A major challenge is the high time commitment and federal requirements for volunteer training, which often deters interested individuals.

The current mandatory training requirements for CAC volunteers are extensive:

Phase/Requirement	Hours	Notes	
Initial Pre-Classroom	7 hours	Independent study (videos/materials)	
Classroom Training	15 hours	Phase 1: Education, talking to facilities	
Facility Training (Fieldwork)	10-14 hours	Phase 2	
Annual Continuing Education (CE)	18 hours	Yearly requirement	
Annual Education Requirement	10 hours	Yearly requirement	
Total Annual Education	36 hours	Up from a previous 15 hours/year	

### **Clear Creek Sewer System**

The Board continued to discuss the most current information pertaining to the Clear Creek Sewer System.

County Engineer Marcus Jones presented the following:

CCSS Project: Purpose

- To provide sewer service to Edneyville Elementary school in response to NCDEQ permitting requirement.
- Secondary service benefits of project:
  - · WNC Justice Academy
  - County Facilities (Community Center, Park, Library)
  - Edneyville Fire Department
  - Existing commercial properties with failing on-site systems

CCSS Project: Current Funding

NC American Recovery Plan Act of 2021: \$12.7 million
 (Note, must be spent by December 31, 2026)

• County's Capital Reserve (Edneyville Elementary): \$2.5 million

• County Funds (County ARPA allocation):

\$1.05 million

• County's NC Justice Academy Fund (if JA is served):

\$780,000

• Total (Funds allocated without State ARPA):

\$3.55 to \$4.33 million

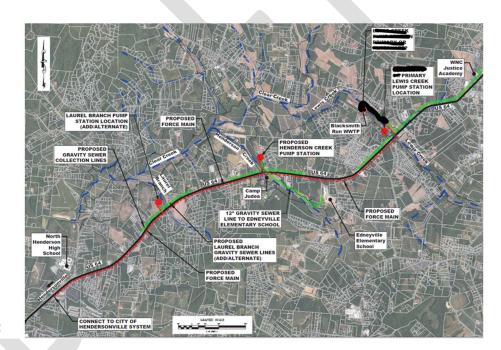
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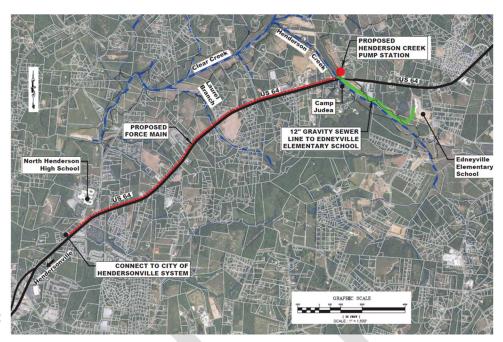
# Option 1: Awarded Project Scope



WGLA Engineering, LLC

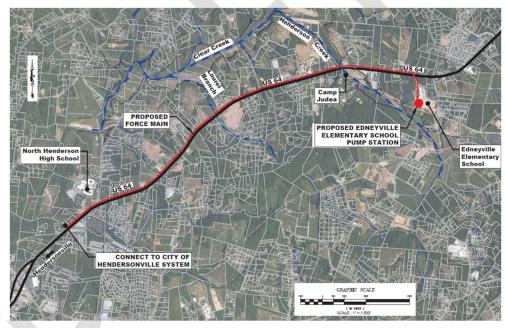
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# Option 2: Henderson Creek Pump Station and Gravity Line



WGLA Engineering, LLC

Option 3:
Edneyville
Elementary
School
Pump
Station



VGLA Engineering, LLC

Option 4:

Delay Project Until Funding is Available

(DWI staff recommended SRF application in the Spring)

## **Project Financial Information**

 Funds Expended to Date on Professional Services, Easements: \$1,997,005

- Currently Allocated Funds: \$3.55 to \$4.33 million
- Participation from Camp Judea like Mud Creek Sewer project: contribute the cost or percentage of the cost to replacing their WWTP. They will have to spend this amount if our project does not happen.

## **Project Options Funding**

Option	Construction	Total Project	Funds	Funds	
	Cost	Cost	Available	Needed	
1 - Awarded Project Scope	15,650,000	17,000,000	4,300,000	12,700,000	
2 - Henderson Creek Pump Station and Gravity Line (WGLA)	6,650,000	9,500,000	3,500,000	6,000,000	
3 - Edneyville ES Pump Station	5,500,000	9,000,000	3,500,000	5,500,000	
4 - Delay Project	-	-	-	-	
* - Funds available include County ARPA funds (expended), Capital Reserve Funding, and/or Justice Academy Fund Balance					

Will Buie reported that the contractor has agreed to extend the bid deadline to January 9, 2026.

Mr. Jones noted that the existing septic system at Edneyville Elementary was designed for a maximum capacity of 600 students. It was also noted that Edneyville Elementary School cost \$25 million to construct and currently operates on a 60-year-old septic system, underscoring the need for long-term wastewater solutions.

Mr. Jones explained that Option 2 could proceed without delay, given the easements, permits, engineering work, and other approvals already in place. However, Option 2 offers limited connectivity options, is more expensive than previously expected, and does not include Justic Academy funding. Jones and Buie estimated that a couple of months will be required to obtain a firm bid for Option 2. Despite these limitations, when asked, Buie and Jones recommended Option 2. Option 3 would require starting over with permitting, engineering, and approvals, resulting in substantial delays.

Commissioner McCall made a motion to proceed with a rescoped Option 2 and to put the project out to bid as timely as possible. All voted in favor, and the motion passed unanimously.

Approved: