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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 11th, 2015

DeKalb County Department of Watershed Management Launches Consent Decree Website

Communication tools designed to educate, inform public of progress

DECATUR, Ga. –

Today, DeKalb County's Department of Watershed Management's (DWM) Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Division announced the official launch of its new Consent Decree Program website, www.dekalbconsentdecree.com. The new site features general information about the program, its associated infrastructure improvement projects, and a user-friendly, interactive Project Finder feature that allows visitors to search for active DeKalb County CIP water and sewer construction projects. The Project Finder allows users to search for projects within a half-mile, one-mile or two-mile radius of a specific address, as well as by commission district or keyword. Information available on each project includes location, budget, schedule, description and current construction phase.

"The new website is one of many communication tools we are using to ensure people are educated and well-informed about the projects included in the Consent Decree," said Kenneth Saunders, Program Director, Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Division, Department of Watershed Management. "Continuous communication with the residents and business owners affected by the improvement activities is vital to the overall success of this program."

Concurrently, the CIP also launched the *Consent Decree Connection* quarterly electronic newsletter and a social media campaign via Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/DeKalb-County-Consent-Decree/611484352307733>.

The *Consent Decree Connection* features articles on current and recent projects, FOG (Fats, Oils & Grease), safety tips and interesting facts and figures about the County's sanitary sewer collection system. Social media will be used as a real-time communication vehicle to disseminate information to the public. The website, newsletter and social media are linked together online for added convenience. By implementing the aforementioned

communication tools, the Department of Watershed Management's goal is to provide advance notification of upcoming construction activity, traffic advisories, community meeting details and update the public on the program's progress on an ongoing basis.

The Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Division is a unit of the Department of Watershed Management. Currently overseeing a 5-year, \$1.345 billion countywide capital improvement program comprising the repair and upgrade of the county's water and wastewater infrastructure, the division's main goal is to create sustainable growth and development of the county's \$5 billion water and wastewater assets serving the county's more than 700,000 residents.

DeKalb County is Georgia's third largest county with more than 700,000 residents calling it home. Known for its business and education hub, growing international community and natural wonders, DeKalb County Government is administered by Interim Chief Executive Officer Lee May and legislative policy is set by a seven-member Board of Commissioners.

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