



# DOOLITTLE/BLUE/SUGAR CREEKS TRUNK SEWERS UPSIZING PROJECT

## Public Information Open House

Date: August 27, 2024

*Project Email : [doolittlesewer@dekalbcountyga.gov](mailto:doolittlesewer@dekalbcountyga.gov)*

*Project Website : [www.doolittlesewer.com](http://www.doolittlesewer.com)*

*DWM Project Hotline : 1-800-986-1108 (M.-F. 8.30 a.m. – 5 p.m.)*



# Agenda



## Reasons for Project

- Drivers/Needs
- Problems/Proposed Solutions
- Basis for Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks Trunk Sewers Upsizing Project
- Condition of Existing Trunk Sewers

## Scope Overview

- Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks Trunk Sewers Upsizing Scope Background/Overview
- Impact to Private Properties
- Environmental Impact
- Construction Options
- Project Timeline
- Project Cost Estimation
- Other Trunk Sewer Projects

## Proposed Communication Plan

- Communication Strategies
- Virtual Meeting Room/Website
- Method of Communication

# DRIVERS/ NEEDS

## Priority Fix List (PFL) Sites

- 2 PFL Sites in this area
- Experiences 4 SSOs Per Year, Spilling Avg. 876,000 Gallons Per Year

Excessive I/I  
(Inflow/Infiltration)

Aged Infrastructure  
(Installed in  
1950s and 1960s)

Growth - Lack of  
Capacity

Operational  
Efficiencies (Reverse  
Slope, Exposed Pipe,  
Stream Bank, etc)

## Benefits to Our Shared Environment

- ▶ The County understands the connection between a quality sanitary sewer system and a healthy environment.
- ▶ Eliminating sewer spills from the County's rivers and streams is key to improving our aquatic environment
- ▶ The ecological health of our water resources benefits both the environment and our citizens.



# Benefits of the Consent Decree



## BENEFITS

### JOB CREATION

#### Priority Area Rehab and Trunk Sewer Projects will:

- Create an estimated 1,891 jobs from 2021 through 2026.

### ALLOW GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

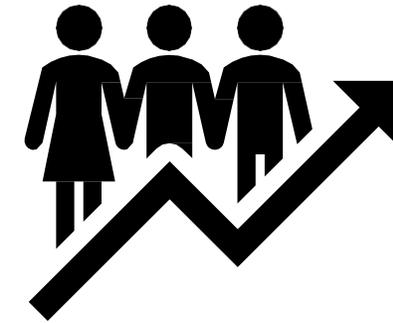
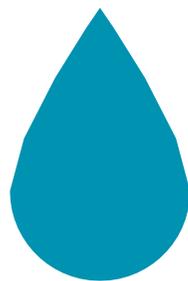
#### New Connections

- Since 2017, there have been 1,551 requests to connect to the sewer system
- 379 are pending approval
- These represent delays to new commercial developments.

### PLANNED GROWTH

#### By 2050:

- Population served to be an estimated 900,000
- Employment in the County's service area to be approximately 640,000.



## SUPPORTING GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT

*Sewer connections allow new residents and increased employment*

YEAR	SERVICE AREA POPULATION <sup>(1)</sup>	SERVICE AREA EMPLOYMENT <sup>(1)</sup>
2020	695,282	514,037
2030	755,525	561,264
2040	832,390	585,634
2050	904,379	637,893
2060	972,697	718,974
2070	1,041,015	773,028

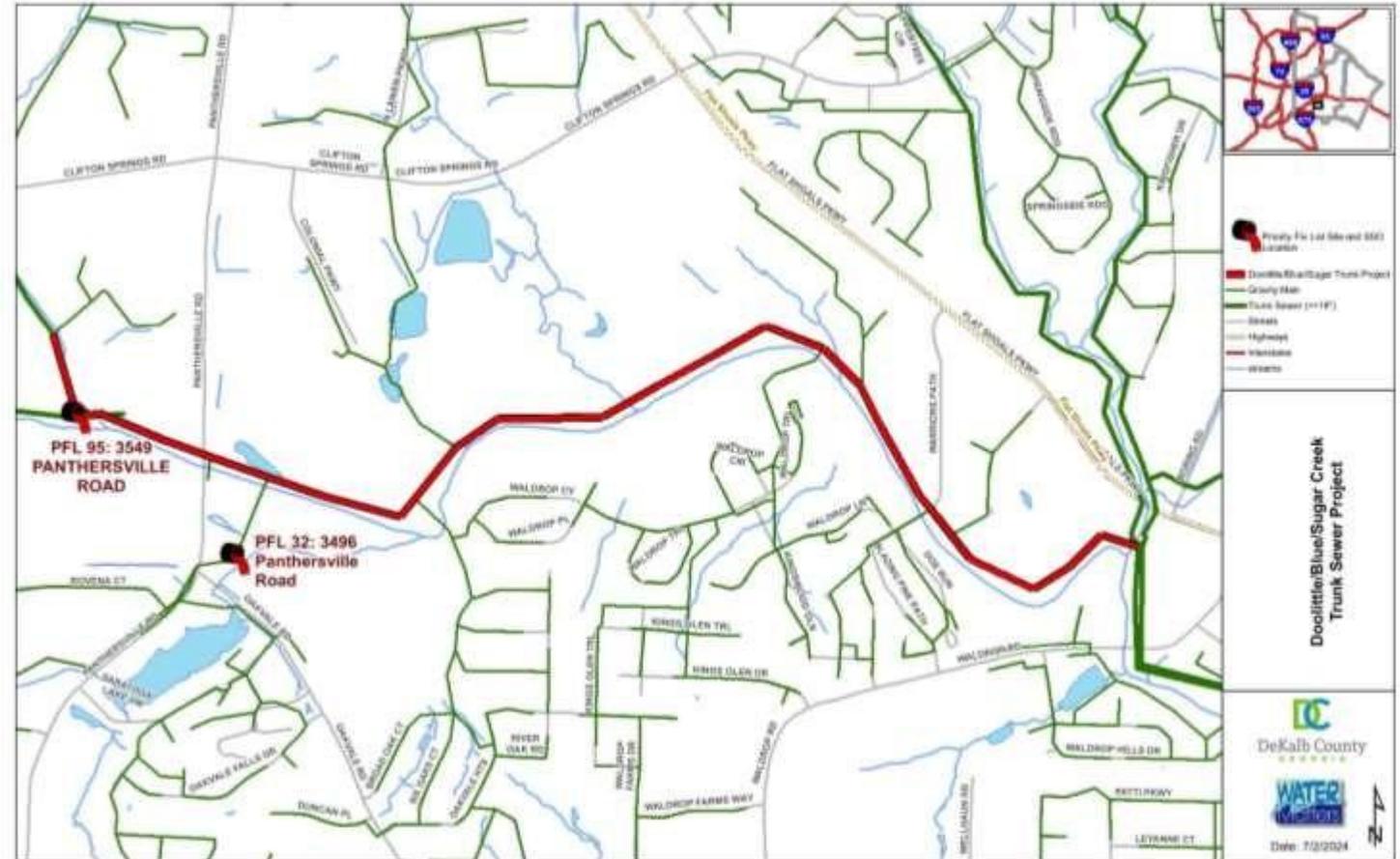
<sup>(1)</sup> Source: DeKalb County Sewer Master Plan (2020)

# Map of 2 Priority Fix List (PFL) Sites – Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks



- Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks are associated with 2 Priority Fix List (PFL) sites as defined in the Modified Consent Decree (MCD)
- Per MCD – PFL Sites need to be adequately fixed by Dec 2027
- These PFL Sites have a significant history of capacity related SSOs

PFL No.	Address
#32	3496 Panthersville Road
#95	3549 Panthersville Road



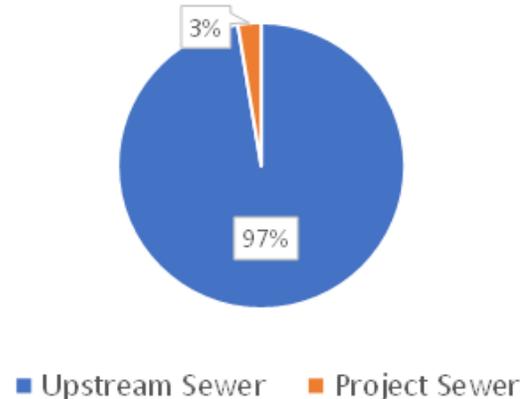
# Basis for Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks Trunk Sewers Upsizing Project



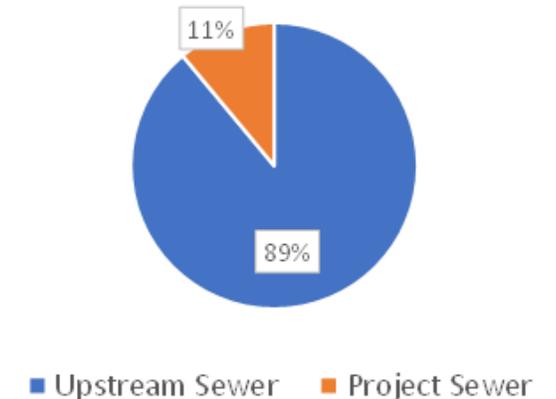
## Proposed Solutions:

- **Replacement of Sewer** – most effective, time-sensitive approach
- **Reduce I/I, Increase System Capacity** for the next 50-75 Years
- **Existing Sewers** – deteriorating manholes, flat or reverse slope pipes, located in wetlands, failed pipe/manhole connections
- **A Comprehensive Rehab Pilot Study** determined it is not sufficient to address capacity related SSOs in Doolittle/Blue/Sugar without replacing/upsizing the trunk sewers
- **Delaying** the project will result in continued spills of similar or greater magnitudes

Percentage of Project Sewer Versus Upstream Sewer by Length



Estimated I/I Contributed by Project Sewer Versus Upstream Sewer



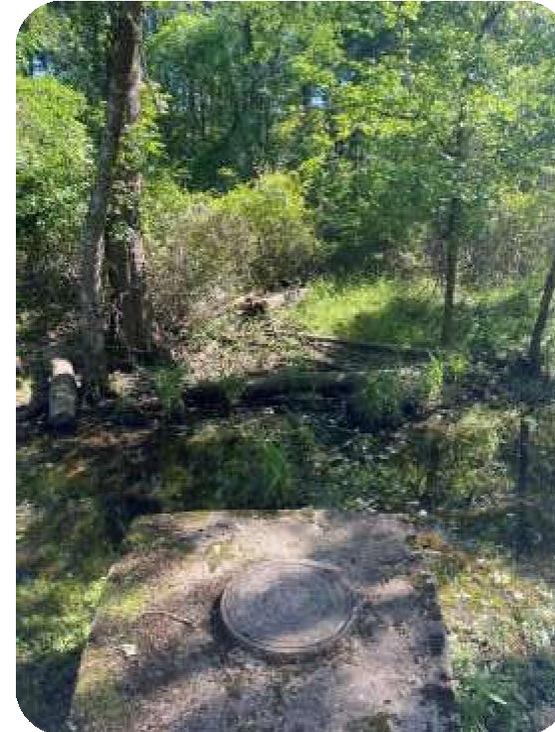
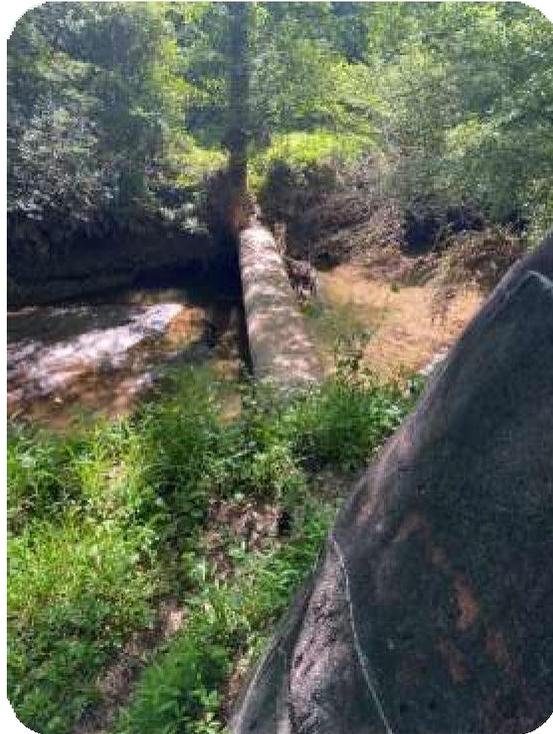
**Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks Trunk represents only 3% of sewers in the Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creek sewersheds, but contributes as much as 11% of I/I within the sewershed, per the calculation used in MCD**

# Conditions of Existing Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks Trunk Sewers



Deteriorating Manholes

Flat or Reverse  
Slope Pipes



Located in Wetlands

Failed Pipe/Manhole  
Connections

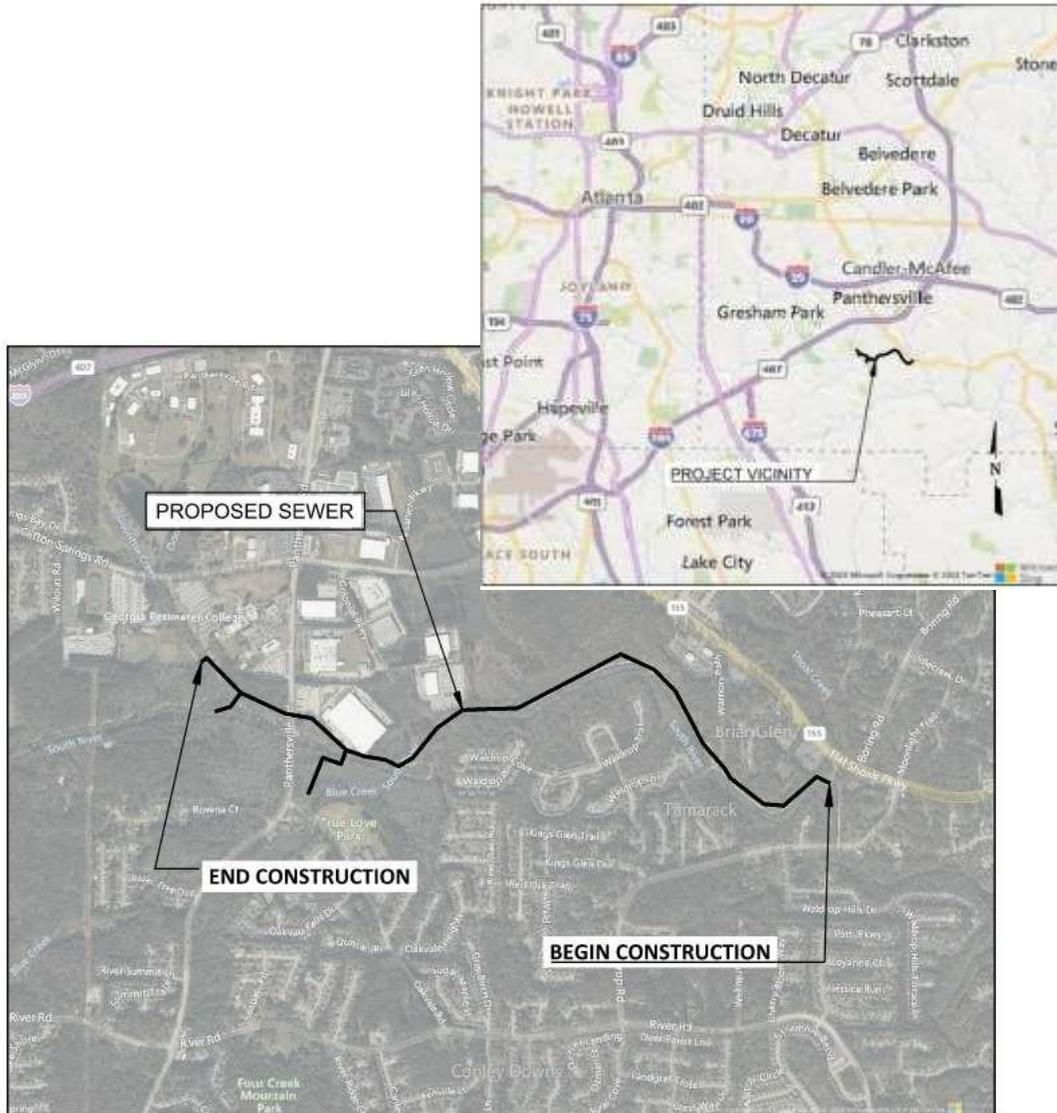




- DeKalb County - Entered into Modified Consent Decree (MCD) in 2021, included specific projects and milestones
- Sewer Master Plan - Identified numerous trunk sewers required to carry 2050 projected flows
- The Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks Trunk Sewers Project – Critical Path
- Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks - Part of Capital Improvement Project (CIP)
- Completion Milestone Under the Current MCD - December 2027

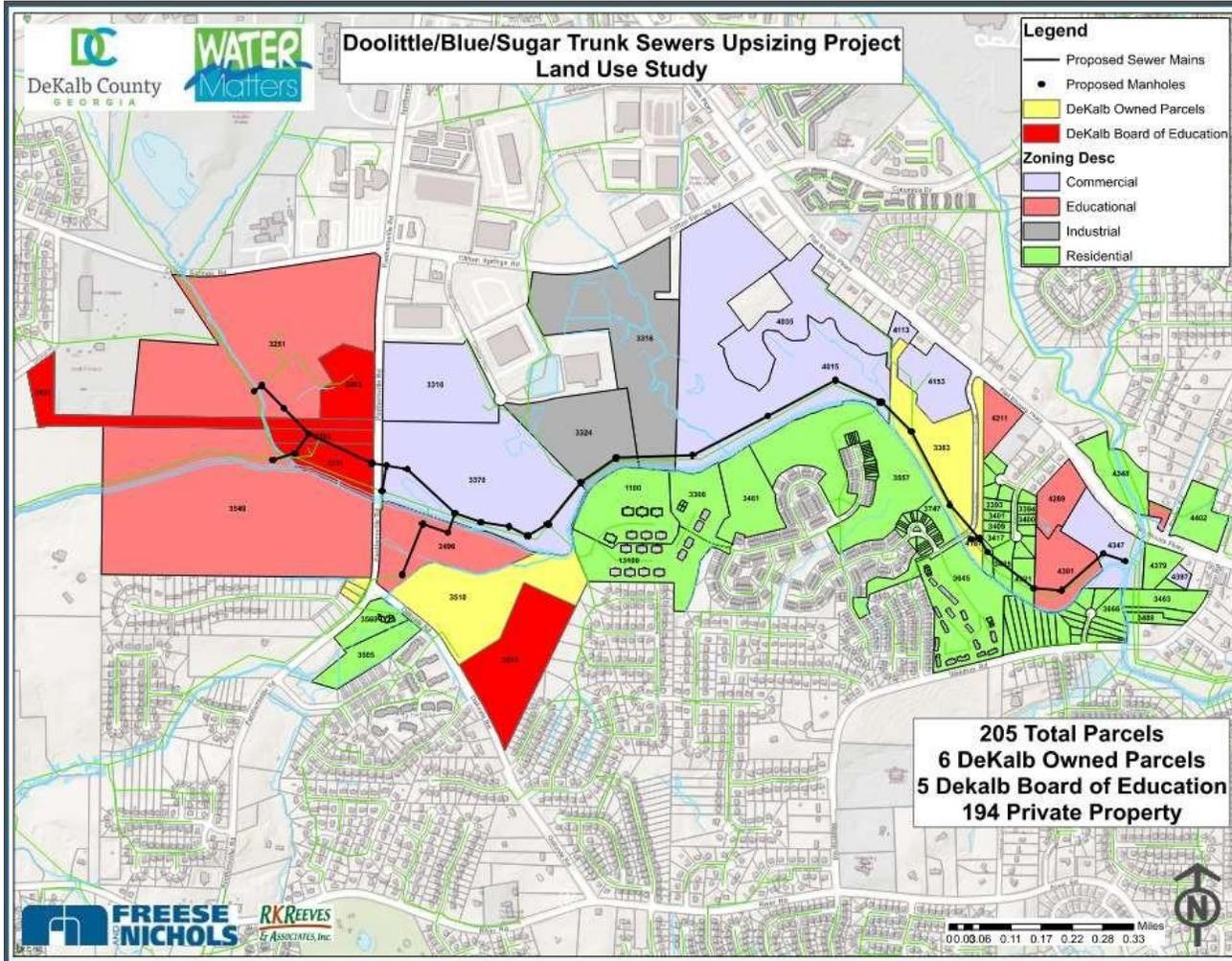
# Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks Trunk Sewers

## Upsizing Project Scope Overview



- Total of approximately **11,750 LF (~2.2 miles)**
- Design Engineer: **Freese and Nichols, Inc.**
- Existing size: **8” - 30”**, proposed size: **8” - 54”**
- Near Flat Shoals Parkway, along South River, Doolittle Creek, Blue Creek and Sugar Creek to Georgia Perimeter College.
- Two Road Crossings (**Warriors Path and Panthersville Road**)
- Commissioner District **3**
- Super Commissioner District **6**

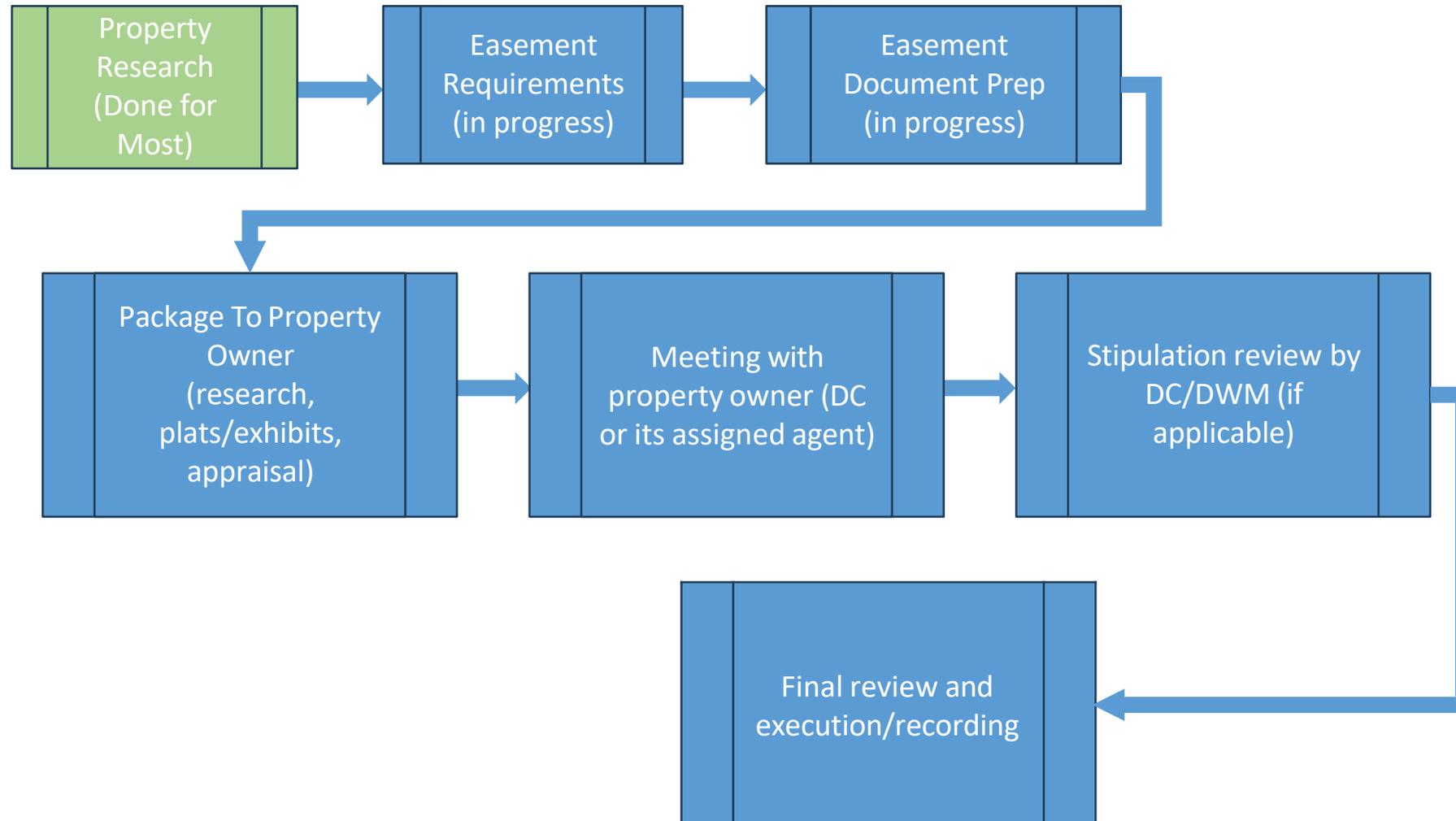
# Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks Impact on Private Properties



No. of Parcels*	Existing Easement (10-20 LF)**	DeKalb County Properties***	Jurisdiction
19	0	7 DeKalb Properties, 4 BOE	Unincorporated DeKalb

*\*Approximate No. of Parcels at 60% Design Stage*  
*\*\*Record of Existing Easement Needs Confirmation from Easement Research at Courthouse*  
*\*\*\*Easement Plats and Legals are Required for Board of Education Properties Only*

# Easement Negotiation Process Workflow



# Example of Right of Entry Form (ROE) and Easement Plat



**DeKalb County**  
GEORGIA

770.621.7200 (4)  
770.621.7271 (1)  
DeKalbCountyga.gov

Watershed Management  
160 Seno Street  
Decatur, GA 30030

Chief Executive Officer  
Michael Thurmond

Board of Commissioners:

- District 1  
Robert Patrick
- District 2  
Mistake Long Speech
- District 3  
VACANT
- District 4  
Stephen Braschev
- District 5  
Nevada Davis Johnson
- District 6  
Edward Teel Terry
- District 7  
VACANT

### RIGHT OF ENTRY (ROE) PERMISSION FORM

Date and Time	
Property Address	
Name (Print) Property Owner	
Phone Number (Home and/or Work) Property Owner	
Name (Print) County or Contractor Employee	
Phone Number County or Contractor Employee	
ROE Tracking Number	

DeKalb County ("County") and/or its contractor will be required to be outside of the County-owned easement area located on or adjacent to your property for sewer line assessment work associated with the **DeKalb/Wisec/Sugar Creek Trunk Sewers Upgrading Project**. The County and/or its contractor will require access to enter the property at insert address. Your permission will be required for County crews and/or Contractors to perform sewer line replacement outside dedicated easements or rights of way. This project is required by the 2011 Consent Decree and 2021 Modified Consent Decree mandated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State of Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD). The County is seeking your consent for work to begin on the property at the address noted above.

The County and its contractor(s) are required to restore your property and any authorized improvements back to substantially the same condition once the work is complete. This includes any portion of authorized driveways, fences, and trees, and the potential replacement of any lawn areas with new seed or sod. Excavated material will be used to backfill when possible.

Please note, however, that the County will not be responsible for damages to, or replacement of, any irrigation systems, fences, wires, poles, or structures that have been installed either: (1) in the County Right-of-Way in violation of DeKalb County Code Sec. 17-6; or (2) in any County-owned easement area in violation of the terms of such easement.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Property Owner), do hereby give my permission for the County and/or its contractor to enter my property and perform the needed sewer line assessment work. The right of entry will remain in effect until the assessment work is complete.

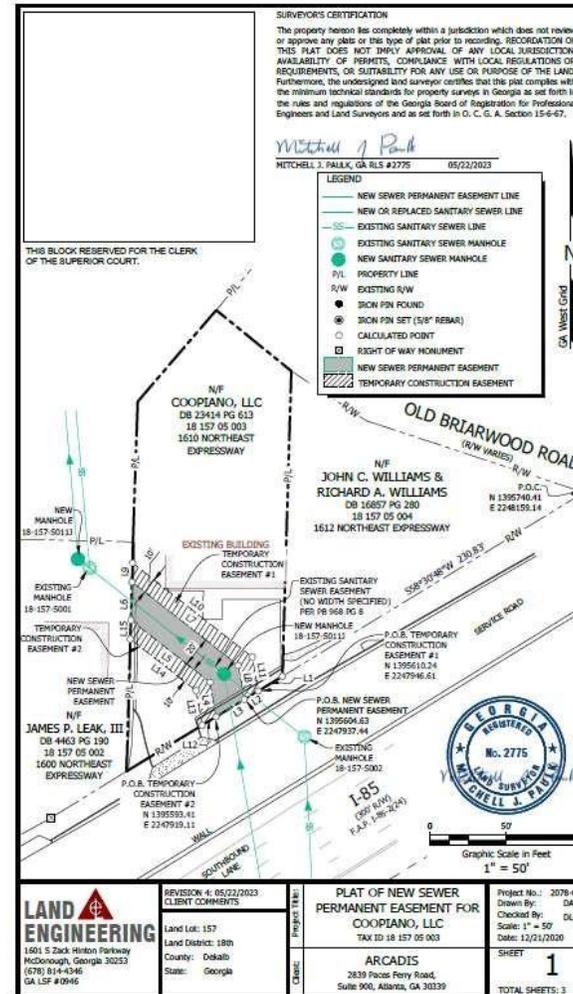
Signature (Property Owner) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (County Representative/Firm) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Example of Right of Entry Form (ROE)



Example of Easement Plat

## List of Permits

### US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

- To secure the benefits of a USACE Nationwide Permit 58, the limits of wetland and stream disturbances at each location must be less than 0.5 acre. To minimize the disturbed area, the construction corridor within wetlands has been narrowed.

### EPD Stream Buffer Variance

- 25-foot Georgia EPD Stream Buffer – Georgia EPD variance applications will be required for gravity-flow sewer lines along the stream that cannot reasonably be placed outside the buffer.
- 75-foot DeKalb County Buffer – Public wastewater structures constructed on behalf of DeKalb County are not required to obtain a County stream buffer variance (Stream Buffer Ordinance Sec. 14-44.2).

### DeKalb County Land Disturbance Permit (LDP)

- The project area is within DeKalb County, requiring a DeKalb County LDP.

### Other Considerations:

#### **Floodplain Impacts**

- DeKalb County Department of Planning and Sustainability requires the storage and conveyance volumes within the floodplain be maintained.

#### **Pedestrian Trail Impacts**

- The PATH Foundation – Michelle Obama Trail location adjacent to the project area will require the trail to remain closed for the duration of construction.

# Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks Trunk Sewers Upsizing Options

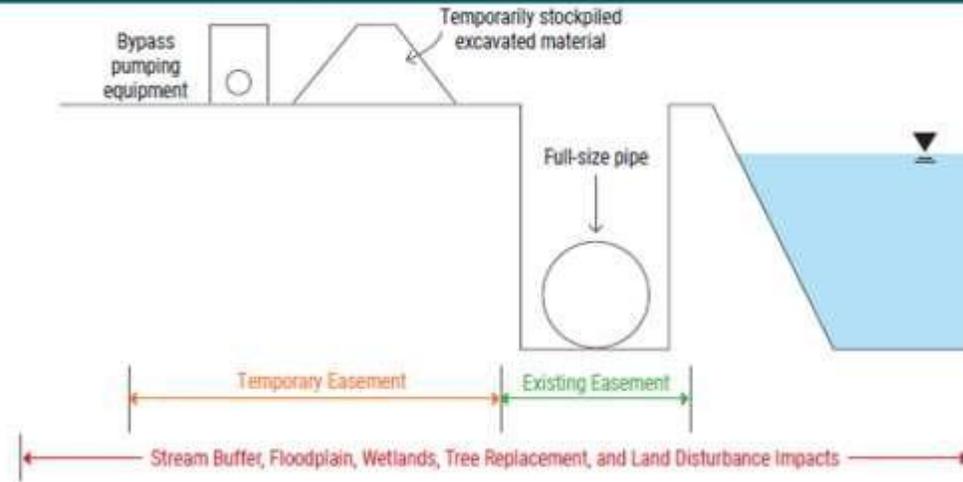


## Options Considered:

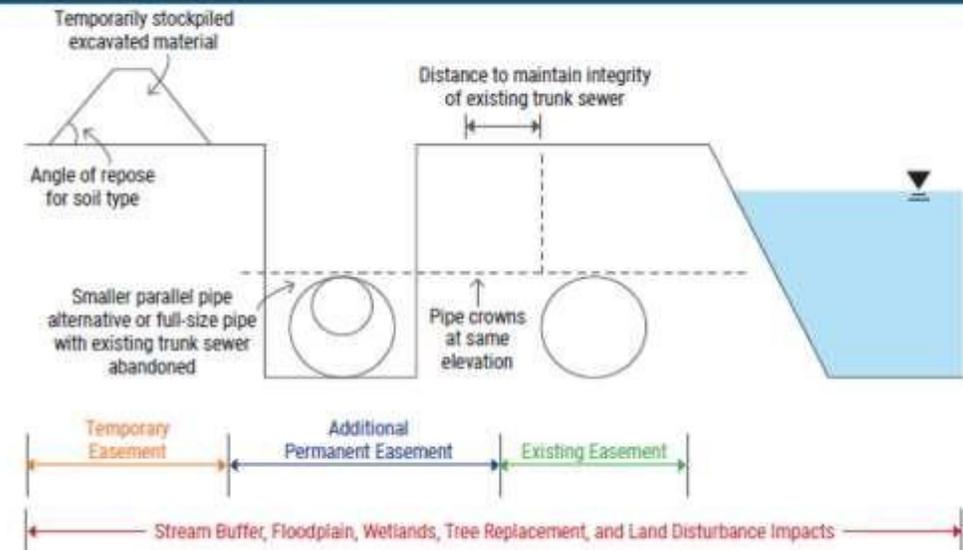
- Replace Pipe in Same Trench
- Parallel Relief Sewer (partial flow)
- Relief Sewer (full flow)/Abandon Existing Sewer

Basis of Design:  
Relief Sewer (full flow)/  
Abandon Existing Sewer

### REPLACE IN-PLACE (not to scale)



### PARALLEL PIPE INSTALLATION (not to scale)



# Method of Construction



**Open Trench Excavation –  
Majority of  
Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks  
Trunk Upsize**



**Jack and Bore Under Road  
Crossings at Warrior's Path  
and Panthersville Road**

# Site Restoration



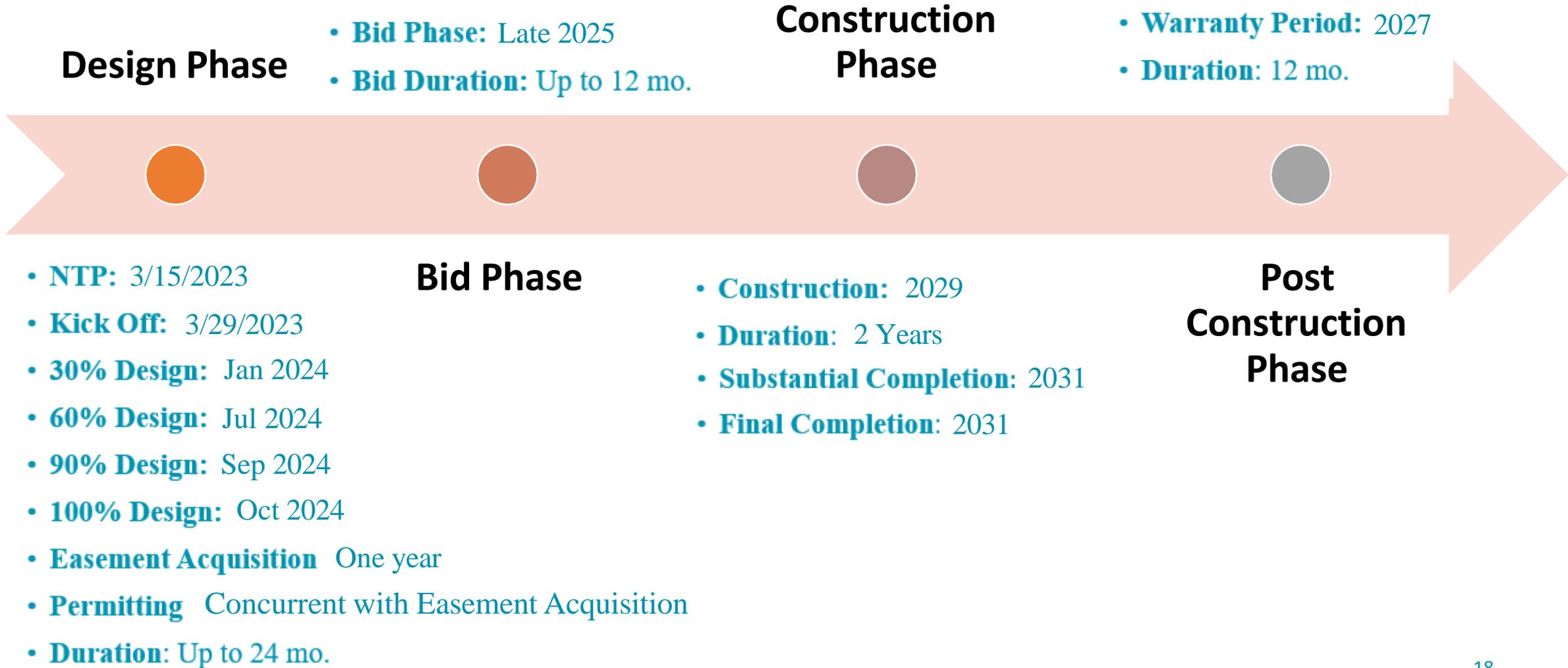
Restore In Kind



# Doolittle/Blue/Sugar Creeks Trunk Sewers Project Timeline



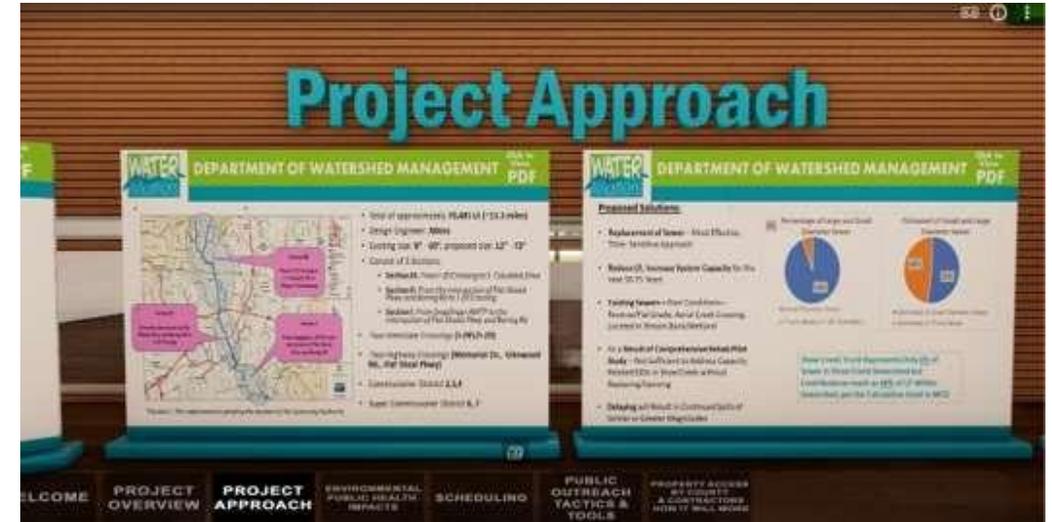
*\*Estimated Schedule*



# Website and Virtual Meeting Room



- Interactive Web Access for Project Information
- Reside on DWM website
- Website Link: [www.doolittlesewer.com](http://www.doolittlesewer.com)



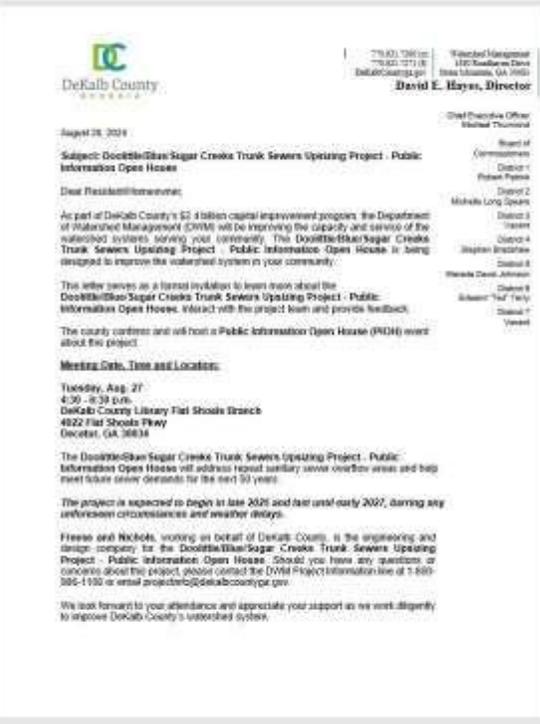
# Methods of Communication



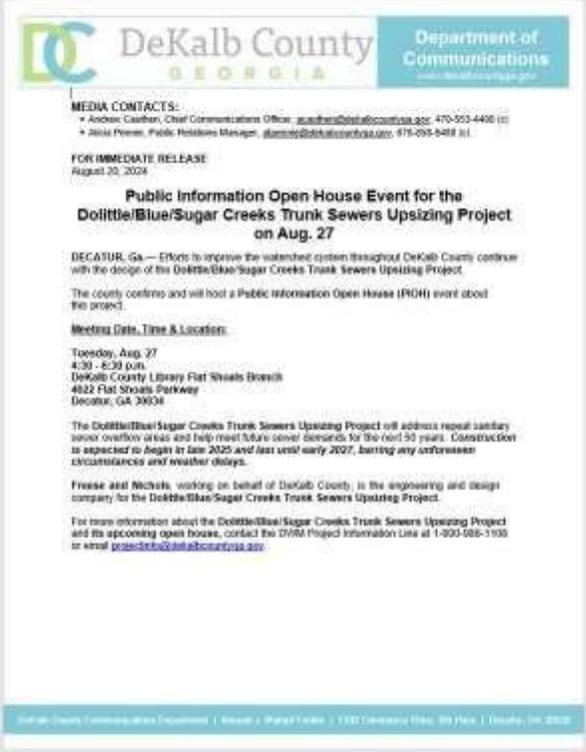
## NEXTDOR



## DOOR HANGERS/FLYERS



## MEDIA RELEASE



- Notification Letter/Doorhanger
- News Release
- NextDoor – to targeted stakeholders
- Media Relations
- GovDelivery email to stakeholders
- Social Media

