

Public Input

There was none.

Commissioner Lapsley made the motion to go out of the Public Hearing. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Vice-Chair Edney made the motion to approve the incentives as presented. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

2023.23 Draft Environmental Assessment – Clear Creek Sewer Discharge Permit Application

Chairman McCall made the motion to go into Public Hearing. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

During the Board's April 4, 2022, meeting, WGLA Engineering was contracted to develop the permit application for a wastewater treatment discharge into Clear Creek. This is the first step in implementing the proposed Clear Creek Sewer System to serve Edneyville Elementary school, the NC Justice Academy, and surrounding areas. A draft Environmental Assessment has been completed with comments received from State agencies. The permit process requires the applicant, Henderson County, to conduct this public hearing. A copy of the draft Environmental Assessment can be found at the following link:

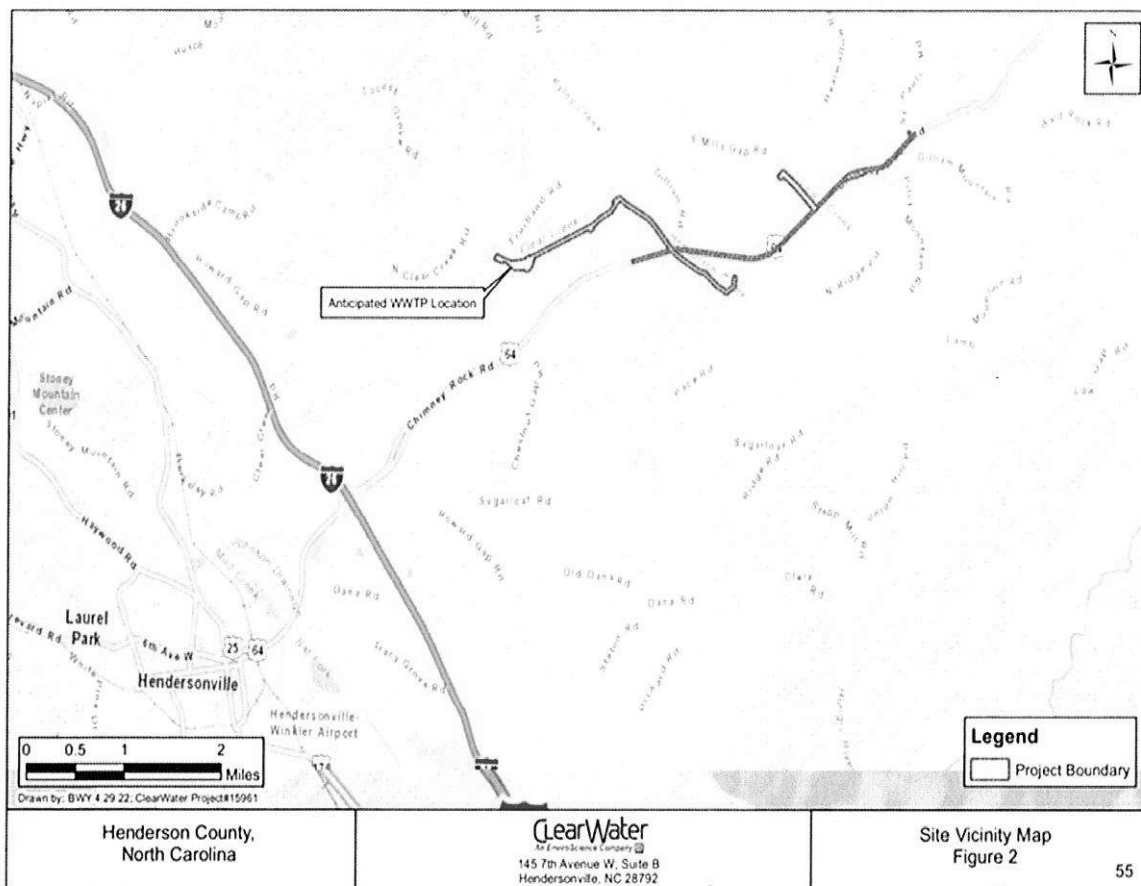
<https://www.hendersoncountync.gov/engineering/page/draft-environmental-assessment-clear-creek-sewer-discharge-permit>

Clear Creek Sewer System Public Hearing Henderson County Courthouse February 6, 2023 Presented by: Eric Romaniszyn ClearWater An EnviroScience Company   	Project Overview • Project Purpose – New sewer system service Edneyville area – WWTP, pump station, sewer line – Treat up to 200,000 gallons of wastewater/day – Accommodate 20-year population growth rate • Purpose of Environmental Assessment – Consider existing conditions – Direct impacts – Secondary and cumulative impacts – Mitigation measures
---	---

Alternatives Considered

- No action
- Land Application
- Wastewater Reuse
- Connection to City of Hendersonville
- Surface Water Discharge (NPDES Permit)

Clear Creek Sewer Wastewater Treatment Plant (+/- 163 AC)



Eric Romaniszyn, a Senior Scientist with ClearWater Environmental Consultants in Hendersonville, stated they were contracted on behalf of Henderson County to complete an environmental assessment of the Clear Creek Sewer System project as mandated by the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). Mr. Romaniszyn presented the following overview for the Board.

Will Buie with WGLA Engineers said this was a big step forward as they received comments from State and Federal Agencies related to this project as part of the draft document. Of those comments, 90% have been dispersed or dispatched. Those folks now agree that there is no significant impact related to the project. They are addressing the last couple of comments as they move forward. Giving the public the opportunity to give public comment at tonight's meeting is part of that process and will be wrapped into the final environmental documents.

Vice-Chair Edney asked if this draft document was to get the treatment facility permit.

Marcus Jones said this is the first step to get the permit for the wastewater treatment plant. Then we can move on to getting the collection system design permitted and construct.

Vice-Chair Edney said that the map area does not include everywhere the County is running lines. However, Mr. Buie said the map does include all those lines.

Vice-Chair Edney said no, it doesn't. It does not come up Hwy 64 all the way.

Mr. Buie said it does not travel 64 the entire length. However, he said the sections of Hwy 64 are highlighted in orange in the above map.

Vice-Chair Edney asked how far it is to where the line ends on the map to where City sewer is currently available. Mr. Buie said to get to where the City of Hendersonville has public sewer available; it is about 2 miles away.

Vice-Chair Edney stated, "so we are abandoning that part of the County?" Mr. Buie said absolutely not; there is potential that this could be expanded further. However, this project looks at the basins of Lewis Creek, Henderson Creek, and along Clear Creek to Fruitland Road.

Vice-Chair Edney said this is "baby step one" because we are taking sewer much further than the map indicates.

Commissioner Lapsley noted that a copy of the environmental assessment had been made available for Board members to review; the copy is located in the Commissioners' lobby.

Chairman McCall asked if there were environmental impacts if this project did not move forward. Mr. Buie said there most certainly were environmental impacts. The fact that there are multiple package plants that discharge to streams that are classified as trout waters; many of those package plants have violations, they do not meet water quality standards today, and will continue to deteriorate over the years. We will see a continued degradation of water quality if those package plants are not removed from the system.

Chairman McCall stated that was one of the big reasons the Board is pursuing the project.

Public Input

There was none.

Chairman McCall made the motion to go out of the Public Hearing. All voted in favor, and the motion carried.

DISCUSSION

2023.24 Tax Collector's Report – Order Advertising Taxes

The February 2023 Tax Collector's report (required by N.C. Gen. Stat. §105-369(a)) was presented for the Board's information. Among the data presented in the amount of delinquencies for the 2022 tax year.

N.C. Gen. Stat. §105-369(a) requires the Board to order each February the publication of the tax lien notification to delinquent taxpayers for the previous tax year.

In February of each year, the tax collector must report to the governing body the total amount of unpaid taxes for the current fiscal year that are liens on real property. A county tax collector's report is due the first Monday in February, and a municipal tax collector's report is due the second Monday in February. Upon receipt of the report, the governing body must order the tax collector to advertise the tax liens.

Tax Assessor Darlene Burgess, Deputy Collector Luke Small, and Assistant Assessor Kevin Hensley were present to ask the Board for permission to advertise the delinquent unpaid real property tax liens.

Commissioner Hill asked if there was a larger amount that will be advertised this year in comparison to previous years' advertisements. Mrs. Burgess said there were less than last year.

Commissioner Hill asked about the growth in the number of parcels over the last year. Mrs. Burgess said