

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: March 19, 2025

SUBJECT: Sewer Projects Update – Etowah Sewer System

PRESENTER: Marcus Jones, County Engineer

ATTACHMENTS: No

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Staff will provide the Board with the most current information pertaining to the Etowah Sewer System in Henderson County.

Regarding Engineering Services for the Etowah Treatment Plant Replacement:

The staff has completed the evaluation of the Etowah Sewer System's wastewater treatment plant and determined that the facility is well beyond its useful life. In addition, the monthly reports on the flow at the plant exceed the permitted capacity. Of course, adding capacity to a plant past the useful life is very problematic and may not be possible to permit. A new plant with additional capacity is required. Therefore, staff released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to solicit engineering firms to plan, locate best site, develop funding strategies, design, permit, and administer construction for a new treatment plant.

In accordance with NC General Statute 143-64.31 (Procurement of Architectural, Engineering, and Surveying Services), staff developed a RFQ and on January 23, 2025, posted it on the County's website. The responses were received on February 12, 2025.

The following firms submitted Statements of Qualifications: Kimley-Horne and WithersRavenel. The responses are available at the Historic Courthouse in the office of the County Engineer or online on the County's RFP page.

The selection committee consisted of Andrew Griffin (Facility Services Director) and Marcus Jones, PE (County Engineer). A detailed review of the firms was conducted based on the criteria established within the RFQ. Based on their responses and further investigations, staff recommend WithersRavenel as the most qualified firm.

Pending Board approval, staff will negotiate an agreement with the selected firm and return to the Board for approval. The scope of this agreement will be to perform necessary planning for the plant replacement to include size and location.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the selection of WithersRavenel as the most qualified responding firm to perform engineering services for the Etowah Sewer System Treatment Plant replacement.

Suggested Motion:

I move the Board approve the selection of WithersRavenel as the most qualified responding firm to perform engineering services for the Etowah Sewer System Treatment Plant replacement.