

MAYOR
JERRY M. MEDLIN

MAYOR PRO-TEM
CASANDRA P. STACK

COMMISSIONER
MAXINE HOLLEY
JAMES D. JOHNSON
DEAN MCLAMB
WILLIAM NEIGHBORS
DR. R. MAX RAYNOR



TOWN OF BENSON
P.O. BOX 69
303 EAST CHURCH STREET
BENSON, NC 27504
(919) 894-3553
FAX (919) 894-1283
www.townofbenSON.com

TOWN MANAGER
FREDERICK NELSON

ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER
KIMBERLY PICKETT

TOWN CLERK
ANGELA THORNTON

TOWN ATTORNEY
R. ISAAC PARKER

April 29, 2021

Congressman David Rouzer
2333 Rayburn House Office
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Expansion for Sewer Treatment Capacity

Congressman Rouzer,

This letter is to provide general information regarding our request for funding in the amount of \$1,000,000 for expansion of sewer treatment capacity in the Town of Benson. Your support is greatly appreciated helping improve our facility to provide treatment of wastewater for the Town. We recognize this to be critical to economic vitality of the region while providing appropriate service to our residents.

Expansion of Sewer Treatment Capacity (\$1,000,000) – Our facility provides wastewater treatment for the entire town as well as a portion of flow from Four Oaks and surrounding Southern Johnston County. The facility was constructed in 1979, and is currently rated for 1.9 million gallons per day. We currently treat flows equal to about 82% of our permitted flow. We experience significant challenges safely maintaining the plant during heavy rain events like hurricanes. The facility is positioned on Hannah Creek Road with roughly 50 acres of available land. The available land and existing infrastructure positions this facility to expand to treat 4.9 million gallons per day or more. Our facility is geographically positioned to serve the greater Benson area. We believe that expansion of our treatment capacity is the most cost-effective approach to providing a critical infrastructure component to support extensive regional economic development.

Preliminary evaluations of the facility have identified extensive needs in the facility to upgrade equipment to integrate into expansion plans. The Town was awarded through NCDEQ an SRF Loan opportunity for \$3,200,000. The scope of this project targets influent screening components of the treatment process. A need of an additional \$1,000,000 dollars is noted to pursue upgrades to the existing filtration system. Engineers are currently working on further assessments and design. We are in a position to obligate FY2022 appropriations to this project. We anticipate beginning construction in Spring of 2022, with a construction time of one year. Final completion date for this project will be determined upon completion of design, but is anticipated to be April 2023.

This appropriation will aide in pursuing the goal of increasing overall treatment capacity and operating efficiencies. Total project cost for complete facility expansion is estimated at over \$12,000,000.

This request is being handled by Jerry Medlin, Mayor of the Town of Benson. His office is located at Town of Benson Town Hall at 303 East Church St., Benson, NC 27504.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jerry Medlin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

Jerry Medlin, Mayor

cc: Fred Nelson, Town Manager
Kimberly Pickett, Finance Director
Tim Robbins, Director in Public Works and Utilities