



NORTH CAROLINA  
Environmental Quality

ROY COOPER

Governor

ELIZABETH S. BISER

Secretary

SHADI ESKAF

Director

June 4, 2024

The Honorable Guillermo Nurse, Mayor  
City of Oxford  
300 Williamsboro Street  
PO Box 1307  
Oxford, NC 27565

Subject: American Rescue Plan Act  
Engineering Report Funding Approval  
City of Oxford  
Sewer System Improvements Phase 5  
DWI Project Nos. CS370439-10 & SRP-W-ARP-0245

Dear Mayor Nurse:

The Division of Water Infrastructure (Division) has completed its review of the engineering report and environmental document for the subject project. Based upon the review, the Division has determined that the above-referenced project is eligible for funding as follows:

Eligible:

Replacement by parallel installation of approximately 9,200 LF of 8-inch, 4,800 LF of 10-inch and 600 LF of 16-inch gravity sewer pipe and 51 manholes; and rehabilitation of three (3) manholes.

Non-Eligible:

Paving of roadways in excess of the excavated area; spare parts, service contracts, and maintenance contracts; and extended warranties.

Based upon a detailed review of the future bid documents, the Division may determine that portions of the project are not eligible for funding and the total funding amount may be reduced.

Please note that funding is contingent on meeting the schedule provided in your *Letter of Intent to Fund*, or your approved Funding Deadline Extension approval letter (if applicable), as tabulated below:



North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality | Division of Water Infrastructure  
512 N. Salisbury Street | 1633 Mail Service Center | Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1633  
919.707.9160

<u>Milestone</u>	<u>Date</u>
Design-and-Bid Package Approval	August 1, 2024
Advertise Project, Receive Bids, Submit Bid Information, <u>and</u> Receive Authority to Award	October 1, 2024
Execute Construction Contract(s)	December 1, 2024
Receive Final Disbursement – <b>Statutory (ARPA only)</b>	December 31, 2026

To facilitate the North Carolina Local Government Commission’s (LGC) required review of the repayable-loan portion of the subject project, please complete (based on your organization’s most recently completed, annual audit) the LGC’s forms *LGC-108A* and *LGC-108C* and forward them to the Division, and specifically, directly to the attention of Mark Hubbard, P.E., who can be reached via e-mail at [mark.hubbard@deq.nc.gov](mailto:mark.hubbard@deq.nc.gov). Copies of the necessary LGC forms are available at the following URL: <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure/i-have-funding/construction-disbursement-funds#lgc-forms>.

In addition, local government units intending to incur debt (i.e., service a repayable loan) as a means of financing capital-improvement projects (including, for example, drinking water, wastewater, and/or stormwater infrastructure-improvement projects), and which will require debt to be issued for an amount of **greater than \$1,000,000** (in accordance with North Carolina General Statute (N.C.G.S.) 120-157.2), must prepare and submit a letter of notification to the North Carolina General Assembly’s Joint Legislative Committee on Local Government (**JLC**). You are wholly responsible for preparing and submitting this letter to the necessary parties (see next paragraph), and for providing a copy of it to the Division.

The **JLC Notification Letter**, if required, shall be addressed to the attention of the Committee Chairs and Committee Assistant of the JLC, and to the Fiscal Research Division of the North Carolina General Assembly, and it shall be transmitted to them a minimum of **forty-five (45) days** prior to the anticipated date of your loan’s presentation before the LGC (on one of their official monthly agenda). Please note that you must also submit a copy of the JLC Notification Letter to the LGC as well, as it is part of their staff’s review of the requested loan.

**All costs incurred prior to March 3, 2021, are not eligible for ARPA funds, and all ARPA funds must be expended prior to December 31, 2026. The Division will make no disbursement of ARPA funds after December 31, 2026.**

Please submit Plans and Specifications via the new Online Supporting Documentation Submittal Form located at <https://edocs.deq.nc.gov/Forms/DW-Document-Upload-Form>. The link to the online submittal form and a list of frequently asked questions can also be accessed from the Division’s “I Have Funding” page, <https://www.deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure/i-have-funding>.

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City of Oxford  
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If you have any questions, please contact Adrian Eaton either by telephone at 919.707.9178 or by e-mail at [adrian.eaton@deq.nc.gov](mailto:adrian.eaton@deq.nc.gov).

Sincerely,

*Antonio V. Evans*

Antonio V. Evans, P.E., Supervisor  
Wastewater and Stormwater Projects Unit

Attachments: Categorical Exclusion

cc: RJ Mosley, P.E., McGill Associates, ([rj.mozeley@mcgillassociates.com](mailto:rj.mozeley@mcgillassociates.com))  
Robert Miller, P.E., McGill Associates, ([robert.miller@mcgillassociates.com](mailto:robert.miller@mcgillassociates.com))  
Amy Ratliff, P.E., City Engineer, City of Oxford ([aratliff@oxfordnc.org](mailto:aratliff@oxfordnc.org))  
Antonio V. Evans, P.E. (DWI, via e-mail)  
Adrian Eaton (DWI, via e-mail)  
Mark Hubbard, P.E. (DWI, via e-mail)  
Keith Krzywicki, P.E. (DWI, via e-mail)  
Susan Kubacki (DWI, via e-mail)  
DWI Agreement ID 2000062126 (**ER/EID – ERAL**)

## Categorical Exclusion

### North Carolina Division of Water Infrastructure

Project Applicant: City of Oxford  
Date: June 4, 2024  
Project Name: Sewer System Improvements Phase 5  
Project Numbers: CS370439-10 & SRP-W-ARP-0245  
Estimated Project Cost: \$9,652,954.00  
Estimated Funding Amount: \$9,561,720.00

#### Project Description:

Replacement by parallel installation of approximately 9,200 LF of 8-inch, 4,800 LF of 10-inch and 600 LF of 16-inch gravity sewer pipe and 51 manholes; and rehabilitation of three (3) manholes.

The above-named applicant will receive funding assistance from the State Revolving Fund. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Infrastructure (**Division**) has conducted a review of the project in accordance with the NCGS §159G-38. The Division has determined that this project is below the minor construction activities threshold outlined in the 15A NCAC 01C .0408; therefore, the project is exempt from inter-agency review, and the preparation of additional environmental documents is not required.

This determination shall become effective upon its distribution by the Division and will be available on the Division's website (<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/water-infrastructure/division-water-infrastructure/environmental-documents>). This determination can be revoked at any time adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this decision will be on file with the Division, and is available for public scrutiny upon request.

Comments concerning this decision may be addressed in writing to Ms. Stephanie Suter, Deputy Director, Division of Water Infrastructure, North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, 1633 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699. Alternatively, she can be reached via telephone at 919.707.9044 or via e-mail at [stephanie.suter@deq.nc.gov](mailto:stephanie.suter@deq.nc.gov).

Sincerely,

*Antonio V. Evans*

Antonio V. Evans, P.E., Supervisor  
Wastewater & Stormwater Projects Unit  
Division of Water Infrastructure