it will be \$400,000.

Mr. Hayes stated, for clarification, funds are currently in the CIP fund. Mr. Khan is saying they are going to reallocate funding that set aside totally for sewer, and use a portion of it for water. Then, when the budget is approved for FY20 to replenish those funds.

Ms. Myers moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to approve staff's recommendation.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to reconsider this item.

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Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The motion for reconsideration failed.

21. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Ms. Myers moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to go into Executive Session.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Myers, Kennedy, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Opposed: Manning

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote was in favor of going into Executive Session.

Council went into Executive Session at approximately 10:00 PM and came out at approximately 10:56 PM

Mr. Walker moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to come out of Executive Session.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Walker, Dickerson and Livingston

Present but Not Voting: McBride

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- a. Lower Richland Sewer Agreement with the City of Columbia (Purchase Option) – Ms. Myers moved, seconded by Ms. Terracio, to direct staff to proceed as discussed in Executive Session, and bring back information for the June 4th Council meeting.

In Favor: Terracio, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Malinowski

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. Administrator Search Update – Ms. McBride moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to begin discussion with the candidate regarding the negotiations for the contract.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

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22. **MOTION PERIOD**

- a. Resolution Honoring John Bryant Lint for earning the rank of Eagle Scout on April 2, 2019
[MALINOWSKI] – Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to adopt the resolution for John Bryant Lint.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Newton, Myers, Kennedy, Manning, Walker, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Jackson

The vote in favor was unanimous.

23. **ADJOURN** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:58 PM.

**RICHLAND COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION**2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069
Columbia, SC 29204
803-576-2050**Agenda Briefing****To:** Committee Chair Joyce Dickerson and Members of the Committee**Prepared by:** Jennifer Wladischkin, Procurement Manager**Department:** Finance - Procurement Division**Date Prepared:** November 22, 2019**Meeting Date:** December 17, 2019

Legal Review	Elizabeth McLean via email	Date:	November 27, 2019
Budget Review	James Hayes via email	Date:	December 04, 019
Finance Review	Stacey Hamm via email	Date:	December 04, 2019
Approved for Council consideration:	Assistant County Administrator	Ashley M. Powell, Assoc. AIA, AICP	

Committee Administration & Finance**Subject:** SE Sewer and Water Project award of Division 1 & 2**Recommended Action:**

Staff recommends that the County Council approves the awarding of construction of Division I and II of the SE Sewer and Water Project to Tom Brigman Contractors, contingent on the appropriation of bond funds.

Motion Requested:

Move to approve staff's recommendations as noted above.

Request for Council Reconsideration: Yes

Fiscal Impact:

The funding will be provided through Utilities System Revenue Bonds not to exceed \$35,000,000. The County Council approved Third Reading of the bond ordinance at its December 3, 2019 meeting.

Motion of Origin:

There is no associated Council motion of origin.

Council Member	
Meeting	
Date	

Discussion:

The project is necessary to provide access to public sewer service to existing residences, small businesses, government offices and churches in the southeast area of Richland County which do not currently have access to a public sewer system. Additionally, the project will provide access to public sewer service of up to five (5) existing private wastewater treatment facilities to connect to the system and eliminate their current discharges. Consequently, it will also re-direct existing wastewater flow from the residents, schools, and businesses in the vicinity of Garners Ferry Road (US Highway 378) to the County system per Intergovernmental Agreement signed on September 23, 2019 instead of flowing to the City of Columbia.

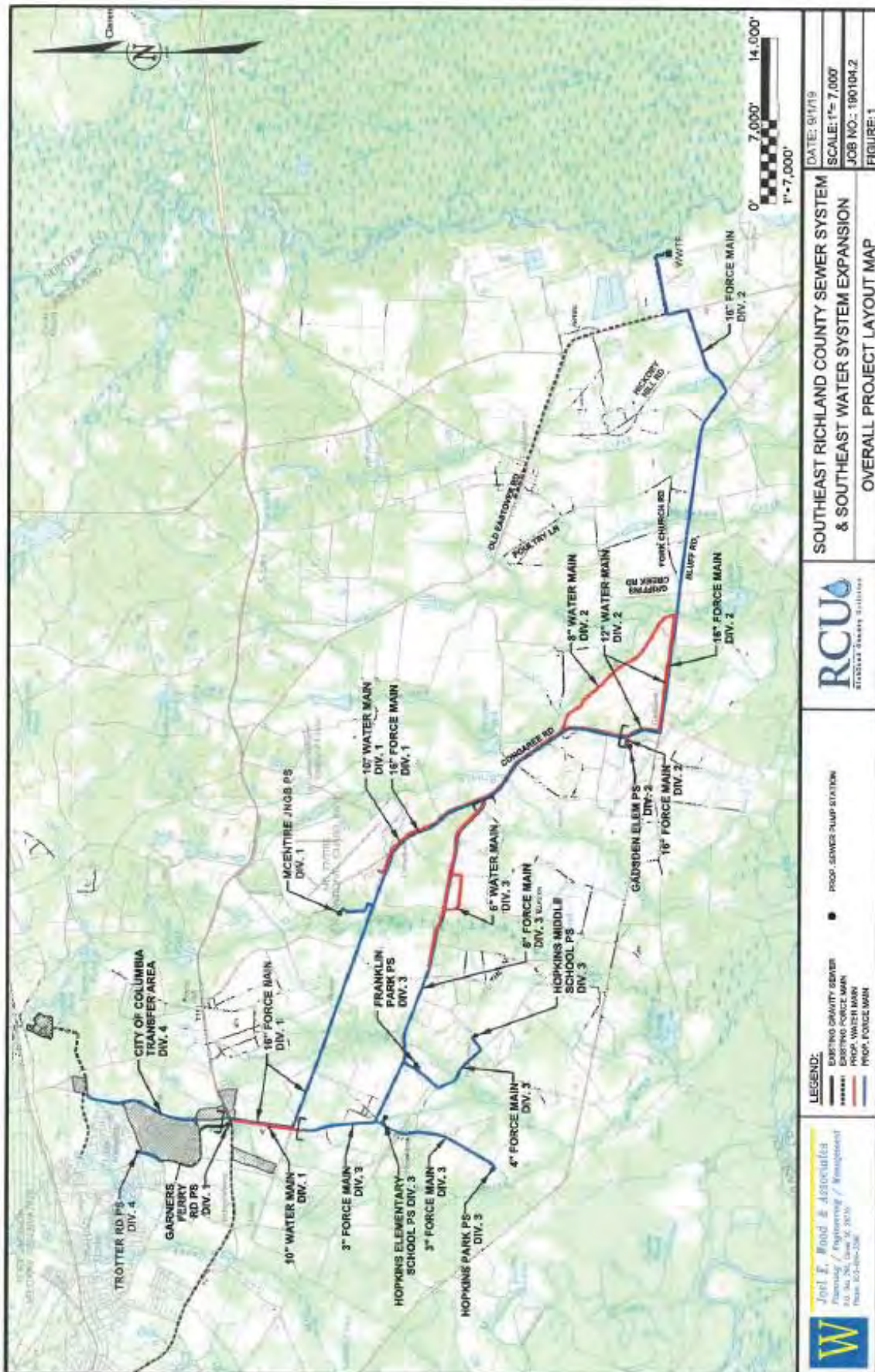
Procurement issued a solicitation for bids for construction on October 11, 2019. A mandatory pre-bid was held on October 22 at the Decker Center which was attended by over 30 prime contractors and subcontractors. The bid was divided into four divisions, to be awarded individually. Seven contractors submitted bids which were opened on November 13, 2019. There were three (3) bids for Division I, four (4) bids for Division II, one (1) bid for Division III and one (1) bid for Division IV. Attached is the breakdown of the bid tabulation by division.

The estimated total construction cost for Division 1 & 2 was \$18,315,000. The lowest bids we have received were from Tom Brigman Contractors with total construction cost of \$14,980,962.05.

The estimate for construction of Division 3 was \$6,042,000.00. The only bid received for Division 3 was \$9,996,337.00. The estimate for construction of Division 4 was \$1,965,000.00, and the only bid received for Division IV was \$3,962,372.00. Staff recommends no award for Divisions III and IV and will reissue a Request for Bid for those two Divisions.

Attachments:

1. SE Sewer & Water Map
2. Bid Tabulation by Division
3. Engineer's Recommendation



Solicitation/Quote Number: RC-254-B-2020	Date Issued: 10/11/19	Due Date: 11/13/19 Time Due: 2:00PM EST	PAGE_1__ OF2____
Department: Utilities	Requisition#	Buyer: Jennifer Wladischkin	Number of Addendum(s) Issued: 2
Representative:	Purchase Order Number:	Bid Bond % 5	Apparent Low Bidder:

Tabulation Sheet

Item #	Supplies/Services/Equipment	U/I	Qty	Vendor: Tom Brigman Const	Vendor: CBG	Vendor: McClam	Vendor: DS Utilities
1	Division 1			\$8,124,000.99 No discount	No bid	No bid	\$8,930,794.80 No discount
2	Division 2			\$6,856,961.06 No discount	\$8,274,676.25 No discount	\$7,515,460.88 No discount	No bid
3	Division 3			No bid	No bid	No bid	No bid
4	Division 4			No bid	No bid	No bid	No bid
	TOTAL			\$14,980,962.05	\$8,274,676.25	\$7,515,460.88	\$8,930,794.80
Name & Title of Certifying Official: Jennifer Wladischkin				Name & Title of Assistant:			
Signature				Signature			
Date 11/13/2019				Date			

Solicitation/Quote Number: RC-254-B-2020	Date Issued: 10/11/19	Due Date: 11/13/19 Time Due: 2:00PM EST	PAGE <u>2</u> OF <u>2</u>
Department: Utilities	Requisition#	Buyer: Jennifer Wladischkin	Number of Addendum(s) Issued: 2
Representative:	Purchase Order Number:	Bid Bond % 5	Apparent Low Bidder:

Tabulation Sheet

Item #	Supplies/Services/Equipment	U/I	Qty	Vendor: Stutts & Williams	Vendor: TCO Construction	Vendor: Legacy*	Vendor:
1	Division 1			\$11,166,245.00 No discount	No bid	No bid	
2	Division 2			No bid	\$7,638,991.52 No discount	\$8,166,393.00 No discount	
3	Division 3			\$9,996,377.00 No discount	No bid	No bid	
4	Division 4			\$3,962,372.00 No discount	No bid	No bid	
	TOTAL			\$25,124,994.00	\$7,638,991.52	\$8,166,393.00	
Name & Title of Certifying Official: Jennifer Wladischkin				Name & Title of Assistant:			
Signature				Signature			
Date 11/13/2019				Date			

*Legacy flagged as non-responsive, did not complete all sections of the bid. Due to Legacy being the third lowest bid no further determination will be forthcoming unless the lowest then the second lowest bidders fail to go to contract.



JOEL E. WOOD & ASSOCIATES

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November 19, 2019

Ms. Jennifer Wladischkin, CPPM
Procurement Manager
Richland County Government
2020 Hampton Street, Suite 3064
Columbia, SC 29204

**REF: RECOMMENDATION TO AWARD CONTRACT
BID ID # RC-254-B-2020
RICHLAND COUNTY SOUTHEAST SEWER AND WATER PROJECT**

Dear Ms. Wladischkin:

On November 13, 2019 Richland County Procurement received Bids for the above referenced project. We were provided a copy of the "Bid Tabulation" by the Procurement Office for our review.

After completing my review and checking of the Bids, I recommend that the County make an award of Division 1 and Division 2 for the above referenced project to Tom Brigman Contractors, Inc. for \$8,124,000.99 (Division 1) and \$6,856,961.06 (Division 2) for a total of \$14,980,962.05 for both Divisions. The total for both Divisions is below the "Engineer's Estimate" for the two Divisions. The recommendation to award is contingent upon availability of funds for the project.

Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

JOEL E. WOOD & ASSOCIATES, P. L. L. C.

Joel E. Wood, P.E., Managing Partner

Attch.
CC. RCU



Richland County Council

SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

December 17, 2019 – Immediately Following Zoning Public Hearing
Council Chambers
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC 29204

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Livingston, Chair; Dalhi Myers, Joyce Dickerson, Calvin “Chip” Jackson, Bill Malinowski, Jim Manning, Yvonne McBride, Chakisse Newton and Allison Terracio

OTHERS PRESENT: Michelle Onley, Kim Williams-Roberts, John Thompson, Ashiya Myers, Ashley Powell, Angela Weathersby, Geo Price, Allison Steele, Brad Farrar, James Hayes, Stacey Hamm, Judy Carter, Jeff Ruble, Tariq Hussain, Chris Eversmann, Beverly Harris, Clayton Voignier, Leonardo Brown, Larry Smith, Sandra Haynes, Denise Teasdell and Dwight Hanna

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Mr. Livingston called the meeting to order at approximately 7:20 PM.
2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**
 - a. **Special Called Meeting: December 10, 2019** – Ms. McBride moved, seconded by Mr. Manning, to approve the minutes as distributed.

Mr. Malinowski stated, at the end of the meeting on December 10th, the meeting had adjourned and the Administrator indicated there was an item that needed to be reconsidered. Therefore, we reconvened the meeting and reconsidered Item 17(b) “Authorizing the issuance and sale of not to exceed \$175,000,000 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes, Series 2020, or such other appropriate series designation, of Richland County, South Carolina; fixing the form and details of the notes; providing for the payment of the notes and the disposition proceeds thereof; and other matters relating thereto”, but it is not reflected in the minutes. He understands the reason it is not reflected is that all of the recording equipment had been turned off; therefore, there is not an audio/video record of the vote(s). He requested the action(s) be added to the minutes prior to the minutes being posted online.

Ms. Myers responded that Mr. Malinowski was correct and that she simply took a voice vote on reconvening the meeting, reconsideration of the item, and adjournment of the meeting.

Ms. Terracio inquired if the votes were unanimous.

Mr. Malinowski responded the votes were not unanimous.

Ms. McBride moved, seconded by Mr. Manning, to approve the minutes as amended.

In Favor: Terracio, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Opposed: Malinowski and Manning

The vote was in favor.

3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA** – Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to adopt the agenda as published.

Mr. Malinowski stated we have transferred the entire D&S and A&F agendas to the Special Called Meeting agenda for action. Normally, we have a week, at least, to be able to review what took place at the committee meeting(s). Some people are not even on one or the other committee, and may not have been at the meeting to hear the discussion, and get pertinent information to cast a vote. It seems to him, if these are not time sensitive matters, he does not know why we are rushing to put them on the Council agenda.

Mr. Brown stated during the A&F Committee meeting there were two (2) items that were added to the “Items for Action”; therefore, they need to be added to the Council agenda for action, as well. Those items are as follows:

- a. Approval of Award for Engineering Services – Kneece Road Sidewalk Design
- b. Approval of Award for Engineering Services – Longreen Parkway Sidewalk Design

Mr. Manning stated, for clarification, these items were published as items not for action. Then, they were moved to action, in the committee, and now they are being added to the Council agenda. He stated he wanted to echo Mr. Malinowski’s concerns about the other items. He feels like if an item was published for action, and he was not on the committee, but he had an interest in knowing what was going on, particularly when the agenda that was published for tonight’s meeting did not have it. For the record, when he reads the agenda, he can tell whether the item is for action or not.

Mr. Manning moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to adopt the agenda as amended.

In Favor: Terracio, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Opposed: Malinowski and Manning

The vote was in favor.

4. **REPORT OF THE ATTORNEY FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS**

- a. Richland County vs. SC Dept. of Revenue

5. **REPORT OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR** – No report was given.

6. **REPORT OF THE CLERK OF COUNCIL** – No report was given.

7. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR** – No report was given.

8. **REPORT OF THE DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE**

- a. Approval to Develop and Advertise CTC Funded Projects – Ms. Terracio stated the committee recommended to direct County staff to proceed with project development, staff design and advertisement for construction of the repair and resurfacing projects of the roads/intersections named herein using the “C” Funds previously approved by the CTC.

Mr. Malinowski noted on p. 29 of the agenda Riverwalk Subdivision is listed as District 1, when it is actually in District 2.

Mr. Manning stated that Mr. Malinowski had brought this to the committee's attention, prior to them taking action on the item.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Terracio moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to reconsider this item.

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- b. County Sidewalk Program – This item was held in committee.
- c. I move that Richland County undertake a study regarding the existence/prevalence of PFAS groundwater and soil throughout the County. If desired, the County should coordinate with all municipalities within its boundaries to derive a comprehensive study on these harmful chemicals, and if necessary or warranted, a plan for corporate remediation [MYERS] – This item was held in committee.

9. **REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

- a. Memorandum of Understanding – COMET – Mapping Services – Ms. Dickerson stated the committee recommended to approve the MOU, to correct the name of the entity from COMET to CMRTA/COMET, and include the CMRTA/COMET address on the last page of the MOU.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. Approval of Award of Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) funding – Ms. Dickerson stated the committee recommended to approve the award HOME funds in the amount of \$528,144.00 to Community Assistance Provider for the construction of a four unit townhouse in the New Castle/Trenholm Acres master plan area.

In Favor: Terracio, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Opposed: Malinowski

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote was in favor.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Terracio, to reconsider this item.

In Favor: Malinowski

Opposed: Terracio, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- c. Approval of Award of Southeast Sewer and Water Project – Division 1 & Division 2 – Ms. Dickerson stated the committee recommended to approve the awarding of construction of Division I and II of the SE Sewer and Water Project to Tom Brigman Contractors, contingent on the appropriation of bond funds.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to reconsider this item.

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- d. Approval to Purchase Mobile Data Routers for Fire Vehicles – Ms. Dickerson stated the committee recommended to approve the purchase of Sierra Routers including support equipment, installation and system start-up support in the amount of \$152,626.80 from Simple Com Technologies.

Mr. Malinowski noted in the committee meeting that one of the requirements for sole source procurement states that it must be justified with information on the efforts undertaken to locate alternative suppliers. That was not presented to us; therefore, he is recommending in the future that information is included.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to reconsider this item.

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- e. Broad River WWTF Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) Upgrade – Diffusers replacement – Ms. Dickerson stated the committee recommended to approve awarding replacement of diffusers in the sequential batch reactor (SBR) to Republic Contracting Corporation.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to reconsider this item.

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Newton and Manning

- f. Intergovernmental Agreement – Municipal Judge – Town of Blythewood – Ms. Dickerson stated the committee recommended to accept the Chief Magistrate’s recommendation to enter into an IGA with the Town of Blythewood for the municipal judge.

Mr. Livingston noted there was discussion at the committee meeting about additional language being included in the IGA.

Mr. Smith stated the recommendation was to change the language to ensure that any additional compensation due to the municipal judge that the FICA and all other benefits are paid by the municipality, and not the County.

Mr. Malinowski stated, for the record there are scrivener’s errors, and he will provide the corrections to the Clerk’s Office.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Jackson and Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to reconsider this item.

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but not Voting: Manning

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- g. Approval of Award for Engineering Services – Kneece Road Sidewalk Design – Ms. Dickerson stated the committee recommended to move forward with the award of Engineering Services for the Kneece Road Project, unless somebody in the awarding entity, be it a subcontractor or whoever, has some type of a lawsuit or claim with the County.

In Favor: Malinowski, Jackson, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Opposed: Terracio and Newton

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote was in favor.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to reconsider this item.

In Favor: Terracio and Newton

Opposed: Malinowski, Jackson, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- h. Approval of Award for Engineering Services – Longreen Parkway Sidewalk Design – Ms. Dickerson stated the committee recommended to move forward with the award of Engineering Services for the and Longreen Parkway Sidewalk Project, unless somebody in the awarding entity, be it a subcontractor or whoever, has some type of a lawsuit or claim with the County.

In Favor: Malinowski, Jackson, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Opposed: Terracio and Newton

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote was in favor.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to reconsider this item.

In Favor: Terracio and Newton

Opposed: Malinowski, Jackson, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The motion for reconsideration failed.

10. **OTHER ITEMS**

- a. Polo Rd. Sidewalk Project – Ms. Steele stated originally Polo Road and Harrison Sidewalk Projects were bid together. The prices that came in were well above the cost estimates; therefore, they were rebid separately. The bids were lower, but they are still over the cost estimate, and the referendum amount. Staff has provided three options: (1) Award the contracts to the lowest bidder; (2) Rebid the projects to attempt to get lower prices; or (3) Attempt to descope the projects.

Ms. Myers inquired if staff has a preferred way forward, which makes the most sense for the project to be completed efficiently, quickly and honors the request from Council.

Special Called Meeting

December 17, 2019

6

Mr. Brown stated these projects were within the communication Council received about 50 of 56 sidewalks. Since there was a separate discussion to ensure that we were approving projects within a certain amount, questions came up regarding these projects. The communication from Council was to approve these projects, but we wanted to make sure, in approving these projects, it was consistent with Council's understanding of moving forward with 50 of the 56 sidewalks.

Ms. Myers inquired if it was relevant that they are, or are not, within the referendum.

Mr. Brown stated it is a communication to make sure that we are clear. There were a lot of questions that came up, and we wanted to ensure that these are the 50 of 56 you previously wanted to approve.

Ms. Myers inquired if this was a duplicative vote.

Mr. Brown responded it is not a duplicative vote. It is a clarity vote to make sure that staff is clear because there were questions that came up about projects that are under the referendum, and projects that are not. These two (2), by themselves, may not meet the guidelines to be under the referendum. However, when you took a vote to say 50 of the 56, these were included. Staff wants to make sure they do not get a follow-up conversation as to how these projects got approve, when they did not individually fall under the referendum amount.

Ms. Myers stated, for clarification, these two (2) will be over the referendum, but will they be over the referendum amount for the category.

Mr. Brown stated the category will still be under the referendum.

Ms. Myers stated, for clarification, in total we will be under the referendum amount. These two (2) were scoped over the referendum amount, but because we have taken five (5) off the list we have the funding to do these.

Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Malinowski inquired about the other six (6) sidewalk projects, and why we are not moving forward with them.

Mr. Brown stated Council approved, prior to tonight, to do 50 of 56 sidewalk projects. To which, at that time, it was communicated you could do these 50 and be under the category's referendum amount. During the course of these conversations, some questions came up related to specific projects, and whether or not they were approved individually, and were individually over the referendum amount. Because staff is trying to make sure they are doing a better job of carrying out what Council's directive are, they wanted to clarify, and make sure you were aware, that individually, these specific projects may be over the referendum amount, by themselves, but in total it is consistent with what you have already approved.

Mr. Malinowski stated he understood that, but he would like to know what happened to the other six (6) projects.

Mr. Brown stated nothing happened to the projects.

Mr. Malinowski stated, for clarification, there are six (6) other projects that could be funded, if funding were available.

Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Malinowski inquired as to what happens if there is an excess amount of funding, or the funding is not totally used within a particular category.

Mr. Brown stated you would have the opportunity, within that category, to address additional projects that were not addressed. The funds will remain in the specific category until Council decides how the funds will be expended.

Mr. Jackson requested Dr. Thompson to make sure the public, and Council, are fully aware of what happened with the other six (6) projects.

Dr. Thompson stated we have enough money to do 50 of the 56 sidewalk projects. Should we have additional funding, then we will be able to work on the remaining six (6) projects. He stated staff will provide Council a list of the remaining six (6) projects, as well as the projected amount to complete those projects.

Ms. McBride stated these projects have been voted on several times. They have been vetted through the Transportation Ad Hoc Committee, and Council has previously voted on it.

In Favor: Jackson, Myers, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski and Newton

The vote was in favor.

Mr. Jackson moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to reconsider this item.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Newton and Myers

Opposed: Jackson, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

The motion for reconsideration failed.

- b. Harrison Rd. Sidewalk Project – This item was approved in the previous item.
- c. Approval of Grants for Blythewood Industrial Park – Mr. Ruble stated we are eligible to receive \$2.37M in grants to kick start the Blythewood Industrial Park. The approvals were not received prior to the last Council meeting, and Council has to vote to receive the grant before a budget can be set up. Once the budget is set up, then they can begin the procurement process to hire an Engineer to design the site. After the Engineer designs the site, they have to go through a 2nd procurement process to hire the contractor to do the work. All of this has to be accomplished in a 18-month period, which puts a tight time constraint on getting this accomplished.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve this item.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if the proper zoning has been received for this property.

Mr. Ruble responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Malinowski requested Mr. Ruble to explain what is meant by “The SC DOC and SC PowerTeam grants are reimbursable.”

Mr. Ruble stated they do the work and submit documentation the money was spent, and we are reimbursed those funds.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – Mr. Jackson stated, as Chair of the Economic Development Committee, this is a tremendous opportunity for the County, in terms of the funding we are going to receive to move the Blythewood Industrial Park forward. One of the main issues in insuring that it is occupied quickly is to have this infrastructure work done. In identifying funds, from other partners, to make that happen, sooner than later, is why this is such a big deal.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to reconsider this item.

Opposed: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The motion for reconsideration failed.

11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Ms. Dickerson moved, seconded by Ms. Myers, to go into Executive Session.

In Favor: Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Opposed: Malinowski, Jackson and Manning

Present but Not Voting: Terracio

The vote was in favor.

Council went into Executive Session at approximately 7:57 PM and came out at approximately 8:25 PM

Ms. Terracio moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to come out of Executive Session.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

Present but Not Voting: Manning

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- a. Richland County vs. SC Dept. of Revenue – No action was taken.

19. **MOTION PERIOD** –

- a. In my continued decade long battle for accountability, transparency, efficiency and effectiveness., I move that all County Council standing committees, ad hoc committees and one time/short term committee meetings be held in Council Chambers, as is the Transportation Ad Hoc Committee, with votes recorded in like fashion [MANNING] – This item was referred to the Rules and Appointments Committee.
- b. Consider moving the Horizon meeting to Tuesday and have delivery of finished agendas to Council members by Thursday close of business [MALINOWSKI, McBRIDE, MYERS, NEWTON and TERRACIO]
– Staff was directed to bring back a recommendation at the next Council meeting.
- c. Resolution Honoring Dutch Fork High School Football team on winning their 4th straight championship [MALINOWSKI] – Mr. Malinowski moved, seconded by Ms. Newton, to adopt the resolution honoring Dutch Fork High School Football team on winning their 4th straight championship.

In Favor: Terracio, Malinowski, Jackson, Newton, Myers, Manning, Dickerson, Livingston and McBride

The vote in favor was unanimous.

POINT OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – Mr. Malinowski thanked Ms. Roberts for the holiday decorations in Chambers.

20. **ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:29 PM

Bill Davis

From: TARIQ HUSSAIN
Sent: Friday, December 4, 2020 11:16 AM
To: Dalhi Myers; CHAKISSE NEWTON
Cc: Bill Davis; JOHN THOMPSON; LEONARDO BROWN
Subject: Weekly Summary and Weekly Forecast Reports (12/04/2020)
Attachments: 12-04-2020 Summary Report.pdf; 12-07-2020 Weekly Forecast_SESWEP.pdf; OVERALL WATER MAP 12_3_20.pdf; OVERALL SEWER MAP 12_3_20.pdf

Good afternoon, the Honorable Councilwoman Myers and Councilwoman Newton,

Please find the attached weekly summary and next week's forecast report for the Southeast Sewer & Water Expansion Project. To date, 82 fire hydrants have been installed as part of this expansion project. The contractors will have a slower work schedule through December due to the holidays and equipment deliveries.

Please find attached updated maps for the project.

Best,

Jani Tariq Hussain
Deputy Director
P 803-401-0045
HUSSAIN.TARIQ@richlandcountysc.gov



RICHLAND COUNTS! Shape your future and your family's future. Participate in the 2020 Census.
Online at www.2020census.gov | By phone @ 844-330-2020 | By mail

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Dalhi Myers, Richland County Council, District 10
The Honorable Chakisse Newton, Richland County Council, District 11

FROM: Bill Davis, Director of Utilities
John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM, Assistant County Administrator

Date: December 4, 2020

Subject: Southeast Richland County Sewer & Water Systems Expansion Project Update

CC: Leonardo Brown, MBA, CPM, County Administrator

Project Construction Update

The Southeast Richland County Sewer & Water Systems Expansion Project construction continues per design. The information sometimes will look repeated since it is along a stretch of road in a tranquil country setting and staff anticipates that there should not be any barriers to impede progress. The project work continues at a good pace for all the divisions. The report is updated with new photos captured for the project work.

All four divisions of Phase 1 are in construction. The weekly report will provide updates on the progress of each division. The design shows the lines along Lower Richland Boulevard, Airbase Road, Congaree Road, Bluff Road, Reynolds Road, Cabin Creek Road, Ault Road, Trotter Road, Congaree Church Road, and Clarkson Road. The project status will also include the construction of sewer lines, water lines, lift stations, water service connections, and sewer service connections along the routes.

We have listed the Contract completion dates below. These dates do not reflect any adjustments for rain, equipment, and material delivery delays (due to COVID -19). The delays will be monitored and the timeline will be adjusted with each report. The current Division 1, Division 2, and Division 2B substantial completion dates are January 10, 2021, with final completion February 9, 2021. Division 3 and Division 3B substantial completion dates are January 26, 2021, with final completion February 25, 2021. The Division 4 substantial completion date is March 7, 2021, with final completion April 6, 2021. We are currently compiling information with our engineer and plant equipment manufacturers to obtain quotes for repairs at the Eastover wastewater treatment plant to achieve full permitted capacity in conjunction with the new system demand.

**RICHLAND COUNTY GOVERNMENT
UTILITIES DEPARTMENT**

7525 Broad River Road, Irmo, SC 29063
T 803-401-0050 | F 803-401-0030
rcu_services@richlandcountysc.gov | richlandcountysc.gov



DIVISION 1

Last week the crews continued installing air release and plug valves along Air Base Road. They also installed water line on Air Base Road and Congaree Road. Next week crew will continue installing plug valves, air release and make tie-ins. The second crew will install force main along Airbase Road from the creek crossing past James Crossing Road toward Mc Entire back gate.

Installed as of December 3, 2020	Installed week of December 7 to December 11, 2020	Total installed to date	Percent complete
FM 45,300 Feet	0 Feet	45,300 Feet	76.5%
Water 26,000 Feet	800 Feet	26,800 Feet	83.5%

The contractor installing line on the Airbase Road (See photo 1). The crew will have a flagger on Airbase Road to help with traffic. A total of thirty-one (31) fire hydrants have been installed in Division 1.



Photo 1: Line install



DIVISION 2

Last week crew continued installing air release and plug valves on Bluff Road and tied the water line on Congaree Church Road to the water line on Bluff Road. Next week the crews will continue installing air release and plug valves and making tie-ins. on Bluff Road and Congaree Church Road.

Installed as of December 3, 2020	Installed week of December 7 to December 11, 2020	Total installed to date	Percent complete
FM 36,500 Feet	0 Feet	36,500 Feet	73.0%
Water 20,900 Feet	200 Feet	21,100 Feet	75.1%

The line install on Bluff Road. (See photo 2). The crew will have a flagger on the Bluff Road for traffic. A total of twenty-seven (27) fire hydrants have been installed in Division 2.



Photo 2: Line install

**RICHLAND COUNTY GOVERNMENT
UTILITIES DEPARTMENT**

7525 Broad River Road, Irmo, SC 29063
T 803-401-0050 | F 803-401-0030
rcu_services@richlandcountysc.gov | richlandcountysc.gov



DIVISION 3

Last week the crews installed force main on Lower Richland Boulevard between Horrell Hill Road and Back Swamp Road. Next week the crew will be installing force main on Lower Richland boulevard from Back Swamp Road toward Old Creek Road.

Installed as of December 3, 2020	Installed week of December 7 to December 11, 2020	Total installed to date	Percent complete
FM 45,700 Feet	1,200 Feet	46,900 Feet	77.6%
Water 19,000 Feet	0 Feet	19,000 Feet	89.8%

The line install on Lower Richland Boulevard (See photo 3). The crew will have a flagger on the Lower Richland Boulevard for traffic. A total of twenty-four (24) fire hydrants have been installed.



Photo 3: Line install

**RICHLAND COUNTY GOVERNMENT
UTILITIES DEPARTMENT**

7525 Broad River Road, Irmo, SC 29063
T 803-401-0050 | F 803-401-0030
rcu_services@richlandcountysc.gov | richlandcountysc.gov



DIVISION 4

Last week the contractor made force main tie-ins on Trotter Road. Next week the crew will work on piping at the Trotter Road lift station and tie the lift station to the force main on Trotter Road. Next week all the lines will be installed but the DIV 4 still has sixty percent of work remaining to complete.

Installed as of December 3, 2020	Installed week of December 7 to December 11, 2020	Total installed to date	Percent complete
FM 13,130 Feet	340 Feet	13,470 Feet	100.0%
Gravity 1,500 Feet	0 Feet	1,500 Feet	100.0%

The force main install along Lower Richland Boulevard (See photo 4). The crew will have a flagger on Trotter Road. There are no fire hydrants designed in Division 4.



Photo 4: Force main install

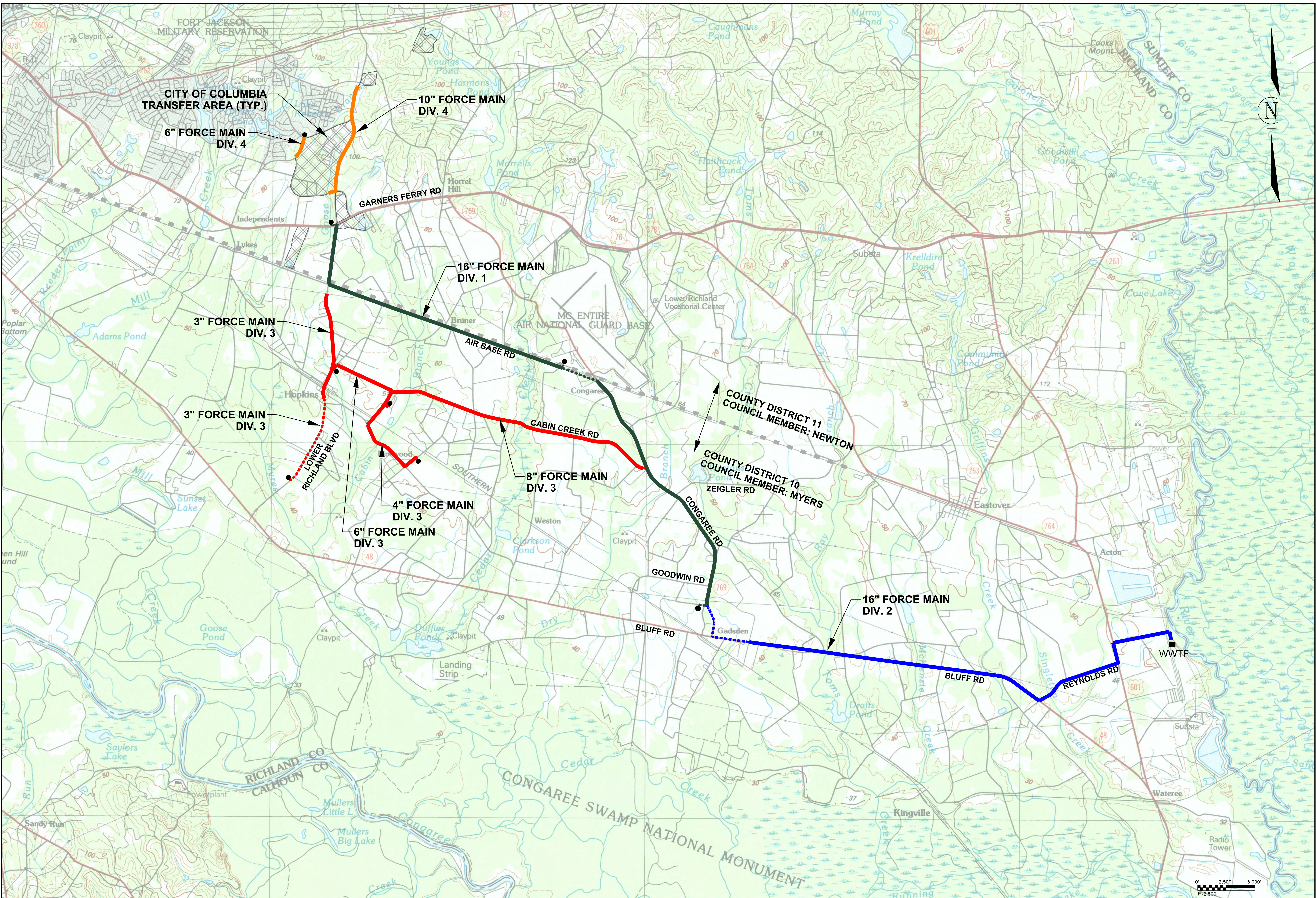


RICHLAND COUNTY UTILITIES

SOUTHEAST SEWER & WATER EXPANSION PROJECT

WEEKLY FORECAST REPORT: December 7 - December 11, 2020

DIV 1	Details	Summary
Flagger Delay (3 to 5 minutes)	Airbase Road	Last week the crews continued installing air release and plug valves along Air Base Road. They also installed water line on Air Base Road and Congaree Road. Next week crew will continue installing plug valves, air release and make tie-ins. The second crew will install force main along Airbase Road from the creek crossing past James Crossing Road toward Mc Entire back gate.
Sewer Force-main total installed	45,300 ft., 76.5% complete	
Water main -total installed	26,800 ft., 83.5 % complete	
Road Closure	None	
Fire Hydrants	A total of thirty-one (31) fire hydrants have been installed	
DIV 2	Details	Summary
Flagger Delay (3 to 5 minutes)	Bluff Road	Last week crew continued installing air release and plug valves on Bluff Road and tied the water line on Congaree Church Road to the water line on Bluff Road. Next week the crews will continue installing air release and plug valves and making tie-ins. on Bluff Road and Congaree Church Road.
Sewer Force-main total installed	36,500 ft, 73.0% complete	
Water main-total installed	21,100 ft, 75.1% complete	
Road Closure	None	
Fire Hydrants	A total of twenty-seven (27) fire hydrants have been installed	
DIV 3	Details	Summary
Flagger Delay (3 to 5 minutes)	Lower Richland Boulevard	Last week the crews installed force main on Lower Richland Boulevard between Horrell Hill Road and Back Swamp Road. Next week the crew will be installing force main on Lower Richland boulevard from Back Swamp Road toward Old Creek Road.
Sewer Force-main total installed	46,900 ft, 77.6 % complete	
Water main -total installed	19,000 ft, 89.8% complete	
Road Closure	None	
Fire Hydrants	A total of twenty-four (24) fire hydrants have been installed.	
DIV 4	Details	Summary
Flagger Delay (3 to 5 minutes)	Lower Richland Boulevard	Last week the contractor made force main tie-ins on Trotter Road. Next week the crew will work on piping at the Trotter Road lift station and tie the lift station to the force main on Trotter Road. Next week all the lines will be installed but the DIV 4 still has sixty percent of work remaining to complete.
Sewer Force-main total installed	13,470 ft, 100.0 % complete	
Gravity-main total installed	1,500 ft, 100.0% complete	
Road Closure	None	
Fire Hydrants	None	



W Joel E. Wood & Associates
 Planning / Engineering / Management
 P.O. Box 296, Clover SC 29710
 Phone: 803-684-3390

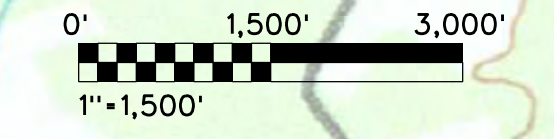
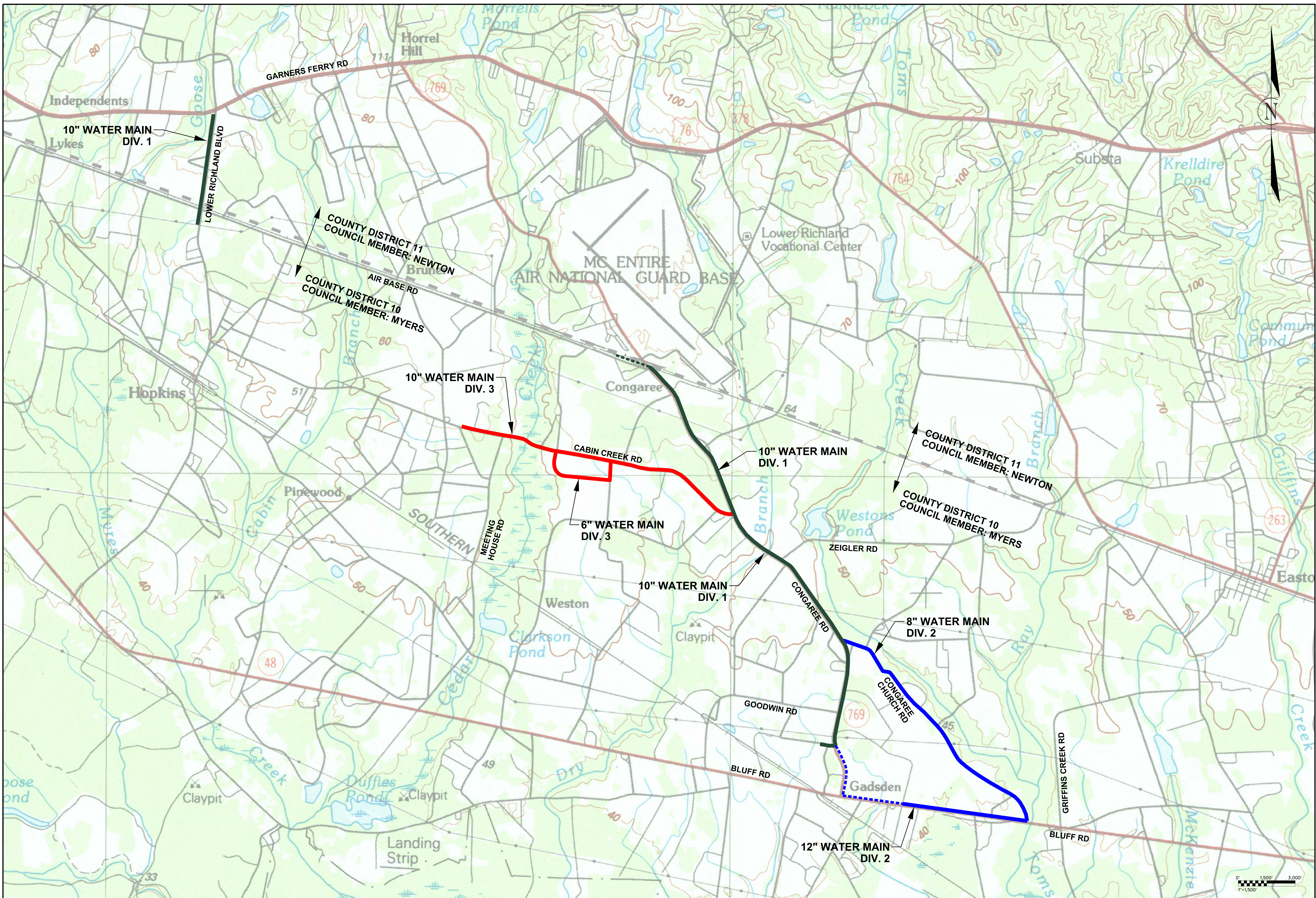
LEGEND:

	PROP. DIV. 1 SEWER (INSTALLED)		PROP. DIV. 3 SEWER (INSTALLED)
	PROP. DIV. 1 SEWER (REMAINING)		PROP. DIV. 3 SEWER (REMAINING)
	PROP. DIV. 2 SEWER (INSTALLED)		PROP. DIV. 4 SEWER (INSTALLED)
	PROP. DIV. 2 SEWER (REMAINING)		PROP. DIV. 4 SEWER (REMAINING)
	PROP. PUMP STATION		



PROPOSED FORCE MAIN PROJECT MAP
SOUTHEAST RICHLAND COUNTY SEWER SYSTEM
& SOUTHEAST WATER SYSTEM EXPANSION

DATE: 12/3/20
 SCALE: 1" = 2,500'
 JOB NO.: 190104.2
 FIGURE: 1 OF 2



W Joel E. Wood & Associates
 Planning / Engineering / Management
 P.O. Box 296, Clover SC 29710
 Phone: 803-684-3390

LEGEND:

	PROP. DIV. 1 WATER (INSTALLED)		PROP. DIV. 3 WATER (INSTALLED)
	PROP. DIV. 1 WATER (REMAINING)		PROP. DIV. 3 WATER (REMAINING)
	PROP. DIV. 2 WATER (INSTALLED)		
	PROP. DIV. 2 WATER (REMAINING)		



PROPOSED WATER MAIN PROJECT MAP
SOUTHEAST RICHLAND COUNTY SEWER SYSTEM
& SOUTHEAST WATER SYSTEM EXPANSION

DATE: 12/3/20
SCALE: 1"= 1,500'
JOB NO.: 190104.2
FIGURE: 2 OF 2

From: [Bill Malinowski](#)
To: [Dalhi Myers](#); [JOHN THOMPSON](#)
Cc: [Dalhi Myers](#); [LEONARDO BROWN](#); [Michelle Onley](#); [Bill Davis](#); [ASHIYA MYERS](#)
Subject: RE: Sewer Ad Hoc Committee BD: Eastover Plant Upgrades – Southeast Sewer Project Flow Increase
Date: Friday, December 4, 2020 4:13:25 PM

I agree with Councilwoman Myers in that the item she refers to should be placed on the agenda for discussion. I would request that staff have some information to provide at that time if possible. If not, please advise when such information can be made available so it can be discussed at the next meeting.

Bill Malinowski

From: Dalhi Myers <dalhi31@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, December 03, 2020 11:53 AM
To: JOHN THOMPSON <THOMPSON.JOHN@richlandcountysc.gov>
Cc: Bill Malinowski <Malinowski.Bill@richlandcountysc.gov>; Dalhi Myers <dmyers@richlandcountysc.gov>; LEONARDO BROWN <BROWN.LEONARDO@richlandcountysc.gov>; Michelle Onley <Onley.Michelle@richlandcountysc.gov>; Bill Davis <davis.bill@richlandcountysc.gov>; ASHIYA MYERS <MYERS.ASHIYA@richlandcountysc.gov>
Subject: Re: Sewer Ad Hoc Committee BD: Eastover Plant Upgrades – Southeast Sewer Project Flow Increase

Mr. Chair:

Dr. Thompson and the staff are aware that Albeleen Park, a subdivision along the phase 1 route, has consistently asked to be included in the project. There are nearly 50 houses there, many with compromised sewers. Joel Wood and I have met with the residents many times. Mr. Wood promised them that their homes would be included. They recently have been told that they are not in the currently plan.

Given the number of houses (almost 50), and the positive fiscal impact adding them would make to the overall bottom line (and considering that the project currently is under budget), can we please ask the staff to include a discussion of this issue and adding these very interested (and in need) potential customers, whose home literally are off of Lower Richland Blvd., to the project?

I believe excluding willing payers leaves money on the table solely for the external contractor's convenience and violates a commitment to connect all customers along the route.

Can this important issue be added to the agenda for next week? These customers will generate happily join the system and contribute to its sustainability once up and running. As well, they need the service.

Thank you for any consideration.

Dalhi

Sent from my wireless handheld device. Please excuse any grammatical errors. DM

On Dec 3, 2020, at 9:49 AM, JOHN THOMPSON
<THOMPSON.JOHN@richlandcountysc.gov> wrote:

Good morning, the Honorable Councilman Malinowski and the Honorable Councilwoman Myers.

Please find the attached briefing document, which is an updated one to the one that I shared with you on yesterday. The only change is to the quote page, which we made a larger font.

We look forward to meeting with you on next Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 3:00 PM to 3:30 PM during the Sewer Ad Hoc Committee meeting to address this single item. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM

Assistant County Administrator
Richland County Government
Office of the County Administrator
803-576-1364
Thompson.John@RichlandCountySC.gov

<Eastover Plant Upgrades – Southeast Sewer Project Flow Increase.pdf>

**RICHLAND COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION**

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069
Columbia, SC 29204
803-576-2050


Agenda Briefing

To: Chair of the Committee and the Honorable Members of the Committee
Prepared by: Jani Hussain, Deputy Director
Department: Utilities
Date Prepared: June 16, 2020 **Meeting Date:**

Legal Review		Date:	
Budget Review		Date:	
Finance Review		Date:	
Approved for consideration:	Assistant County Administrator	John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM	
Committee	Administration & Finance		
Subject:	Approval for Funds to Connect Allbene Park, Bluff Road Community and St Johns Church to SE Sewer and Water Expansion Project (SESWEPE).		

Recommended Action:

There are two recommended actions for expanding the current Southeast Sewer and Water Expansion Project.

1. Approve funds to design and construct a sewer collection system for Allbene Park to be connected to the ongoing Southeast Sewer and Water Expansion Project (SESWEPE) and to design and construct a sewer mains to the Smith Myers Road Community on Bluff Road and to St Johns Church on JW Neal Road.
2. Do not approve funds to design and construct a gravity sewer collection system for Allbene Park to be connected to the ongoing Southeast Sewer and Water Expansion Project (SESWEPE) and to design and construct a sewer mains to the Smith Myers Road Community on Bluff Road and to St Johns Church on JW Neal Road. These two communities will be part of Phase 2 of the SESWEPE, which begins in 2022, pending County Council approval and additional revenues from debt financing and/or a grant from the United States Department of Agriculture.

Motion Requested:

Move to accept either Recommendation 1 or 2.

Request for Council Reconsideration: Yes

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact for approving the expansion to the SESWEPE is \$1,482,000.00 for the cost of design, construction of a gravity system for the Allbene Park. Additionally, there is an annual cost of \$50,000 to operate and maintain the pump station that to be constructed for Allbene Park. The expected revenue based on the current sewer rate of \$55.68 for 21 homes signed for service is \$1,169.28 per month (\$14,031.36 annual).

The fiscal impact for approving the expansion to the SESWEP is \$582,076.83 for the cost of design, construction of Low Pressure force main system for Smith Myers Road Community on Bluff Road. The expected revenue based on the current sewer rate of \$55.68 for 10 homes signed for service is \$556.80 per month (\$6,681.60 annual).

The fiscal impact for approving the expansion to the SESWEP is \$33,810.00 for the cost of design, construction of Low Pressure force main system for the St Johns Church on JW Neal Road. The expected revenue based on the current sewer rate of \$55.68 for the church with 425 seating capacity is \$167.04 per month (\$2,004.48 annual).

Motion of Origin:

Council Member	
Meeting	
Date	

Discussion:

Allbene Park

The Allbene Park is a 42-home residential development located in the Hopkins area of Richland County (see figure 1 for location). Currently, all 42 homes are on a septic tank. At the build-out of the Southeast sewer project, Richland County will have a sewer main installed along Lower Richland Boulevard that is accessible to this subdivision. To connect Allbene Park to the sewer main, a sewer collection system will connect each home and transport sewer to the public main that will be designed and constructed.

The proposed sewer system will be a gravity collection system with a community pump station. The gravity main will be designed to convey generated sewage from homes to the station that will pump sewer to the public collection system. The estimated cost for the design and construction of this system is \$1,482,000.00. The gravity mains and community pump station will be turned over to the County for operation and maintenance.

The Bluff Road’s Community

The Bluff Road’s community is a cluster of homes along Smith Myers Road (See figure 2). Ten (10) residents from this community have expressed the desire to connect to the public sewer system. The design of the ongoing SE Sewer and Water Expansion Project includes a sewer force main to be installed along Congaree Road to Bluff Road. However, this community is approximately 14,000 feet from location of the closest force main to be installed on Bluff Road. A sewer collection system has to be designed to connect these homes to the public main. The cost for the design and construction is estimated at \$582,076.83.

The St Johns Church

St John Church is located on 230 J W Neal Circle off Clarkson Road (See figure 3). The church owner have expressed the desire to connect the church to the public sewer system. The design of the ongoing SE Sewer and Water Expansion Project includes a sewer force main to be installed along Clarkson Road. However, the location of the church is approximately 1600 LF from the proposed sewer line on Clarkson Road which is above the 200 LF threshold for service connection. Expanding the ongoing SESWEP project to provide sewer service to the church will cost \$33,810.00.

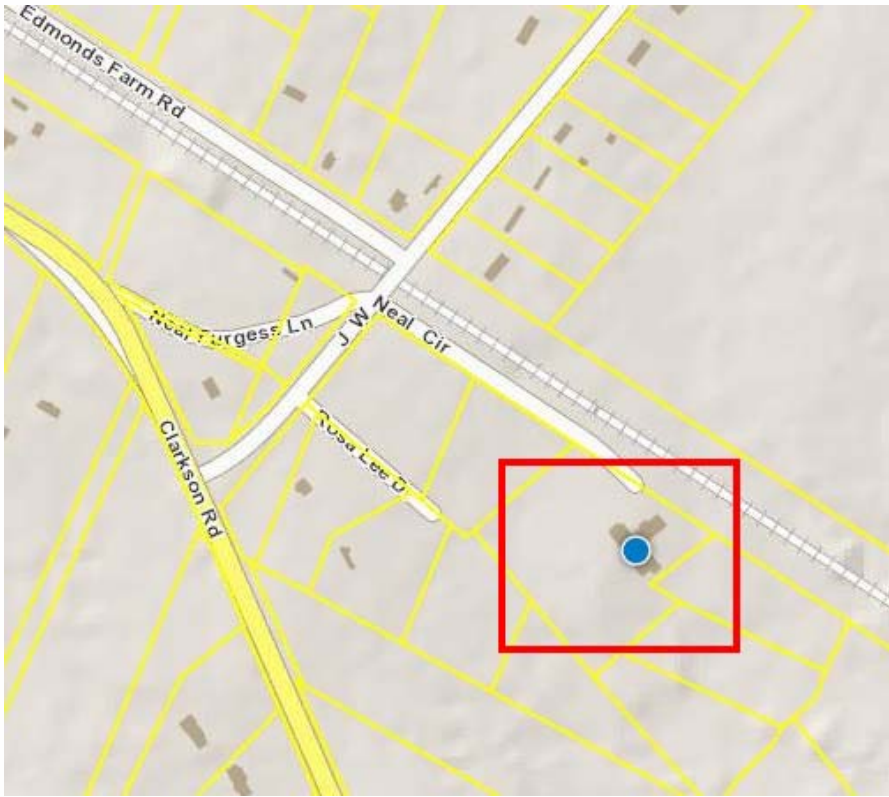
Figure 1: Location of Allbene Park



Figure 2: The Bluff's Community



Figure 3: St Johns Church



From: [Dalhi Myers](#)
To: [JOHN THOMPSON](#)
Cc: [TARIQ HUSSAIN](#); [Jessica Mancine](#); [LEONARDO BROWN](#)
Subject: Re: List of addresses - 230 Reverend Neal Circle
Date: Friday, June 12, 2020 1:43:52 PM

Hold on for further instruction. Thanks. Dalhi

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 12, 2020, at 11:47 AM, JOHN THOMPSON
<THOMPSON.JOHN@richlandcountysc.gov> wrote:

Hello Jani,

Thank you for the information. Please contact the church to confirm their desire to connect to the system. As the 200-foot threshold has already been established and because this addition would alter the scope and cost of the project, please include in a BD for Council's approval along with the other two neighborhoods.

Best,

John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM

Assistant County Administrator
Richland County Government
Office of the County Administrator
803-576-2054
Thompson.John@RichlandCountySC.gov

From: TARIQ HUSSAIN <HUSSAIN.TARIQ@richlandcountysc.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 12, 2020 11:36 AM
To: JOHN THOMPSON <THOMPSON.JOHN@richlandcountysc.gov>
Cc: Dalhi Myers <dmyers@richlandcountysc.gov>; Jessica Mancine <Mancine.Jessica@richlandcountysc.gov>
Subject: RE: List of addresses - 230 Reverend Neal Circle

Dr. Thompson,

We checked and did not find this address on the list where residents requested the desire to connect.

The address is beyond the 200 feet threshold to connect. The address is approximately 1000 feet away from the mainline for the phase 1 project. If there is a desire to connect by this address then please let me know to design and submit a change order in a BD to the County Council for approval.

Thanks

Jani Tariq Hussain

Deputy Director

P 803-401-0045

HUSSAIN.TARIQ@richlandcountysc.gov

<image001.jpg>

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From: JOHN THOMPSON <THOMPSON.JOHN@richlandcountysc.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 10:45 PM

To: TARIQ HUSSAIN <HUSSAIN.TARIQ@richlandcountysc.gov>

Cc: Dalhi Myers <dmyers@richlandcountysc.gov>; JOHN THOMPSON <THOMPSON.JOHN@richlandcountysc.gov>

Subject: Re: List of addresses

Thank you, sir. I did not see 230 Reverend Neal Circle on the list. Please confirm that it is not on the list. If not on the list, please advise if the landowner ever made contact with us. I understand that it is a church.

Best,

John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM

Assistant County Administrator

Richland County Government

Office of the County Administrator

Thompson.John@RichlandCountySC.gov

P 803-576-2054 F 803-576-2137

[2020 Hampton St.](#)

[P.O. Box 192](#)

[Columbia, SC 29201](#)

richlandcountysc.gov

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On Jun 11, 2020, at 8:23 PM, TARIQ HUSSAIN

<HUSSAIN.TARIQ@richlandcountysc.gov> wrote:

Dr. Thompson,

Please see the attached list.

Thanks

Jani Tariq Hussain

Deputy Director

P 803-401-0045

HUSSAIN.TARIQ@richlandcountysc.gov

<image003.jpg>

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From: JOHN THOMPSON <THOMPSON.JOHN@richlandcountysc.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 11, 2020 7:19 PM

To: TARIQ HUSSAIN <HUSSAIN.TARIQ@richlandcountysc.gov>

Cc: Dalhi Myers <dmyers@richlandcountysc.gov>

Subject: List of addresses

Director Hussain,

Please e-mail the list of addresses that will receive sewer and/or water connection as part of the SE Sewer and Water Expansion Project.

Thank you,

John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM

Assistant County Administrator

Richland County Government

Office of the County Administrator

Thompson.John@RichlandCountySC.gov

P [803-576-2054](tel:803-576-2054) **F** [803-576-2137](tel:803-576-2137)

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notified that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error or are not sure whether it is privileged, please immediately notify me by return email and destroy any copies, electronic, paper or otherwise, which you may have of this communication.

<Copy of Edited SE Richland Water Sewer Project 12-17-19
Final.xlsx>

Addendum to Item 4(a)
"Eastover Plant Upgrades – Southeast
Sewer Project Flow Increase"

**RICHLAND COUNTY
ADMINISTRATION**

2020 Hampton Street, Suite 4069
Columbia, SC 29204
803-576-2050



Agenda Briefing Addendum

Prepared by:	Bill Davis	Title:	Director
Department:	Utilities	Division:	Engineering
Date Prepared:	December 9, 2020	Meeting Date:	December 08, 2020
Approved for Consideration:	Assistant County Administrator	John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM	
Committee:	Sewer Ad Hoc Committee		
Agenda Item:	Item 4. Eastover Plant Upgrades – Southeast Sewer Project Flow Increase		

COUNCIL INQUIRY#1:

The bid amounts that the companies submitted in response to the four divisions.

Reply:

The Southeast Sewer and Water Expansion Project (SESWEP) contractor for Divisions 1 & 2 is Tom Brigman Contractors with a cost of \$14,980,962.05. Division 3 contractor TCO Construction Inc. cost is \$5,822,022.04 and Division 4 contractor Stutts & Williams LLC’s cost is \$2,393,964.00. Below are the tables showing the bid tabulation.

RC-254-B-2020 Southeast Water Sewer Division 1 & Division II

Submitted Bids	Division I	Division II	
Business	Bid Total	Bid Total	Grand Total
McClam & Associates, Inc.	Non-Responsive	\$7,515,460.88	
TCO Construction Inc.	Non-Responsive	\$7,638,991.52	
CBG	Non-Responsive	\$8,274,676.25	
DS Utilities, Inc.	\$8,930,794.80	Not Responsive	
TOM BRIGMAN CONTRACTORS INC	\$8,124,000.99	\$6,856,961.06	\$14,980,962.05
Stutts & Williams, LLC	\$11,166,245.00	Not Responsive	

RC-293-B-2020 Southeast Water Sewer Division III

Submitted Bids				
Business	Opened at	Status	Bid Total	Signed by
Complete Utilities, LLC	2020-01-03 19:03:50 UTC	Responsive	\$7,003,319.50	Rusty Elvington
TCO Construction Inc.	2020-01-03 19:02:07 UTC	Responsive	\$5,822,022.04	Bobby Newman
Stutts & Williams, LLC	2020-01-03 19:06:29 UTC	Responsive	\$8,121,336.00	Joey Williams
McClam & Associates, Inc.	2020-01-03 19:04:45 UTC	Responsive	\$8,273,259.90	Scott Nolff
Digging Deep Construction	2020-01-03 19:05:09 UTC	Responsive	\$6,389,897.00	Richard Goff

RC-294-B-2020 Southeast Water Sewer Division IV

Submitted Bids				
Business	Opened at	Status	Bid Total	Signed by
Complete Utilities, LLC	2020-01-06 19:02:05 UTC	Responsive	\$2,538,752.00	Rusty Elvington
Stutts & Williams, LLC	2020-01-06 19:08:34 UTC	Responsive	\$2,393,964.00	Joey Williams
TCO Construction Inc.	2020-01-06 19:01:03 UTC	Responsive	\$2,493,934.14	Bobby Newman
Digging Deep Construction	2020-01-06 19:03:09 UTC	Responsive	\$2,605,119.50	Richard Goff
McClam & Associates, Inc.	2020-01-06 19:02:47 UTC	Responsive	\$2,440,054.50	Scott Nolff

COUNCIL INQUIRY#2:

The bid amounts that the companies submitted in response to the plant upgrade project.

Reply:

The engineering estimated cost was \$500,000.00. The quote request was sent to all three construction companies working on the SESWEP. Stutts & Williams provided a quote for \$517,625.00, Brigman Construction provided a quote for \$437,374.05 and not to exceed. TCO Construction did not provide the quote.

RC-254-B-2020 Southeast Water Sewer Division 1 & Division II (Plant Work)	
Business	Bid Total
TCO Construction Inc.	Non-Responsive
Tom Brigman Contractors Inc.	\$437,374.05
Stutts & Williams, LLC	\$517,625.00

COUNCIL INQUIRY #3:

A realistic timeline (best case scenario) should we go with the option of bidding out the plant upgrade project. The timeline should show the proposed completion date for construction in comparison to the proposed completion date of the SESWEP.

Reply:

The timelines provided for both scenarios is attached. The Option 1 shows 26 weeks to complete the scope of work (SOW) and have the plant ready before the SESWEP is online. The Option 2 shows 42 weeks to complete the SOW and will delay the Southeast Sewer and Water Project commitment to the residents by 16 weeks.

Estimated Project Schedule																																																								
Eastover Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation																																																								
Date: 12/09/2020																																																								
Task	Weeks																																																							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44												
	Dec 2020	Jan 2021					Feb 2021					Mar 2021					Apr 2021					May 2021					Jun 2021					Jul 2021					Aug 2021					Sep 2021					Oct 2021									
Option 1 - Brigman																																																								
Move to Approve in Sewer Ad-Hoc Committee																																																								
Move to Approve in Full Council																																																								
Approve Change Order - Procurement																																																								
Equipment Order and Delivery - Brigman																																																								
Construction/Installation																																																								
Option 2 - Design, Bid, Build																																																								
Move to Approve in Sewer Ad-Hoc Committee																																																								
Move to Approve in Full Council																																																								
Procurement to Approve Engineering Amendment																																																								
Design - Develop Plans and Specs																																																								
Equipment Order and Delivery - RCU to Purchase																																																								
Prepare Bid and Advertise - Procurement																																																								
Public Bid for 30 Days - Procurement																																																								
Prebid Meeting - Wood																																																								
Receive Bids and Evaluate - Procurement																																																								
Move to Approve in Sewer Ad-Hoc Committee																																																								
Move to Approve in Full Council																																																								
Notice to Award - Procurement																																																								
Protest Period (2 Weeks) - Procurement																																																								
Construction Mobilization																																																								
Construction/Installation																																																								

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION:

Richland County will be paying \$185,715.48 (\$1,573.86 per day) for the 118 days of additional sewer treatment to the City of Columbia.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Tabulation SESWEP
2. Schedule showing the two options timeline & cost
3. Joel & Associates Scope of Work
4. Stutts Quote Eastover Plant
5. Brigman Quote Eastover Plant

SCOPE OF WORK
EASTOVER WWTP REPAIRS

After receiving written authorization to proceed with the final design phase, Engineer will:

- (a) Prepare for incorporation in the contract documents detailed drawings and plans to show the character and scope of the work to be performed by contractors on the project and instructions to bidders, general conditions, special conditions, and technical provisions. Such specifications shall also describe in detail the quality of all materials and equipment to be used in the project.
- (b) Furnish to the Owner engineering data for and assist in the preparation of the required documents so that the Owner may secure approval of such governmental authorities as have jurisdiction over design criteria applicable to the project.
- (c) Advise Owner of any adjustment of the cost estimate for the project caused by changes in scope, design requirements, or construction costs and furnish a revised cost estimate for the project based on the completed drawings and specifications prior to the solicitation of bids.
- (d) Prepare, in cooperation with the Owner's Procurement Department, the proposal forms, instructions to bidders, general and special conditions that shall govern the construction of the project, the resolution for the contract award, the contract documents, form of performance, labor and materials bond, affidavits as are necessary to protect the interests of the Owner and all other customary documents associated with this phase of the project.

- (e) Furnish copies (as needed) of the drawings and specifications in final form to Owner.
- (f) Assist Owner in obtaining and evaluating bids or negotiating proposals and preparing construction contracts. Engineer shall prepare tabulation and an analysis of the bids received and shall advise and assist the Owner in the selection of the Contractor or Contractors.
- (g) Consult with the Owner concerning, and participate in all decisions as to, the acceptability of sub-contractors and other persons and organizations proposed by the general contractor for those portions of the work as to which such acceptability is required by the bidding documents.

SECTION 00400

BID FORM - SINGLE PRIME CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTDATE: October 12, 2020PROJECT: Richland Department of Utilities

To: Mr. Bill Davis, PE, Director
 Richland County Department of Utilities
 7525 Broad River Road
 Irmo, South Carolina 29063

In compliance with the request for a change order to make improvements to the Eastover Wastewater Treatment Plant, the undersigned Bidder, has carefully investigated the existing conditions at the project site, and having thoroughly familiarized himself with the Plans of the Existing Eastover Facility and work items as prepared by Joel E. Wood & Associates, PLLC, P. O. Box 296, Clover, SC 29710, hereby proposes to provide all necessary labor, equipment, materials, services, fees, taxes, permits, etc., to complete the rehabilitation of the Eastover Wastewater Treatment Plant including providing and installing all equipment as listed below, start up, testing, cleaning and all other modifications as listed below including furnishing all labor, tools, and equipment to put train number two into operation, clean train number one after train number two is in operation, piping, electrical, and all appurtenances for all work listed below for the lump sum price of:

Base Bid, General Construction: FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY THREE THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS
 Dollars \$ 473,600

WORK ITEMS:

1. Furnish and install new 45-degree weir plates to replace the existing 22.5-degree weir plates.
2. Furnish all labor, materials, superintendence, and miscellaneous items to include all wiring, conduit, etc. to provide power in accordance with codes to the items listed below where electricity is required to operate the equipment.
3. Furnish and install mixer guide rail in Basin number one
4. Furnish one new (1.8 HP) mixer and install one new mixer and three existing mixers in basins.
5. Furnish and install Davits (hoist) with each mixer high enough to clear the railing or provide removable railing sections that meets safety codes.

6. Install existing mixers in Oxidation Ditch number two
7. Furnish and install Davits (hoist) with each mixer in Oxidation Ditch number two. Hoist must clear railing or provide a removable railing that meets safety codes.
8. Furnish and install new floating decanter, new pump, and new piping.
9. Furnish and install new plug valves at the head of each contact chamber.
10. Furnish and install a new SBS (Sodium Bisulfite) pump discharge pipe. The coupling is broken in the concrete wall and needs to be replaced.
11. Furnish and install a new refrigerated influent sampler with cover.
12. Provide cover over existing effluent sampler.
13. Provide magnetic meter in vault. Cut in valve in 10" force main providing fittings and electrical connection

WORK SEQUENCE:

1. Furnish and install all items required to rehab Train Number Two.
2. Place Train Number Two in operation.
3. After train Number Two is operational, discontinue operation of Train Number One and drain train number one.
4. Scrape all algae from the walls of Train Number One and pressure wash the walls.
5. Remove all sludge and dispose of as directed by Richland County Utility Department.
6. Furnish and install all items require to rehab Train Number One.
7. Place Train Number One in operation.

UNIT PRICES

The undersigned quotes the following unit prices to be utilized in making adjustments to the appropriate Contract Sum should the addition or omission of work required by the Contract Documents be necessary.

Accepted unit prices shall apply throughout the life of the Contract, except as otherwise modified by written agreement. Unit prices, when utilized shall constitute the total value changes in the scope of work all in accordance with the Contract Documents.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Unit Prices as Bid</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Remove Sludge and Dispose of Sludge	105 C.Y.	\$ <u>205⁰⁰</u> Per Cu. Yd.	\$ <u>21,525⁰⁰</u>
2. Assist Plant Operators with "Start-Up" (Anticipate not more than 5 days)	5 Days	\$ <u>4,500⁰⁰</u> Per Day	\$ <u>22,500⁰⁰</u>

The undersigned certifies that the firm signing this bid and registered under that name is legally qualified to perform all work included in the scope of the contract as determined by the State of South Carolina, in granting the registration.

The undersigned further agrees that this proposal shall be valid for a period of ninety (90) days from the date of receipt of the bid and that if this proposal is accepted by the owner within this period, the bidder will execute the Contract Form as contained herein and as required by South Carolina General Statutes.

It is understood that the General Contractor is expected to act as Project Expediter and coordinate work of all other subcontractors and that all subcontractors are expected to comply with the Supplemental Conditions, Special Conditions and Special Requirements of the State Revolving Fund.

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the following addenda which will be considered as part of the Contract Documents.

EASTOVER WASTEWATER PLANT REHABILITATION

Addendum No. _____ Dated _____ Addendum No. _____ Dated _____

Addendum No. _____ Dated _____ Addendum No. _____ Dated _____

Respectfully submitted this the _____ day of _____, 2020.

Name of Bidder: Stuts & Williams, LLC
Company

By: 
SIGNATURE

PO Box 2046
LEXINGTON SC 29071
ADDRESS

owner
TITLE

11/12/20
DATE

6119374
CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE NUMBER (SC)

BIDDER'S LICENSE NUMBER (SC)

Address of Bidder: _____

(803) 309 6015
TELEPHONE NUMBER

SEAL – (IF IS BY A CORPORATION)

Attest:
By: _____
Title: _____

END OF FORM OF PROPOSAL

11/12/2020 3:02 PM

**Job Name: Eastover Wastewater Plant Upgrades
Eastover, SC**

Item No.	Item Description	Qty	Unit	Total Unit	Total Extended
DIVISION I					
↑1	Contractor Mobilization	1	LS	\$ 7,187.50	\$ 7,187.50
✓2	Furnish and Install new 45 degree and new 90 degree weir to replace the existing 22.5 degree weir	1	LS	\$ 7,150.00	\$ 7,150.00
✓3	Furnish all labor, materials, superintendence, and miscellaneous items to include all wiring, conduit, etc. to provide power in accordance with codes to the items listed below where electricity is required to operate the equipment	1	LS	\$ 23,000.59	\$ 23,000.59
✓4	Furnish and install mixer guide rail in Basin number one	1	LS	\$ 15,370.00	\$ 15,370.00
✓5	Furnish one new (1.8 HP) mixer and install one new mixer and three existing mixers in basins.	1	LS	\$ 31,687.50	\$ 31,687.50
✓6	Furnish and install Davits (hoist) with each mixer high enough to clear the railing or provide removable railing sections that meets safety codes	1	LS	\$ 45,001.14	\$ 45,001.14
✓7	Install existing mixers in Oxidation Ditch number two	1	LS	\$ 11,625.00	\$ 11,625.00
✓8	Furnish and install Davits (hoist) with each mixer in Oxidation Ditch number two. high enough to clear the railing or provide removable railing sections that meets safety codes	1	LS	\$ -	\$ -
✓9	Furnish and Install floating decanter, new pump, and new piping	1	LS	\$ 25,638.64	\$ 25,638.64
✓10	Furnish and Install new plug valves at the head of each contact chamber. 3 valves	1	LS	\$ 76,750.00	\$ 76,750.00
✓11	Furnish and Install a new SBS pump discharge pipe. The coupling is broken in the concrete wall and needs to be replaced.	1	LS	\$ 15,637.50	\$ 15,637.50
✓12	Furnish and install a refrigerated influent sampler with cover	1	LS	\$ 13,837.50	\$ 13,837.50
✓12	Provide cover over existing effluent sampler	1	LS	\$ 6,250.59	\$ 6,250.59
✓13	Provide Magnetic meter in vault. Cut in balve in 10" force main, provide and install fittings and electrical required.	1	LS	\$ 65,763.64	\$ 65,763.64
✓14	Scrape algae from the walls of Train Number One and pressure wash the walls.	1	LS	\$ 58,125.00	\$ 58,125.00
	Total for above				\$ 403,024.60
✓17	Remove Sludge and Dispose of Sludge	105	CY	\$ 145.59	\$ 15,286.95
✓18	Assist Plant Operators with "start up"	5	day	\$ 3,812.50	\$ 19,062.50
					\$ 437,374.05

- 55,169

+

-55,169 EQUIPMENT

Addendum to Item 4(c):

"Council Motion: I move to direct the County Administrator to work with staff to develop a modified sewer plan that:

- Corrects the disparity in sewer rates for the new Richland County sewer customers transferred from City of Columbia sewer service in January 2020; and
- Assesses and updates the County's long-term sewer strategy to ensure the sustained health of the system while also preserving fair, consistent rates for all sewer users.

This plan should be comprehensive in nature and include a timeline, benchmarks, and a methodology for tracking its success. It should also identify the parties responsible for completing proposed work as well as a robust constituent Communication strategy. The plan should move to Council for review and action as soon as possible and no later than Council March 17th meeting (or not more than four (4) weeks from the date of Council's February 18th meeting). [NEWTON]



Agenda Briefing Addendum

Prepared by:	John M. Thompson, Ph.D., MBA, CPM	Title:	Assistant County Administrator
Department:	Administration	Division:	
Date Prepared:	December 10, 2020	Meeting Date:	December 8, 2020
Approved for Consideration:	County Administrator		Leonardo Brown, MBA CPM
Committee:	Sewer Ad Hoc Committee		
Agenda Item:	I move to direct the County Administrator to work with staff to develop a modified sewer plan that: a. Corrects the disparity in sewer rates for the new Richland County sewer customers transferred from City of Columbia sewer service in January 2020; and b. Assesses and updates the County’s long-term sewer strategy to ensure the sustained health of the system while also preserving fair, consistent rates for all sewer users		

COUNCIL INQUIRY #1:

The sewer ad hoc committee inquired about a deferred agenda item from its June 30, 2020 meeting.

Reply:

In reviewing the June 30, 2020 meeting minutes, it appears that the Committee voted to move Councilwoman Myers’ motion out of committee. Her motion reads as follows:

“Council motion: I move that Richland county staff reevaluate the sewer project methodology to potentially allow for usage based rather than flat rate fees” (see Sewer Ad Hoc Committee’s June 30, 2020 meeting minutes).

On the other hand, Councilwoman Newton’s motion was deferred in committee. Her motion reads as follows:

“I move to direct the county administrator to work with staff to develop a modified sewer plan that:

- a. Corrects the disparity in sewer rates for the new Richland county sewer customers transferred from city of Columbia sewer service in January 2020; and,
- b. Assesses and updates the county’s long-term sewer strategy to ensure the sustained health of the system while also preserving fair, consistent rates for all sewer users”.

A further review of the June 30, 2020 meeting minutes reveals that Administrator Brown’s briefing document responds to both Councilwomen Myers and Newton’s motions (see Sewer Ad Hoc Committee’s June 30, 2020 meeting minutes). The briefing document articulates that staff’s recommendation is to approve the multi-class rate structure (scenario 4). This scenario addresses the issue of disparity, while also taking into consideration the long-term sustainability of the system. In fact, Administrator Brown includes on page 9 of his briefing document a plan outline to review the financial health of the utilities system.

Although the Committee deferred Councilwoman Newton's motion, the matter was taken up at County Council's July 14, 2020 Special Called Meeting in which Councilwoman Newton made a motion to adopt staff's recommendation of scenario 4. Council voted in favor of scenario 4 (see Special Called July 14, 2020 meeting minutes).

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Sewer Ad Hoc Committee's June 30, 2020 Meeting Minutes
2. County Council's Special Called July 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes



Richland County Council

Sewer Ad Hoc Committee June 30, 2020 - 2:00 PM Zoom Meeting

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - a. February 25, 2020 [PAGES 4-9]

3. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

4. **ITEMS FOR ACTION [PAGES 10-22]**
 - a. Council Motion: I move that Richland County staff reevaluate the sewer project methodology to potentially allow for usage based rather than flat rate fees [MYERS]

 - b. Council Motion: I move to direct the County Administrator to work with staff to develop a modified sewer plan that:
 - Corrects the disparity in sewer rates for the new Richland County sewer customers transferred from City of Columbia sewer service in January 2020; and

 - Assesses and updates the County's long-term sewer strategy to ensure the sustained health of the system while also preserving fair, consistent rates for all sewer users.

This plan should be comprehensive in nature and include a timeline, benchmarks, and a methodology for tracking its success. It should also identify the parties responsible for completing proposed work as well as a robust constituent communication strategy. The plan should move to Council for review and action as soon as possible and no later than Council's March 17th

meeting (or not more than four (4) weeks from the date of Council's February 18th meeting). [NEWTON]

5. ADJOURNMENT



Richland County Council



Special Accommodations and Interpreter Services Citizens may be present during any of the County's meetings. If requested, the agenda and backup materials will be made available in alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), as amended and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Any person who requires a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meeting may request such modification, accommodation, aid or service by contacting the Clerk of Council's office either in person at 2020 Hampton Street, Columbia, SC, by telephone at (803) 576-2061, or TDD at 803-576-2045 no later than 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.



Richland County Council
Sewer Ad Hoc Committee
February 25, 2020 – 4:00 PM
Council Chambers
2020 Hampton Street, Columbia 29204

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Bill Malinowski and Dalhi Myers

OTHERS PRESENT: Allison Terracio, Chakisse Newton, Joyce Dickerson, Calvin Jackson, Yvonne McBride, Paul Livingston, Jessica Mancine, Michelle Onley, Leonardo Brown, John Thompson, Ashley Powell, Elizabeth McLean, Stacey Hamm and Tariq Hussain

1. **Call to Order** – Mr. Malinowski called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 PM.

2. **Adoption of the Agenda** – Ms. Myers moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to adopt the agenda as published.
In Favor: Malinowski, Jackson, Livingston and McBride

The vote in favor was unanimous.

3. **Election of Chair** – Ms. Myers moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to elect Mr. Malinowski to the position of Chair.

4. **Council Motion: I move that Richland County staff reevaluate the sewer project methodology to potentially allow for usage based rather than flat rate fees [MYERS]**

5. **Council Motion: I move to direct the County Administrator to work with staff to develop a modified sewer plan that:**
 - **Corrects the disparity in sewer rates for the new Richland County sewer customers transferred from City of Columbia sewer service in January 2020; and**
 - **Assesses and updates the County’s long-term sewer strategy to ensure the sustained health of the system while also preserving fair, consistent rates for all sewer users.**

This plan should be comprehensive in nature and include a timeline, benchmarks, and a methodology for tracking its success. It should also identify the parties responsible for completing proposed work as well as a robust constituent communication strategy. The plan should move to Council for review and action as soon as possible and no later than Council March 17th meeting (or not more than four (4) weeks from the date of Council’s February 18th meeting). [NEWTON]

Transportation Ad Hoc Committee
February 25, 2020

Mr. Brown stated one of the things they realized, in this process, as they try to deal with rate disparity, and a sustained healthy system, is have there been previous decisions on an acceptable rate tolerance for the customers (i.e. percentage or flat rate increase).

Ms. Myers stated historically we have looked at whatever is necessary to fund the system, and has not taken into consideration rate tolerance. She would support any efforts in that direction. Her only caveat is that she would like a sunset on these things when we go out for them.

Mr. Brown stated this will not be a rate study. This will be staff proposing what is the low-end and the high-end to determine the tolerance level of the body.

Ms. Myers stated the reason we are here, in part, is because we all raised concerns at the big increases. If we are going to put the increases in place, then we first need to do customer education. We need to let the customers know what is coming, why it is coming, how soon it is coming, and what they should expect, as a benefit. For her, an increase of \$20 is substantial because we are not dealing with people for whom \$20 is not recognizable. Frankly, she would like to see a percentage, so we are not flat rating it out.

Ms. Newton stated, from her perspective, when you are looking at either a percentage or dollar rate, she is looking at people that are experiencing a 50% increase. We need to set parameters, whether it is a dollar amount, or a percentage increase that is deemed more reasonable, because there are people who are having to make hard choices, and likely did not anticipate ever having to make. She noted it would interesting, and potentially helpful, to determine if there is a source of data that lets us know how these things usually run.

Mr. Malinowski inquired if we have already implemented new rates.

Mr. Brown responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Malinowski stated, for clarification, there are people that are already paying these new rates. He stated he has been inundated with lengthy emails. He inquired what we do since the customers are already paying the new rates (i.e. rebates, etc.)

Mr. Brown stated, depending on what the structure may be, customer's rates may be reduced, but in terms of rebates, that is further than he had anticipated. The County has implemented a rate study program, which was voted on by Council. In July 2020, a 2nd Phase was supposed to be happening. All of those have been included in the budgetary considerations. As we are tasking staff to come up with a healthy program for the entire system, it is important for us to understand both sides of the issue: (1) What does it cost to run the system? and (2) What are the constraints the customers are dealing with? Even if we are doing that, what would be some general guidance from those who are serving these constituents about what those ranges should look like? He requested Council to start thinking about this, and give feedback. They will take the feedback and put in the costs, to determine if we can support what we want to put in place.

Mr. Malinowski noted, in previous requests, he made about installing usage meters he was told that was never going to happen because the City would not agree to do that, and it was going to cost the County a fortune. Now he is being told the City is more amenable to providing the County the information, but we will have to sort it out. If we are coming up with a new system of usage charges, such as metering, and the budget is based on everyone paying \$50 a month, but all of a sudden the meter comes into play and we find out half of the customers are only using \$25 a month, we have another problem that has to be addressed.

Ms. Myers stated it is an enterprise fund, which is a fee for service. She understands we have to pay for the system, but it is not fair for all of the customers to pay "X" amount for the service, when they use different

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levels of the services.

Mr. Brown stated, one of the things they have talked about, as they try to address what they believe the County's charge to have a unified system, with similar charges across the County, is meeting the compliance hurdles, but also the financial hurdles. He noted Council should be aware that the County pays a bulk water charge to the City of Columbia. As a part of that conversation, we do not want to turn around and pay the City to serve the customers on our program.

Ms. Newton stated, for clarification, in terms of the bulk water rate we are paying to the City for sewer, is it correct we are only paying that rate for the transfer customers.

Mr. Hussain responded the County pays a bulk sewer rate for transfer customers, a bulk water rate for Murray Point.

Ms. Newton stated she has had conversations, and that is something the County can revisit. The City is open to basing it on something that is fair. Right now, the bulk rate we are paying is a flat rate.

Mr. Brown stated that is something staff will explore as a part of this dialogue. Another thing they learned during this process is that we do have a group of customers who are well water, and we do not have a measuring tool for every resident we service. There are some customers that have unique situations we are going to have to try to make meet the compliance standards outline by legal.

Mr. Hussain stated, from the last meeting, they added additional information for Murray Point and Franklin Park. They also added tiers to fee structure. The main issue is getting the customers in the transfer area, which were paying their bills based upon their water usage, converted to a flat rate. The Broad River (\$44.00) and Lower Richland (\$34.00) customers were already paying a flat rate when the system was combined in 2019. The utility providers (i.e. Palmetto Utilities and Blue Granite) around us are paying a flat rate. He noted the County's rates are lower than these other utilities, and Blue Granite and Palmetto Utilities are proposing to raise their rates.

It is Mr. Hussain's understanding the County did not get the City of Columbia's water data when the transfer customers were added. The water data was not used when conducting the rate study; therefore, we did not know the usage for the customers in the transfer area. They assumed the majority of the people would have their bills reduced because their usage would be higher. He stated approximately 50% of the customers' bills are higher than what they were paying to the City of Columbia. The City was requested to provide the usage, so the County could address the issue. From the data provided, the County provided a tiered report, based on usage, and it was still above what the customers were paying with the City of Columbia.

Also, during the previous meeting it was requested to research the use of flow meters. Staff reached out to the manufacturers of the flow meters, which can be used to track sewer, but the amount of flow coming from each resident is so low the accuracy of the meter is not guaranteed. The flow meters will cost approximately \$2,865 - \$4,665. In addition, they will need a flume and a 5 X 5 easement from the landowner to place the flume.

Ms. Myers inquired if there are only 2 options for a flow meter.

Mr. Hussain stated there is also a magmeter, which is not listed in the briefing document, which costs approximately \$1,800. The magmeter will not work because the homes are provided 2-inch lines, and the magmeter needs to have a flow going at all times.

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Ms. Myers inquired if there are only two (2) types of flow meters.

Mr. Hussain stated there are only two (2) types of meters used for sewer. Both of these meters are used in our system now, but are used at service land (i.e. Eastover).

Mr. Malinowski inquired about using the water meter, and basing the rate on “water in, water out”.

Mr. Hussain responded they have considered placing a water meter at the 2,000 homes that currently rely on their own well systems. For all of the homes that have City of Columbia meters, it is better to work with them instead of spending additional money. The majority of the consultants believe it is not a good idea to put your own meter beside another entities meter. The homeowners will be “ping-ponging” between the County and the City regarding the accuracy of the meters. The cost to provide the water meters to the homeowners with wells is approximately \$593, and installation will likely run about \$200.

Ms. Myers stated, for clarification, none of the flow measuring devices she has read about on the internet would work.

Mr. Hussain responded, because sewer has solids in it, when the solids come to the flume it backs up, and the flow meter gives a higher number. There may be different manufacturers, but there are only two (2) concepts: magmeter and sonic.

Ms. Myers stated she believes we need to be more aggressive in looking at the prices for these meters.

Mr. Hussain stated whenever they prepare to install meters, for mass deployment, it is always bid out.

Mr. Malinowski inquired, if we are able to install the water meters, will that eliminate the need for the 5 X 5 easement.

Mr. Hussain responded in the affirmative. The water meter will go within the connectivity box, and will eliminate the need for the easement.

Option 1: The base rate for 1 – 4,000 gallons will be \$20.00, with each 1,000 gallons adding an additional \$8.00. For every additional 1,000 gallons above the 4,000 gallons there will be a \$10.00 fee charged.

Option 2: The base rate for 1 – 4,000 gallons will be \$20.00; the City is currently charging \$13.81 base rate. If the customers use 1 -2,000 gallons they will pay \$34.17; the City is charging \$33.17.

Option 3: Remain with the base rate, and giving some kind of discount to the customer. We would need to find a source of funding for this option.

Mr. Hussain stated, in order to monitor the well users usage, we would have to install water meters.

Ms. Myers stated, if the customers are utilizing a well, they may be using part of the sewer system, so she does not know if it is fair.

Mr. Hussain stated, on the City’s sewer side, every gallon that is on the meter is charged.

Ms. Myers responded because all of their gallons go through a meter, and are purchased through the City. The customers that utilize wells, and are not purchasing water, may use more water because they are not purchasing it from someone and do not have the same incentive.

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Mr. Hussain stated the City is saying that regardless of the water purchased, the water metered out is the water used as sewer treatment. Therefore, it does not matter whether they use the water to go into the yard, or it goes into sewer, they still charge them.

Mr. Malinowski stated it is the old water in is assumed to be water out through the sewer.

Ms. Myers stated, if she knows she is not paying an independent 3rd party for her water, she might use as much as she likes, and it would not have any correlation with the amount of sewer. She stated there needs to be a rational relationship between what is being put on the system, and what you are paying to use the system.

Mr. Hussain stated he tried reaching out to other counties, and no one uses a sewer meter. They either use a water meter or charge a flat rate. He understands the argument about the customers using their well water, and we may be able to install flow meters for their sewer to monitor only what goes through that line.

Ms. Myers stated that makes sense, but if it is cost prohibitive, it will not make sense.

Mr. Brown stated the installation of meters does not resolve the immediate concern. Part of it is system-wide, but there is also a charge on how we address today.

Ms. Newton inquired about the next steps, as staff ponders these questions, and when those steps will be brought back to the committee.

Mr. Brown stated the next steps go into the financial implications of the proposed decisions, so we can decide if the options are viable, and to what extent they are viable to address the disparity and system as a whole. The information they received from the City will help them to feel more confident about how we were utilizing the data. There are some additional things the City took into account we were not aware of when the information was initially put together.

Ms. Newton stated those next steps make sense presuming the data is correct. Otherwise, you are calculating a financial model based on information that may have some “wobble” room. She inquired about how confident we are about the accuracy of the data. If we are not confident, are we pursuing that first before we look at financial implications, predicated on those numbers?

Mr. Brown stated, when they met with the City, some discrepancies were noted. The City if going to go back and look at the information, and provide the County with the updated information.

Ms. Newton inquired about the timeframe for these steps to take place.

Mr. Brown responded the timeframe would be between this week and next due to the deadline set in the original charge.

Ms. Myers inquired if staff is pursuing the request in the briefing document.

Mr. Brown responded we have a financial advisor, First Tryon. It was staff's intention to provide them the data, and they could tell us what that would look like financially. First Tryon stated they are not the entity to do that, so we currently do not need to address a motion.

Ms. Myers requested, by the end meeting, staff provide us concrete financial data that gives us the ability to begin putting fixes in place to remedy the problem.

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If the City can provide the requested information, the next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3rd at 1:00 PM.

6. **ADJOURN** - The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:56 PM.

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Agenda Briefing

To: Committee Chair Bill Malinowski and Members of the Committee
Prepared by: Leonardo Brown, County Administrator and Jessica Mancine, Manager of Administration
Department: Utilities
Date Prepared: June 22, 2020 **Meeting Date:** 06/30/2020

Legal Review	Elizabeth McLean (in February) – Resubmitted to Attorney Larry Smith (in May)	
Budget Review	James Hayes	
Finance Review	Stacey Hamm	
Approved for consideration:	County Administrator	Leonardo Brown
Committee	Sewer Ad Hoc Committee	
Subject:	Customers’ Billing for Combined Utilities	

Recommended Action:

Move to approve the Multi-Class Rate Structure approach. The Multi-Class Rate Structure approach, presented as Scenario 4 in this briefing document, offers a financially feasible and sustainable path forward that over time corrects the disparity in sewer rates for the new Richland County sewer customers transferred from the City of Columbia’s sewer service in January 2020. The approach accounts for the present as well as the future acquisition or transfer of customers and establishes the rate methodology to be applied to charge future customers who are transferred from another sewer service to Richland County’s sewer service. Most importantly, the financial health of the sewer system can be maintained while also preserving fair, consistent rates for all sewer customers by using the Multi-Class Rate Structure approach. Please see attached Exhibit 2.

Approving Staff’s recommended action will be approving the following:

- 1) Annual refers to Richland County’s fiscal year, which begins July 1 of the current year and ends June 30 of the following year.
- 2) Annual rate increases for all residential sewer customers will increase no more than 15% of the annual rate charged in the year immediately preceding the date of the scheduled increase.

Ex. current approved rates: FY20 = \$55.68; FY21 = \$64.03; FY22 = \$72.03

- 3) Richland County recognizes that its combined utility system is comprised of at least two distinct classes of sewer customers and that the two classes will be charged differently for a period of time, until all customers’ charges equal the relevant flat fee for sewer service approved by Richland County Council. Residents being served by the county’s Utilities department are grouped into the two classes based on whether the sewer customer is currently having their wastewater treated by Richland County’s facility or by the City of Columbia’s facility
 - a. Sewer customers whose wastewater is being treated by Richland County Utilities
 - i. Previously charged based on a flat fee for service model the County established
 - ii. Rates will continue to be charged according to the flat fee for service model
 - iii. The annual rate will increase no more than 15% of the annual rate charged in the year immediately preceding the date of the scheduled increase.

1. Initial base rate \$55.68 established from Feb 19, 2019 County Council meeting
- b. Sewer customers whose wastewater is being treated by the City of Columbia
 - i. Previously charged based on a usage rate model established by the City
 - ii. Rates will be converted over time to Richland County's flat fee for service model
 - iii. The annual rate will increase no more than 15% of the annual rate charged in the year immediately preceding the date of the scheduled increase.
 1. Initial base rate will be taken from City of Columbia 2019 data (Table 3)
 2. Rates will increase annually until aligned with Richland County flat rate

Motion Requested:

Move to approve the Multi-Class Rate Structure approach, as described in the briefing document.

Request for Council Reconsideration: Yes

Fiscal Impact:

The fiscal impact of the recommended action is that the county will be able to meet its utilities bond payment obligation, maintain compliance with the county's ordinance regarding debt coverage, and the utilities system will be financially in the black.

Addressing Fiscal Impact and Legal Implications

The Multi-Class Rate Structure approach, presented as Scenario 4 in this briefing document and recommended by staff for approval, effectively addresses the motions made by councilmembers. In reviewing Exhibit 2 of this document, you will see the projected revenue is enough to cover the Utilities Bond payment and meet the requirement of the county's ordinance to have debt coverage of 120% = 1.2. Additionally, consistent with best practices, projected expenditures will be modified to fit within actual revenues received, so that the system maintains a positive fund balance.

The Multi-Class Rate Structure approach takes into account that when Richland County added the group of customers from the City of Columbia, it inherently created two classes of customers within the county's Unified/Combined system. The differentiation between the classes is directly tied to wastewater treatment services. The customers added from the City of Columbia in January 2020 comprise one class, while the rest of the customers on the county's system make up the other class. The added customers from the City of Columbia are different because their wastewater is not being treated by Richland County, but by the City of Columbia. This noted distinction is why some of those customers may see an initial rate difference, which will eventually become comparable to the county's flat rate. This process will involve annual rate increases for this class of customers until their rates are aligned with Richland County's flat rate. The impact will be felt by the customers transferred from the City of Columbia to Richland County, but the increase will be capped at 15% annually. As the County Attorney's Office has previously opined, within the unified system, if the county intends to charge different rates to different customers, those customers need to be grouped together in classes wherein each class member is treated equally. The Multi-Class Rate Structure approach meets the guidance outlined in a way that is fair, equitable, and more affordable, allowing for all customers to plan for the financial impact based on gradual increases. Under

the Multi-Class Rate Structure approach, only 7% of all customers will be below the county's flat rate in the first year. After the second year that number will decrease to approximately 5%. Furthermore, given that the County Attorney's Office has also previously communicated that it is unlikely that a subsidy scenario would be considered constitutional, the Multi-Class Rate Structure approach presents itself as the best path forward, positively accounting for fiscal impact and legal implications.

In response to the motions made by councilmembers, staff also evaluated other potential billing methodologies, including charging fees based on water usage and based on a tiered rate structure.

Charging fees based on water usage and charging fees based on a tiered rate structure both would require the purchase and installation of meters. Additionally, it would require the purchase of a billing system that would allow the Finance department to account for the individual data per user and bill accordingly. Neither of these options are viable because of time constraints, funding constraints, and projected billing disputes arising from placing a county meter where another provider's meter already exists.

Charging fees based on a flat fee will maintain status quo by assessing all residential sewer customers the same flat fee for service rate of \$55.68/month, with the rate increasing to \$64.03 on July 1, 2020 and \$72.03 on July 1, 2021. This scenario does not address the motions made by councilmembers and is therefore not the recommended option.

Motions of Origin:

1. I move that Richland County staff reevaluate the sewer project methodology to potentially allow for usage-based rather than flat-rate fees. [MYERS]
2. I move to direct the County Administrator to work with staff to develop a modified sewer plan that:
 - a. Corrects the disparity in sewer rates for the new Richland County sewer customers transferred from City of Columbia sewer service in January 2020; and
 - b. Assesses and updates the County’s long-term sewer strategy to ensure the sustained health of the system while also preserving fair, consistent rates for all sewer users.

This plan should be comprehensive in nature and include a timeline, benchmarks, and a methodology for tracking its success. It should also identify the parties responsible for completing proposed work as well as a robust constituent communication strategy. The plan should move to Council for review and action as soon as possible and no later than Council’s March 17th meeting (or not more than four (4) weeks from the date of Council’s February 18th meeting). [NEWTON]

Council Member	Dalhi Myers, District 10, and Chakisse Newton, District 11
Meeting	Special Called
Date	February 11, 2020

Discussion:

The Central Midlands Council of Governments is a designated region wide water quality planning agency tasked with developing and maintaining a 208 Regional Water Quality Management Plan. This plan is a regulatory compliance activity under Section 208 of the Clean Water Act. According to the 208 Regional Water Quality Management Plan, the City of Columbia was recently required to transfer approximately 1300 customers to Richland County Utilities. However, the transfer generated concerns from the customers within the transfer area. After receiving the January 2020 sewer bill from Richland County, several customers in the transfer area called, expressing concerns that their bill was too high, as they were paying less than \$30 with the City of Columbia. The variation in costs is based on the difference in billing systems between the two utilities. While the City of Columbia charges sewer based on water consumption, Richland County charges a flat rate of \$55.68. The implication of this is that customers with low water consumption will have bills that are higher than their historical bills.

In response to the customers’ concerns and following County Council’s directives, staff explored possible alternatives to the current billing system. Alternatives explored follow below.

Scenario – Water Usage

1. **Charging based on water usage:** This option will require having a minimum flat rate for each customer and adding additional cost based on usage (See Table 1). Using this process will require water consumption data from the water provider. The usage data will be reviewed yearly to make the necessary billing rate increase with Council approval.

Table 1: Billing System Based on Water Usage

Additional Volumetric Rates	2020	Transfer Area Customers	Broad River Customers	Murray Point	Hopkins
Base Rate	\$20	17	58		2
1-4000 Gal/Mo	\$8/1000 gallons	702	3049	9	25
4,001-10,000 Gal/Mo	\$10/1000 gallons	537	4646	4	20
10,001-100,000 Gal/Mo	\$10/1000 gallons		1468	1	2
100,001-250,000 Gal/Mo	\$10/1000 gallons				
Over 250,001 Gal/Mo	\$10/1000 gallons				

Example: This option has a base rate is \$20 and then if a customer uses 20 gallons then the total charge will be \$20(base) + \$8(gallons used)= \$28. If next month the customer use 1100 gallons then the total charge will be \$20(Base) + \$16(gallons used)=\$36

Cons:

i. Based on the analysis of the water consumption data from the City of Columbia, there are about 2000 Broad River customers who do not receive water services from the City of Columbia. The assumption is the majority of these customers have private wells. This will make it difficult to charge these customers by water usage without meter reading. Below is a couple of options for the customers with a private well. Each of these options requires bidding out the installation:

- 1) The option of installation of meter to monitor the sewer flow:
 - a) Reached out to Mueller and Pulsar: They have stated there is no flow meter for individual homes currently used; however, a flow meter used for pump stations can be installed to monitor flow. This option will require a Parshall Flumes with Pulsar Ultrasonic Meter. The cost of the flume varies in size from \$500 to \$3000 plus the installation of \$300. The Ultrasonic meter costs \$2865. For each home, the estimated total cost will be around \$4665.00. Also, the installation of flume will require a property easement (5ft X 5ft) and power to be supplied by the homeowner. The total cost for 2000 homes for this option is approximately \$9.3 million. This does not include the wireless data collection system or additional staff needed to collect the monthly readings. The homeowner to provide power to the meter.
- 2) The option of installation of meter to monitor water usage:
 - a) This option will require a water meter installed at the customer’s water source. The total cost for the water meter installation is \$593. The supplies for the installation costs \$393 and the cost of the meter is \$200. The water meter installation requires an easement from each customer. The total cost for water meter for 2000 homes for this option is approximately \$1.8 million.

ii. The City of Columbia generates billing data for customers at different times during the month and this will result in delays and staggered billing.

- iii. This option will require the Finance Department to evaluate the revenue generated each quarter and propose a rate adjustment for the upcoming fiscal year to cover the O&M and Bond payment.
- iv. The water consumption data from the City of Columbia covers a cluster of customers not served by RCU. This will require the Finance Department to extract valid usage information each month.
- v. If the City of Columbia does not provide the Utilities Department with the monthly water usage data, the County will not be able to pursue this option.
- vi. The County would have to purchase special billing software to be able to bill customers monthly based on usage.

Scenario – Tiered Rates

2. Charging based on Tiered Rates: This option is based on the tiers the customers’ usage falls in based upon predefined ranges. The County will use the average of the winter months (November 1 to March 31) water usage to formulate the tier rates. This methodology ensures charges assessed for sewer are not higher than need be due to typical summer activities such as watering lawns, washing cars, etc. This is a precaution to ensure fair practices in assessing RCU sewer fees. (See Table 2).

Table 2: Billing System Based on Tier Usage Data from November - March

Tier by Usage: Water Consumptions by Gallons	RCU 2020 Rate	City of Columbia’s Rate	Transfer Area Customers	Broad River Customers	Murray Point	Hopkins
Tier 1: 0	\$20.00	\$13.81	10	23	0	9
Tier 2: 1 – 2,000	\$34.17	\$33.17	185	557	3	10
Tier 3: 2,001 – 4,000	\$47.95	\$52.21	460	2289	5	9
Tier 4: 4,001 – 6,000	\$63.44	\$71.25	346	2437	4	15
Tier 5: 6,001 – 8,000	\$79.31	\$90.61	160	1648	1	1
Tier 6: 8,001 – 10,000	\$95.00	\$109.65	48	997	0	3
Tier 7: >10,001	\$95.00	\$128.69	47	1270	1	2

Cons:

- i) Based on the analysis of the water consumption data from the City of Columbia, there are about 2,000 Broad River customers that do not receive water services from the City of Columbia. The assumption is the majority of these customers have private wells, which would make it difficult to charge these customers by water usage without meter reading. Below is a couple of options for the customers with a private well. Each of these options requires bidding out the installation:
 - (1) The option of installation of meter to monitor the sewer flow:
 - (a) Staff contacted Mueller and Pulsar: They have stated there is no flow meter for individual homes currently used; however, a flow meter used for pump stations can

be installed to monitor flow. This option will require a Parshall Flumes with Pulsar Ultrasonic Meter. The cost of the flume varies in size from \$500 to \$3000 plus the installation of \$300. The Ultrasonic meter costs \$2865. For each home, the estimated total cost will be around \$4665.00. Also, the installation of flume will require a property easement (5ft X 5ft) and power to be supplied by the homeowner. The total cost for 2000 homes for this option is approximately \$9.3 million. This does not include the wireless data collection system or additional staff needed to collect the monthly readings. The homeowner to provide power to the meter.

(2) The option of installation of meter to monitor water usage:

(a) This option will require a water meter installed at the customer's water source. The total cost for the water meter installation is \$593. The supplies for the installation costs \$393 and the cost of the meter is \$200. The water meter installation requires an easement from each customer. The total cost for water meter for 2000 homes for this option is approximately \$1.8 million.

ii) This option will require an annual review of winter months' usage data received from the City of Columbia. The water consumption data from the City of Columbia covers a cluster of customers not served by RCU. This will require the Finance Department to extract valid usage information annually.

iii) If the City of Columbia does not provide the Utilities Department with the water usage data, the County is not able to pursue this option. The County would have to purchase special billing software to be able to bill customers monthly based on usage.

Scenario – Flat Rate

3. **Charge a flat rate:** This option maintains the current methodology, as derived by the Wildan study, which currently assesses a flat rate of \$55.68/month per residential equivalent unit, which is the portion of a user's facility that impacts the wastewater system equivalent to a single-family residence. Consistent with Council's approval at the Regular Session meeting held on February 19, 2019, effective July 1, 2020 the rate will increase to \$64.03/month per residential unit, and effective July 1, 2021 the rate will increase to \$72.03/month per residential unit.

Cons:

i) There is a disparity in sewer rates for the new Richland County sewer customers transferred from City of Columbia sewer service.

Scenario – Multi-Class Rate Structure **Recommended**

4. **Converting from another fee for service model to Richland County's flat rate fee model:** This option applies to the Transfer Area customers only. They will be charged a rate comparable to the City cost for their average usage for 2019. Their rate will increase at the same percentage each year as the other utilities customers. This will be the 15% increase for all the customers in FY21 and the yearly increase each year until the rate equals the flat rate. (See Table 3). The existing customer if disconnected and need to reconnect and the new customers added to the system in the transfer area will pay the flat rate \$55.68 for FY20 and 15% increased rate of \$64.03 for FY21 as approved by the County Council.

Table 3: Billing System Based on Water Usage - Transfer Area

Water Consumption (Cubic/Month)	Usage or flat rate FY20	15% increase FY21	Transfer Area Customers
0	\$13.81	\$15.88	33
1	\$20.99	\$24.14	50
2	\$28.17	\$32.40	132
3	\$35.35	\$40.65	158
4	\$42.53	\$48.91	193
5	\$49.71	\$57.17	177
6	\$55.68	\$64.03	123
7	\$55.68	\$64.03	100
8	\$55.68	\$64.03	85
9	\$55.68	\$64.03	60
10	\$55.68	\$64.03	47
11	\$55.68	\$64.03	98

Cons:

- Rate disparity between a portion of City of Columbia transfer customers and customers establishing sewer service for the first time
- Number of years it will take to align the rates, depends on relevant flat rate being charge by Richland County and the rate the transfer customer was paying before becoming a part of Richland County's system.

Plan Outline to review financial health of the Utilities System

Year 1 – Collect the data to benchmark the expenses and revenue. (Utilities and Finance)

The benchmarking will have planning, analysis, integration, and actions required to document all the identified parameters. Making sure the operation and maintenance of the existing systems are continued to serve the customers.

Monthly highlight of water/sewer project during its construction phase. Sewer system FAQs and tidbits about how having a well maintained sewer system impacts quality of life. Water systems FAQs and tidbits about how access to water can be lifesaving, highlighting improved fire safety. Communication including pictures of old system and equipment as compared to new system and equipment and explanation of the old capabilities vs. the new capabilities. Communicate 3 year rate plan approved by Council (PIO, Utilities, Administration, Council)

Year 2 – Analyze the data to actual expenses, revenue collected, and compare the data with payments for the borrowed money. This will give the necessary information to help to address future rates. Quarterly report out to Sewer Committee (Utilities, Budget, Finance)

Communication showing completed parts of the project. Include feedback from residents, HOA's, the School District etc. Continue to highlight the value residents are receiving from the dollars they are spending. Communicate county's plan to implements a new rate study next year. (PIO, Utilities, Administration)

Year 3 – Solicit request for proposals for new rate study and select vendor. (Utilities and Procurement)
Discuss elements of proposed solicitation with Sewer Committee before advertising for submittals.

Year 4 – The rate study will evaluate all the parameters of Richland County Utilities and compare it with other utilities within Richland County and surrounding counties. The results of the rate study will be shared with the Sewer Committee and County Council to inform decision making concerning any system needs. (PIO, Utilities, Finance, Administration)

Year 5 – Implement any new rates approved by County Council in the previous fiscal year, whether a decrease or increase. Communicate to the citizens the health of system and what is being done to maintain the system that has been invested in. Show results of the completed water/sewer project, including transformed school grounds with open sewer lagoons filled. (Utilities, PIO, Administration)

Attachment:

1. City of Columbia's Rate Sheet



City of Columbia
Rate Sheet.pdf

2. Flow meter types and costs



Flow Meter Types +
Costs.pdf

3. Exhibit 1 – Financial Projections for Scenario 3



Exhibit 1 - (COVID19)
Scenario 3 - No distin

4. Exhibit 2 – Financial Projections for Scenario 4



Exhibit 2 - (COVID19)
Scenario 4 -Transfer C

July 1, 2019

In City Rate

Summer Max on Sewer

Out of City Rate

Summer Max on Sewer

April - October

April - October

RESIDENTIAL

		Water per 100 \$2.91				Sewer per 100 \$4.22				Water per 100 \$4.96				Sewer per 100 \$7.18			
Base Fee		Base Fee				Base Fee				Base Fee				Base Fee			
						8.12	8.12	8.12	13.00					13.81	13.81	13.81	22.09
CuFt	Gals	5/8"	1"	1.5"	2"	5/8"	1"	1.5"	2"	5/8"	1"	1.5"	2"	5/8"	1"	1.5"	2"
100	750	8.12	13.56	20.31	32.49	12.34	12.34	12.34	17.22	13.81	23.05	34.53	55.24	20.99	20.99	20.99	29.27
200	1500	8.12	13.56	20.31	32.49	16.56	16.56	16.56	21.44	13.81	23.05	34.53	55.24	28.17	28.17	28.17	36.45
300	2250	8.12	13.56	20.31	32.49	20.78	20.78	20.78	25.66	13.81	23.05	34.53	55.24	35.35	35.35	35.35	43.63
400	3000	11.03	16.47	23.22	35.40	25.00	25.00	25.00	29.88	18.77	28.01	39.49	60.20	42.53	42.53	42.53	50.81
500	3750	13.94	19.38	26.13	38.31	29.22	29.22	29.22	34.10	23.73	32.97	44.45	65.16	49.71	49.71	49.71	57.99
600	4500	16.85	22.29	29.04	41.22	33.44	33.44	33.44	38.32	28.69	37.93	49.41	70.12	56.89	56.89	56.89	65.17
700	5250	19.76	25.20	31.95	44.13	37.66	37.66	37.66	42.54	33.65	42.89	54.37	75.08	64.07	64.07	64.07	72.35
800	6000	22.67	28.11	34.86	47.04	41.88	41.88	41.88	46.76	38.61	47.85	59.33	80.04	71.25	71.25	71.25	79.53
900	6750	25.58	31.02	37.77	49.95	46.10	46.10	46.10	50.98	43.57	52.81	64.29	85.00	78.43	78.43	78.43	86.71
1000	7500	28.49	33.93	40.68	52.86	50.32	50.32	50.32	55.20	48.53	57.77	69.25	89.96	85.61	85.61	85.61	93.89
1100	8250	31.40	36.84	43.59	55.77	54.54	54.54	54.54	59.42	53.49	62.73	74.21	94.92	92.79	92.79	92.79	101.07
1200	9000	34.31	39.75	46.50	58.68	58.76	58.76	58.76	63.64	58.45	67.69	79.17	99.88	99.97	99.97	99.97	108.25
1300	9750	37.22	42.66	49.41	61.59	62.98	62.98	62.98	67.86	63.41	72.65	84.13	104.84	107.15	107.15	107.15	115.43
1400	10500	40.13	45.57	52.32	64.50	67.20	67.20	67.20	72.08	68.37	77.61	89.09	109.80	114.33	114.33	114.33	122.61
1500	11250	43.04	48.48	55.23	67.41	71.42	71.42	71.42	76.30	73.33	82.57	94.05	114.76	121.51	121.51	121.51	129.79
1600	12000	45.95	51.39	58.14	70.32	75.64	75.64	75.64	80.52	78.29	87.53	99.01	119.72	128.69	128.69	128.69	136.97
1700	12750	48.86	54.30	61.05	73.23	79.86	79.86	79.86	84.74	83.25	92.49	103.97	124.68	135.87	135.87	135.87	144.15
1800	13500	51.77	57.21	63.96	76.14	84.08	84.08	84.08	88.96	88.21	97.45	108.93	129.64	143.05	143.05	143.05	151.33
1900	14250	54.68	60.12	66.87	79.05	88.30	88.30	88.30	93.18	93.17	102.41	113.89	134.60	150.23	150.23	150.23	158.51
2000	15000	57.59	63.03	69.78	81.96	92.52	92.52	92.52	97.40	98.13	107.37	118.85	139.56	157.41	157.41	157.41	165.69
2100	15750	60.50	65.94	72.69	84.87	96.74	96.74	96.74	101.62	103.09	112.33	123.81	144.52	164.59	164.59	164.59	172.87
2200	16500	63.41	68.85	75.60	87.78	100.96	100.96	100.96	105.84	108.05	117.29	128.77	149.48	171.77	171.77	171.77	180.05
2300	17250	66.32	71.76	78.51	90.69	105.18	105.18	105.18	110.06	113.01	122.25	133.73	154.44	178.95	178.95	178.95	187.23
2400	18000	69.23	74.67	81.42	93.60	109.40	109.40	109.40	114.28	117.97	127.21	138.69	159.40	186.13	186.13	186.13	194.41
2500	18750	72.14	77.58	84.33	96.51	113.62	113.62	113.62	118.50	122.93	132.17	143.65	164.36	193.31	193.31	193.31	201.59
2600	19500	75.05	80.49	87.24	99.42	117.84	117.84	117.84	122.72	127.89	137.13	148.61	169.32	200.49	200.49	200.49	208.77
2700	20250	77.96	83.40	90.15	102.33	122.06	122.06	122.06	126.94	132.85	142.09	153.57	174.28	207.67	207.67	207.67	215.95
2800	21000	80.87	86.31	93.06	105.24	126.28	126.28	126.28	131.16	137.81	147.05	158.53	179.24	214.85	214.85	214.85	223.13
2900	21750	83.78	89.22	95.97	108.15	130.50	130.50	130.50	135.38	142.77	152.01	163.49	184.20	222.03	222.03	222.03	230.31
3000	22500	86.69	92.13	98.88	111.06	134.72	134.72	134.72	139.60	147.73	156.97	168.45	189.16	229.21	229.21	229.21	237.49
3100	23250	89.60	95.04	101.79	113.97	138.94	138.94	138.94	143.82	152.69	161.93	173.41	194.12	236.39	236.39	236.39	244.67
3200	24000	92.51	97.95	104.70	116.88	143.16	143.16	143.16	148.04	157.65	166.89	178.37	199.08	243.57	243.57	243.57	251.85
3300	24750	95.42	100.86	107.61	119.79	147.38	147.38	147.38	152.26	162.61	171.85	183.33	204.04	250.75	250.75	250.75	259.03
3400	25500	98.33	103.77	110.52	122.70	151.60	151.60	151.60	156.48	167.57	176.81	188.29	209.00	257.93	257.93	257.93	266.21
3500	26250	101.24	106.68	113.43	125.61	155.82	155.82	155.82	160.70	172.53	181.77	193.25	213.96	265.11	265.11	265.11	273.39
3600	27000	104.15	109.59	116.34	128.52	160.04	160.04	160.04	164.92	177.49	186.73	198.21	218.92	272.29	272.29	272.29	280.57
3700	27750	107.06	112.50	119.25	131.43	164.26	164.26	164.26	169.14	182.45	191.69	203.17	223.88	279.47	279.47	279.47	287.75
3800	28500	109.97	115.41	122.16	134.34	168.48	168.48	168.48	173.36	187.41	196.65	208.13	228.84	286.65	286.65	286.65	294.93
3900	29250	112.88	118.32	125.07	137.25	172.70	172.70	172.70	177.58	192.37	201.61	213.09	233.80	293.83	293.83	293.83	302.11
4000	30000	115.79	121.23	127.98	140.16	176.92	176.92	176.92	181.80	197.33	206.57	218.05	238.76	301.01	301.01	301.01	309.29
4100	30750	118.70	124.14	130.89	143.07	181.14	181.14	181.14	186.02	202.29	211.53	223.01	243.72	308.19	308.19	308.19	316.47
4200	31500	121.61	127.05	133.80	145.98	185.36	185.36	185.36	190.24	207.25	216.49	227.97	248.68	315.37	315.37	315.37	323.65
4300	32250	124.52	129.96	136.71	148.89	189.58	189.58	189.58	194.46	212.21	221.45	232.93	253.64	322.55	322.55	322.55	330.83
4400	33000	127.43	132.87	139.62	151.80	193.80	193.80	193.80	198.68	217.17	226.41	237.89	258.60	329.73	329.73	329.73	338.01
4500	33750	130.34	135.78	142.53	154.71	198.02	198.02	198.02	202.90	222.13	231.37	242.85	263.56	336.91	336.91	336.91	345.19
4600	34500	133.25	138.69	145.44	157.62	202.24	202.24	202.24	207.12	227.09	236.33	247.81	268.52	344.09	344.09	344.09	352.37
4700	35250	136.16	141.60	148.35	160.53	206.46	206.46	206.46	211.34	232.05	241.29	252.77	273.48	351.27	351.27	351.27	359.55
4800	36000	139.07	144.51	151.26	163.44	210.68	210.68	210.68	215.56	237.01	246.25	257.73	278.44	358.45	358.45	358.45	366.73
4900	36750	141.98	147.42	154.17	166.35	214.90	214.90	214.90	219.78	241.97	251.21	262.69	283.40	365.63	365.63	365.63	373.91
5000	37500	144.89	150.33	157.08	169.26	219.12	219.12	219.12	224.00	246.93	256.17	267.65	288.36	372.81	372.81	372.81	381.09
5100	38250	147.80	153.24	159.99	172.17	223.34	223.34	223.34	228.22	251.89	261.13	272.61	293.32	379.99	379.99	379.99	388.27
5200	39000	150.71	156.15	162.90	175.08	227.56	227.56	227.56	232.44	256.85	266.09	277.57	298.28	387.17	387.17	387.17	395.45
5300	39750	153.62	159.06	165.81	177.99	231.78	231.78	231.78	236.66	261.81	271.05	282.53	303.24	394.35	394.35	394.35	402.63
5400	40500	156.53	161.97	168.72	180.90	236.00	236.00	236.00	240.88	266.77	276.01	287.49	308.20	401.53	401.53	401.53	409.81
5500	41250	159.44	164.88	171.63	183.81	240.22	240.22	240.22	245.10	271.73	280.97	292.45	313.16	408.71	408.71	408.71	416.99
5600	42000	162.35	167.79	174.54	186.72	244.44	244.44	244.44	249.32	276.69	285.93	297.41	318.12	415.89	415.89	415.89	424.17
5700	42750	165.26	170.70	177.45	189.63	248.66	248.66	248.66	253.54	281.65	290.89	302.37	323.08	423.07	423.07	423.07	431.35

This financial projection represents Scenario 3 in the briefing document

Exhibit 1

Rates Increase in January to \$64.03 for all Customers

Description	Projected For Fiscal Year	
	Ending June 30:	
	2020	2021
<u>User Rate Revenue</u>		
BRS qrtly billing	7,967,808	8,719,676
BRS Apartments	219,156	235,609
South East Existing	33,408	35,913
South East New	467,712	1,005,564
Eastover	77,563	83,379
FinnChem	124,446	124,446
North Region Sewer	0	0
Sewer System	\$ 8,890,093	\$ 10,204,587
Water System	\$ 227,311	\$ 275,551
Total	\$ 9,117,404	\$ 10,480,138
<u>BRS (NW) & North Region</u>		
Percent Increase	25.0%	15.0%
Monthly Rate	\$ 55.68	\$ 64.03 January Inc.
Taps	11,925	12,140
Customers	10,764	10,979
<u>South East Region Sewer</u>		
Percent Increase	48.1%	15.0%
Monthly Rate	\$ 55.68	\$ 64.03 January Inc.
Customers	50	50
New Customers	1400	1400
<u>All Water Regions</u>		
Water Increase	0.0%	0.0%
Average Bill	\$ 43.35	\$ 43.35
Customers		
Other Revenue	607,500	768,000
Total Revenue	9,724,904	11,248,138
Transfer Customer Pmt	\$ 283,584	\$ 567,168
O&M Expenses	\$ 6,927,923	\$ 5,988,380
Available for Debt	\$ 2,513,397	\$ 4,692,590
Debt Service	\$ 2,236,429	\$ 3,329,256
Debt Coverage 1.2	1.12	1.41
Remaining Funds	\$ 276,968	\$ 1,363,334
Transfers to Other Funds	\$ (3,103,000)	\$ -
Net Remaining Funds	\$ (2,826,032)	\$ 1,363,334
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 7,029,192	\$ 2,813,160
Remaining Funds	\$ (2,826,032)	\$ 1,363,334
Capital	\$ (1,390,000)	\$ (3,205,000)
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 2,813,160	\$ 971,492

This financial projection represents Scenario 4 in the briefing document

Exhibit
2

Rates Increase in January to \$64.03-Transfer Flat rate with Jan. Inc.

Description	Projected For Fiscal Year Ending	
	June 30:	
	2020	2021
<u>User Rate Revenue</u>		
BRS qrtly billing	7,967,808	8,719,676
BRS Apartments	219,156	235,609
South East Existing	33,408	35,913
South East New	338,279	727,293
Eastover	77,563	83,379
FinnChem	124,446	124,446
North Region Sewer	0	0
Sewer System	\$ 8,760,660	\$ 9,926,316
Water System	\$ 227,311	\$ 275,551
Total	\$ 8,987,971	\$ 10,201,867
<u>BRS (NW) & North Region</u>		
Percent Increase	25.0%	15.0%
Monthly Rate	\$ 55.68	\$ 64.03 January Inc.
Taps	11,925	12,140
Customers	10,764	10,979
<u>South East Region Sewer</u>		
Percent Increase	48.1%	15.0%
Monthly Rate	\$ 55.68	\$ 64.03 January Inc.
Customers	50	50
Monthly Rate	Avg rate 43.72	Avg rate 50.28
New Customers	1400	1400
<u>All Water Regions</u>		
Water Increase	0.0%	0.0%
Average Bill	\$ 43.35	\$ 43.35
Customers		
Other Revenue	607,500	768,000
Total Revenue	9,595,471	10,969,867
Transfer Customer Pmt	\$ 283,584	\$ 567,168
O&M Expenses	\$ 6,927,923	\$ 5,988,380
Available for Debt	\$ 2,383,964	\$ 4,414,319
Debt Service	\$ 2,236,429	\$ 3,329,256
Debt Coverage 1.2	1.07	1.33
Remaining Funds	\$ 147,535	\$ 1,085,063
Transfers to Other Funds	\$ (3,103,000)	\$ -
Net Remaining Funds	\$ (2,955,465)	\$ 1,085,063
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 7,029,192	\$ 2,683,727
Remaining Funds	\$ (2,955,465)	\$ 1,085,063
Capital	\$ (1,390,000)	\$ (3,205,000)
Ending Fund Balance	\$ 2,683,727	\$ 563,727

20. **REPORT OF THE TRANSPORTATION AD HOC COMMITTEE**

- a. Mitigation Credit Sales – Kershaw County, Beechwood at Camden Project – Mr. Jackson stated the committee recommended approval of this item.

Mr. Malinowski stated all of the reviews, and dates of reviews, are blank in the briefing document, so he does not know what reviews or recommendations resulted in. He noted on p. 300 it says “gross proceeds” and it was indicated at the committee meeting it should have been “net”, but the briefing document still reflects “gross”; therefore, he cannot support this item.

Mr. Jackson responded that the reviews did take place by Legal, Finance and Budget, and should have been indicated.

In Favor: Malinowski, Dickerson, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Jackson and Newton

Opposed: Walker and Myers

Abstain: Manning

The vote was in favor.

- b. Staff Augmentation Additional Selection Approval – Mr. Jackson stated the committee recommended approval of 4 additional groups to support the Transportation Department.

In Favor: Dickerson, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Walker, Jackson, Myers and Newton

Opposed: Malinowski and Manning

The vote was in favor.

21. **REPORT OF THE SEWER AD HOC COMMITTEE**

- a. Council Motion: I move that Richland County staff reevaluate the sewer project methodology to potentially allow for usage based rather than flat rate fees [MYERS] – Mr. Malinowski stated the committee recommendation was for new development, dependent on Richland County water or sewer services, or both, that the developer be required to meter the homes for usage, and that going forward Richland County develop a phased-in plan, so that a certain number of historic customers are annually brought into a metered system, until all customers are metered.

Ms. Newton made a substitute motion to approve staff’s rate recommendation (p. 317) and adopt Scenario 4 (p. 323), with a slight modification that whenever the County’s flat rate increased by more than 15% that the transfer customer rates be allowed to increase up to 20%, not to exceed the County’s flat rate. Ms. Dickerson seconded the motion.

Mr. Malinowski stated, if we do this, we are not addressing the situation, which has been around for years of how we get away from the flat rate. In Scenario 4, it says the transfer customers’ rate will increase at the same percentage year, as the other utility customers. He would like to know how anyone ends up getting near the flat rate, if the increase is the same.

Mr. Brown responded the County already had some rates approved for the next few fiscal years, so the assumption the information makes is that those rates will not be increasing annually.

Mr. Malinowski stated if the rate does not increase, then these other people's rates will not increase. It says, "it will increase at the same percentage each year, as other utility customers." Therefore, it does not address the "catch up" rate or "usage vs. flat rate".

Mr. Brown stated an individual, whose rates are not equivalent to the County's flat rate, their rate will continue to increase, until it meets the County's flat rate.

Mr. Malinowski made the following friendly amendment to the substitute motion: that addition to the proposed rate structure in Scenario 4 that we also move forward with requirements to meter new homes and develop a phased-in plan for existing homes.

Ms. Newton stated, for clarification, these are homes located in the Richland County service area.

Ms. Myers stated she understands Ms. Newton's concerns, but none of what she has put in her motion speaks to what we discussed in the committee regarding fair treatment of people, within the same class. We have still not spoken to the disparity within a class. She would like some analysis of that from Legal staff.

Ms. Newton stated, when Ms. Myers says disparity within the class, she is specifically referring to the transfer customers where, because Richland County has a flat rate, the objective is to get those customers to a flat rate.

Ms. Myers stated, at the committee meeting, when we discussed the transfer customers, as well as the Franklin Park, we discussed the issue that they could all be one class because they had the same experience with rates dramatically increasing, but some of the customers had a decrease in the rate. She understands what Ms. Newton is saying is that they hit the ceiling faster, but that means the class is not all being treated the same. It also introduces the possibility for someone outside of the class to say they want a different rate.

Ms. Newton stated, she cannot speak to the Franklin Park customers, but looking at the City of Columbia customers, she spoke to some sewer attorneys about the rate structure we are proposing, which is where she got her information. As everyone is moving toward the flat rate, within the transfer customers, they will all be treated the same.

Ms. Myers inquired, if someone's rates dramatically increased, but someone else's rate went down, are we saying they are being treated the same.

Mr. Smith stated he did not review this matter. He believes Ms. McLean did, but he knows we were talking about the importance of making sure we were consistent and the rates were the same. If we were going to create a class to make the rates the same in the class, unless we could come up with a rational basis to treat them differently. He is not sure what format this particular version is in. It sounds like, from what Ms. Newton has said, this version did not get our review, but she spoke to someone else about it. If that is the case, then he would say, in order for him to address the question, he would need to take a look at it.

Mr. Brown responded this information was shared, and he is not sure who did, or did not, review it. The criteria that went into some of this information clearly states, with the unified system, if it contends to charge different rates to different customers, they need to be group together, in classes, where each class member is treated equally. These classes we are talking about are grouped based on the service, and the services provided. Currently the services are provided by mechanisms. One service is provided by wastewater treated by Richland County, and the other service is provided by

wastewater treated by the City of Columbia. Therefore, those two classes are distinct, so each member in that class is being provided service the same way. Those classes are defined by the services they receive.

Ms. Myers stated, what she is saying is, they are not being treated the same within the class, and Franklin Park, which is getting less service than all of the classes, is being left out. The reason we did not bring forward this recommendation is, while the classes were established, within the transfer customer class, we are basically establishing two rate structures, and the Legal Department told us we could not do that.

Mr. Brown responded he is not sure he agrees on the two different rate structures, within the class, but he hears Ms. Myers' question.

Ms. Myers stated, if one person in the class was paying more than our flat rate, and one was paying substantially less than our flat rate, and we take one back to the old rate they were paying and raise them up until they get to the ceiling, but we take the other one, within the same class, and lower their rate to our ceiling, we do not have parody within the class. We have two separate rate categories within the class. We also discussed that Franklin Park is getting service from no one, but is paying for future service.

Mr. Malinowski responded he recalls that Ms. Myers requested some information to be brought back. He was supporting Ms. Newton's substitute motion because it will be a while before we meet again, and trying to get those customers from the City back where they should be, which may be possible in the overall motion. If the objective is to have customers, within the class, reach the flat rate the County is charging, then reducing the rate of those at the high end, will accomplish that.

Mr. Brown stated, if we have to place meters before we are able to make movement on this particular area that will not be resolved by next week, because we will not have the ability do that in the short-term.

Ms. Myers responded she does not think the questions coming out of committee did not turn on whether there were meters. We were trying to figure out how to put people in classes, and how to fairly find a rate for the Franklin Park people, who are not receiving service from either Richland County or the City of Columbia.

POINT OF ORDER – Mr. Walker stated there is an appropriately seconded motion on the floor. Therefore, the unilateral decision to not address it tonight is out of order.

Mr. Malinowski stated, according to his notes from the committee meeting, Ms. Myers referred to the rate study, and that the assumptions were flawed.

Ms. Myers made a second substitute motion, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to defer this item.

In Favor: Malinowski, McBride, Livingston, Terracio and Myers

Opposed: Dickerson, Walker, Manning, Jackson and Newton

The second substitute motion for failed.

Ms. Newton stated part of the question is based on a broad policy of metering, and part is based on creating a rate structure for the transfer customers. Therefore, she moved to adopt staff's rate

recommendations, and adopt Scenario 4, as presented on p. 323. Ms. Dickerson seconded the motion.

Mr. Malinowski requested a legal opinion on if Ms. Newton's motion is properly before Council because her motion has nothing to do with the committee's recommendation.

Mr. Smith responded, once a committee's recommendation comes before Council, Council can decide to either act on that recommendation or amend the recommendation.

Ms. Myers stated we now have the transfer customers, who are being treated in a class, but we have a class of customers who are getting service below all classes of our customers, and they will be charged considerably more than everybody if we take this action, without including those customers. Her issue at the committee meeting, and tonight, is if we are talking about fairness in the system, they are the ones who are being treated least fair because they are not getting treated wastewater. They are getting wastewater that runs into a hole. She does not know how we create this class, for the sake of fairness. She would like Franklin Park to be included, but the issue, at the committee, is that we did not have information on how they should be included. They are the ones whose rates doubled for literally nothing, so they are below the transfer customers. She thought we were trying to give staff some time to tell us what to do with them. She does not think you can create these new classes and leave them out.

Ms. Newton stated, when it comes to a class structure, what makes a class is there are a definable group by their characteristics. Franklin Park can certainly be a separate class because they do not meet the criteria for the City of Columbia, since they did not have their services transferred by the City of Columbia. Perhaps that is something the committee could take up and bring back next Tuesday, but for this particular group, this is something that was brought to Council in February, with a motion to have a solution by March, and it is now July. The motion before us is something that has been investigated by staff, and recommended on several occasions. It does not preclude us, or the Sewer Ad Hoc Committee, from going back and looking at Franklin Park. It does not preclude us from looking at how we do metering in the future, but it does allow us to address some customers who literally woke up not having their service changed, but having their rates double and triple, for the benefit of others, which is inherently unfair.

Ms. Newton moved, seconded by Mr. Walker, to call for the question.

In Favor: Dickerson, Livingston, Terracio, Walker, Manning, Jackson, Myers and Newton

Opposed: Malinowski

The vote was in favor of calling for the question.

Ms. Roberts restated the motion before Council is as follows: was to approve staff's recommendation, which is Scenario 4.

In Favor: Dickerson, Livingston, Terracio, Walker, Jackson, Myers and Newton

Opposed: Malinowski

Abstain: Manning

The vote was in favor.

Ms. Myers instructed staff to deal with some fix for the Franklin Park who are not getting any treatment, and are paying more in this new class.

Mr. Walker moved, seconded by Ms. Dickerson, to reconsider this item.

In Favor: Malinowski

Opposed: Dickerson, Livingston, Terracio, Walker, Jackson, Myers and Newton

The motion for reconsideration failed.

22. **OTHER ITEMS**

- a. Letter of Support for McEntire JNGB – Mr. Brown stated we received a request for a letter of support, which was submitted to Council. In order for them to move forward with the procurement of the land they are trying to buy, they need to obtain letters of support from Council.

Mr. Walker moved, seconded by Mr. Malinowski, to approve the request.

Mr. Malinowski inquired about the amount of taxes received from this piece of property.

In Favor: Malinowski, Dickerson, McBride, Livingston, Terracio, Walker, Jackson, Myers and Newton

The vote in favor was unanimous.

- b. COVID-19 Pandemic Relief Grant Update – Ms. A. Myers stated the grant closed to new applications at 11:59 PM on June 30th, with a total of 490 applicants. Staff reviewed all applications for eligibility. There was \$1.9M in funding requests from area non-profits, which would have impacted low-income families, healthcare workers, children and youth, and individuals experiencing homeless. There were \$5.2M in funding requests from area small businesses. We also noticed an overall decrease in staff across the County's small businesses. The next round of award recommendations begin on p. 350 of the agenda packet. In absence of a designated Council member, the grant committees met to review and score applications. The recommendations for both non-profit and small business recipients are included in the agenda packet. Ultimately, we are asking that Council consider these entities for award, and should these entities be approved for award, staff will begin to disburse funds following the receipt of all appropriate documentation from those entities.

Ms. McBride stated we have not provided any funds to the constituents that are need. For clarification, right now we are just dealing with the entities that will be managing the funds for us.

Ms. A. Myers inquired if Ms. McBride is asking if we have disburse funds to recipients from the first round.

Ms. McBride responded she is referring to the constituents that are in need of rental assistance and food from these grants.

Ms. A. Myers stated they have disbursed funds to the first round of non-profit grant recipients.

Ms. McBride stated, for clarification, the entities, we awarded the funds to, are doing this. She would like to know how the citizens know who to contact to get resources.