

**NOTICE OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT  
TO ALL INTERESTED AGENCIES, GROUPS AND PERSONS**

The City of Gainesville has made an application to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD), and the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) for a loan through the State Revolving Fund (SRF). The project consists of sewer upgrades and extension to serve an industrial park, as well as future developments. The applicant has certified that the project is environmentally sound. As required by the Federal Clean Water Act, an environmental review has been performed on the project described below:

Project Name:	City of Gainesville Gillsville Hwy & Athens Hwy-85 Business Park Lift Stations, Sewer Extension, and Stormwater Detention Pond Installations GEFA Loan No. CW-2020-022
Project Location:	City of Gainesville, Hall County, GA
Estimated Total Project Cost:	\$29,908,484
Anticipated SRF Loan Amount:	\$28,800,000

**Project Description**

The City of Gainesville proposes to construct two new lift stations and associated force main and gravity sewer lines, as well as a new stormwater detention pond.

The proposed Gillsville Highway Lift Station and Athens Highway – 85 Business Park Lift Station will provide an initial capacity of 1.1 MGD and 2.25 MGD, respectively, with an ultimate build-out capacity of 1.7 MGD and 5.62 MGD, respectively. The new lift stations will provide sufficient capacity and reliable service to anticipated future residential, commercial, and industrial development and growth within the area.

Alongside the Gillsville Highway Lift Station, the City will install approximately 5,982 LF of 12-in and 18-in gravity mains entering the lift station, as well as approximately 7,157 linear feet (LF) of 12-in force main and 3,438 LF of 12-in gravity mains connecting the area to the collection system. Furthermore, within the anticipated Gainesville 85 Business Park, approximately 32,631 LF of 8- to 18-in gravity sewer mains will be installed to flow into the new lift station, alongside an additional approximately 18,057 LF of 18-in force main connecting the lift station and existing system. Wastewater will be conveyed to the Gainesville – Flat Creek Water Reclamation Facility (WRF), which maintains adequate capacity, for treatment and final discharge to waters of the State.

Finally, the City proposes to install a new regional stormwater detention pond within the future Gainesville 85 Business Park, serving approximately 95 acres of developable area and providing a maximum capacity of approximately 1.38 million cubic feet. The pond will aid in controlling stormwater runoff from new impervious surfaces associated with the anticipated growth in the area.

### **Anticipated Impacts**

The proposed project will serve future residential, commercial, and industrial customers in the City of Gainesville's service area by providing reliable local sewer service. Additionally, the project will provide for a reduction in the future impacts from stormwater discharges on neighboring surface waters.

Minor negative temporary impacts may include noise, dust, and erosion/sedimentation associated with construction activities. Based on the results of an archeological survey, cultural resource areas will be avoided through the business park to prevent any potential impact. Additionally, stream crossings and coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be necessary to minimize impacts to surface waters and wetlands. Best Management Practices will also be in place during construction.

The project will take place primarily on City rights-of-way and easements. No impacts to existing buildings are anticipated as a result of the project.

There will be no increase to customer sewer rates as a result of the project.

No anticipated adverse secondary impacts are associated with the project. Consequently, a preliminary decision not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement has been made.

The reason for the decision not to prepare such a statement is as follows: Project activity is not anticipated to result in adverse environmental impacts beyond those that can be easily mitigated with minimal extra expense or delay in project implementation.

### **Public Notice**

A public information meeting was held on December 7, 2020 at Gainesville – Flat Creek WRF Training Room to discuss the proposed project. No adverse comments were received during the 30-day advertisement period or during the meetings.

An Environmental Review Record concerning the proposed project has been made by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division that documents the environmental review of the project and provides more detail explaining why an environmental impact statement is not required. The Environmental Review Record is on file at the Division's address listed below. A copy of the SRF planning document is available for public review upon request with the City of Gainesville's Department of Water Resources during business hours and at the Division between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

No further environmental review of this project is proposed to be conducted prior to the release of loan funds.

All interested agencies, groups and persons supporting or disagreeing with this decision are invited to submit written comments within 30 days of the issuance date of this notice via email to [kelli-ann.sottile@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:kelli-ann.sottile@dnr.ga.gov) or to the following address:

Environmental Protection Division  
Watershed Protection Branch  
Wastewater Regulatory Program  
ATTN: Kelli-Ann Sottile  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive  
Suite 1152 East  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

After evaluating the comments received, a final decision regarding the loan will be made. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of this Notice.

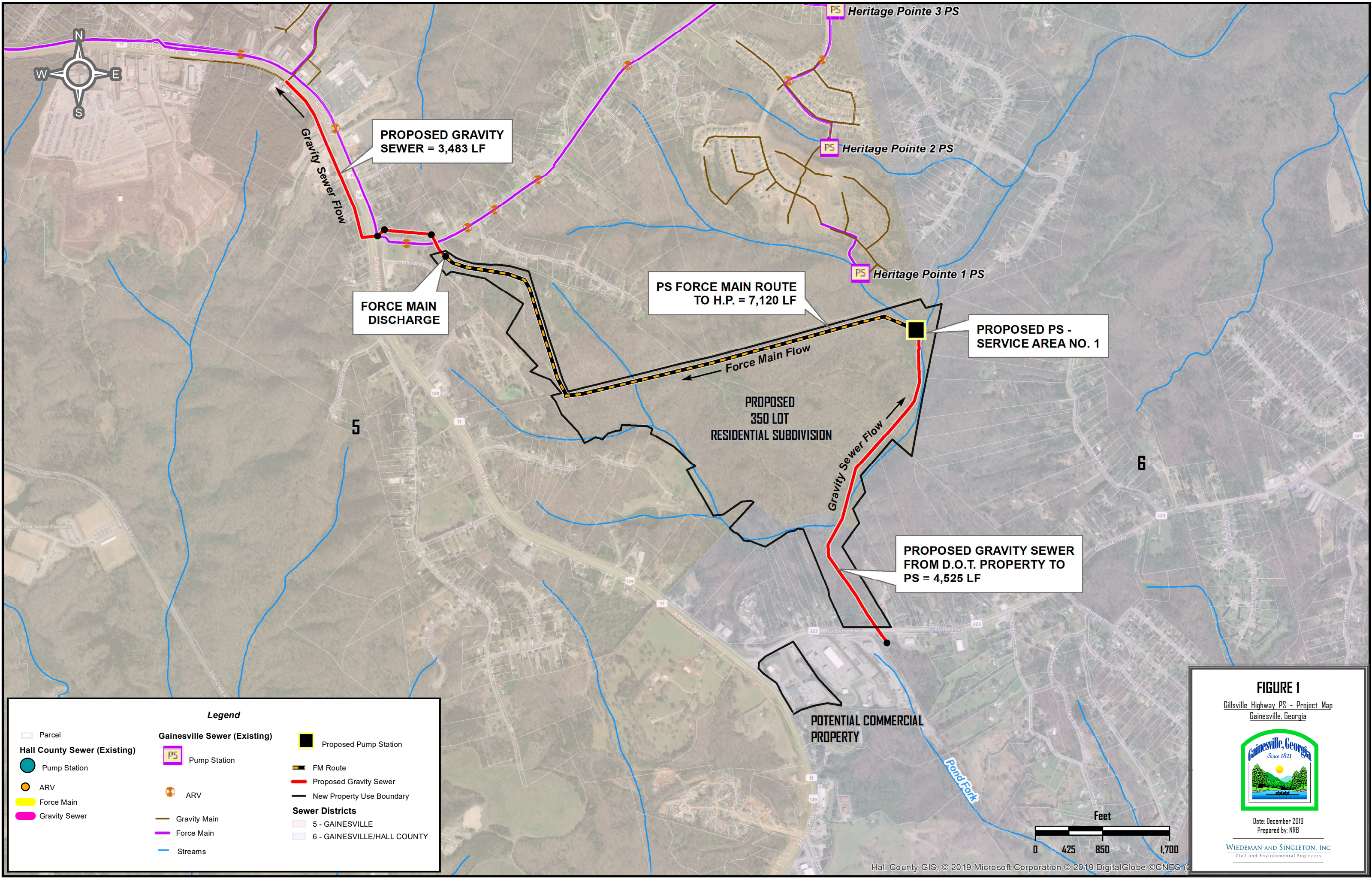
Loan Recipient: City of Gainesville  
Department of Water Resources  
757 Queen City Parkway SW  
Gainesville, Georgia 30501



Issue Date: January 22, 2021

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Richard E. Dunn  
Director  
Environmental Protection Division





**Legend**

Parcel

**Hall County Sewer (Existing)**

Pump Station

ARV

Force Main

Gravity Sewer

**Gainesville Sewer (Existing)**

PS Pump Station

ARV

Gravity Main

Force Main

Streams

Proposed Pump Station

FM Route

Proposed Gravity Sewer

New Property Use Boundary

**Sewer Districts**

5 - GAINESVILLE

6 - GAINESVILLE/HALL COUNTY

**FIGURE 1**

Gillsville Highway PS - Project Map

Gainesville, Georgia

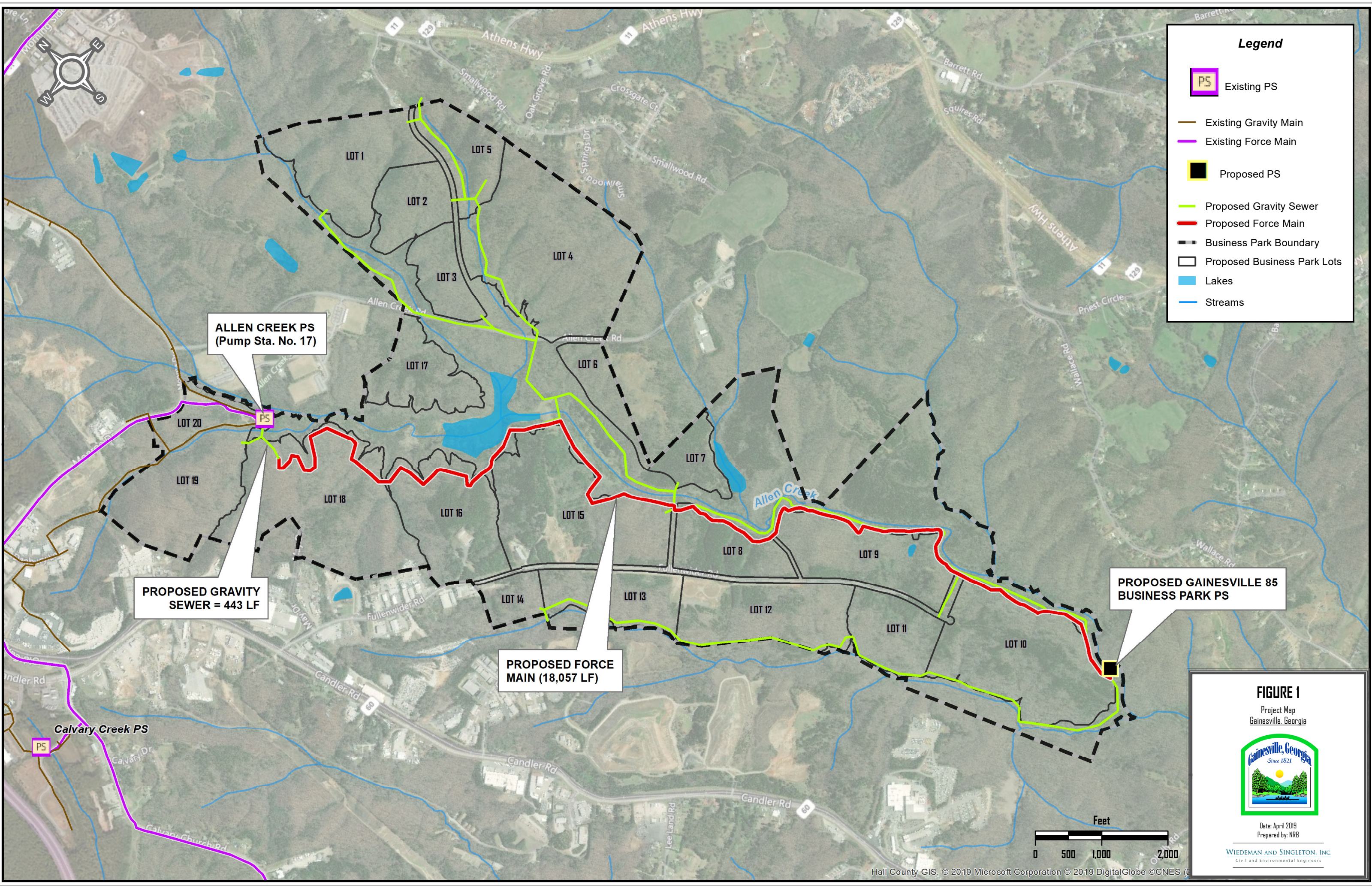
Date: December 2019

Prepared by: NRB











**WIEDEMAN AND SINGLETON, INC.**

Civil and Environmental Engineers





**Legend**

-  Existing PS
-  Existing Gravity Main
-  Existing Force Main
-  Proposed PS
-  Proposed Gravity Sewer
-  Proposed Force Main
-  Business Park Boundary
-  Proposed Business Park Lots
-  Lakes
-  Streams


ALLEN CREEK PS  
(Pump Sta. No. 17)

PROPOSED GRAVITY  
SEWER = 443 LF

PROPOSED FORCE  
MAIN (18,057 LF)

PROPOSED GAINESVILLE 85  
BUSINESS PARK PS

**FIGURE 1**  
Project Map  
Gainesville, Georgia



Date: April 2019  
Prepared by: NRB

WIEDEMAN AND SINGLETON, INC.  
Civil and Environmental Engineers