

Staff Report

Subject: Office of Representative Earl 'Buddy' Carter FY27 Community Project Funding Request

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Department: Procurement, Engineering

Meeting Date: March 3, 2025

Item Description: Consideration to authorize submission of a FY27 Community Project Funding request through the Office of Representative Earl L. "Buddy" Carter for the Marlow Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project.

Summary Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board authorize submission of a \$10,000,000 FY27 Community Project Funding request under the Environmental Protection Agency's State and Tribal Assistance Grants (STAG) – Clean Water State Revolving Fund account for construction of the Marlow Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project.

Executive Summary / Background:

Effingham County has identified the need for expanded wastewater infrastructure in the Marlow community as growth continues along the Highway 17 corridor. The Marlow Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project represents the next phase of implementation from the County's Highway 17 Sewer Master Planning effort and is designed to address increasing system capacity demands.

The project includes construction of a regional lift station, installation of approximately 12,957 linear feet of 16-inch force main, gravity sewer lines, and associated infrastructure necessary to provide reliable wastewater conveyance and protect groundwater resources. The sanitary sewer construction cost is estimated at \$17,263,690.46.

Engineering and supporting studies are underway, and the County has initiated a Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) procurement process, positioning the project to move into construction upon receipt of funding.

Staff proposes submitting a \$10,000,000 FY27 Community Project Funding request through Representative Buddy Carter under the Environmental Protection Agency's State and Tribal Assistance Grants – Clean Water State Revolving Fund account.

Federal participation would leverage significant local investment, support planned growth within the corridor, and help reduce the financial impact on utility customers while addressing a critical regional infrastructure need.

Alternatives for Commission to Consider:

- Authorize submission of the FY27 Community Project Funding request in the amount of \$10,000,000 for the Marlow Sanitary Sewer Improvements Project.
- Do not authorize submission and provide alternate direction to staff.

Recommended Alternative: 1

Other Alternatives: 2

Department Review: Procurement, Engineering

Funding Source: FY2026 Capital Improvement Projects

Attachments: Engineer's Opinion of Probable Cost – Marlow W & S Improvements, Federal Nexus Statement