

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION**  
**Sewer System and Plant Rehabilitation**  
**City of Boston (Thomas County)**  
**GEFA Loan No. CW-DRA-2020-009**

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) has conducted a review of the above project in accordance with the State's Environmental Review Process (SERP). EPD has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion. Accordingly, no further environmental review is planned. The proposed project consists of installing a redundant bar screen and baffle curtains at the wastewater treatment facility, as well as replacing damaged aerators to more efficient models and upgrading the existing SCADA system. Additionally, the project will consist of converting five pump stations to submersible pumps and installing back-up bypass and/or alternative energy sources, alongside other miscellaneous electrical improvements, to prevent any interruptions in service. Within the collection system, the project will also include the rehabilitation and/or replacement of existing sanitary sewer lines, manholes, and service connections to reduce infiltration and inflow.

Existing buildings will not be impacted as a result of this project and there will be no increase in capacity as a result of the improvements. A sufficient buffer will also be maintained between the project and the nearby railroad to avoid any impacts. An effort will also be made to restore all historical areas (i.e. retaining walls, sidewalks, etc.) to their pre-construction conditions. All construction will be located on City owned-property and/or existing right-of-ways.

This project is eligible for a categorical exclusion because it meets the following specific criteria, outlined in the SERP: functional replacement of equipment, minor rehabilitation of existing facilities, and construction of new ancillary facilities adjacent to existing facilities that do not affect the degree of treatment or capacity of the existing facility. Furthermore: the project will not create a new or relocate an existing discharge to surface or ground waters; the project will not substantially increase the volume of discharge or loading of pollutants; the project will not provide capacity to serve a population 30% greater than the existing population; the project will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment; the action will not directly or indirectly affect cultural resources, habitats of endangered or threatened species, or environmentally important natural resource areas; and the action is cost-effective and should cause no significant public controversy.

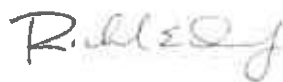
This determination becomes effective after thirty (30) days following its distribution by EPD. This exclusion may be revoked at any time if: 1) the project is altered and no longer meets the requirements of a categorical exclusion, 2) new evidence shows that serious environmental issues exist, or 3) a local, State or Federal law is being or may be violated. The information which supports this decision is on file with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division and is available for public review upon request. A copy of the proposed project documentation is also available for review at Boston City Hall in Thomas County, Georgia.

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

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

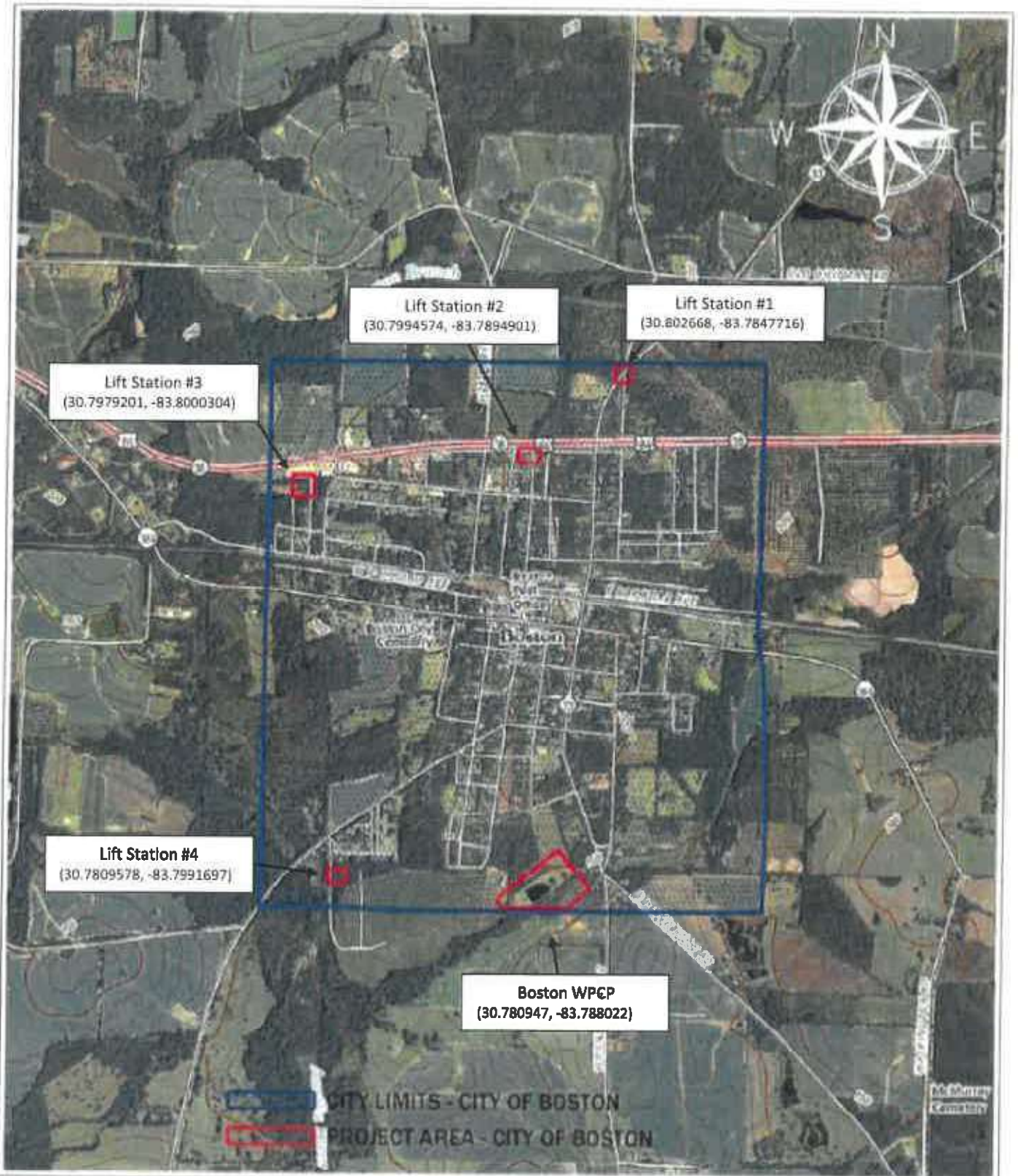
After evaluating the comments received, EPD will make a final decision regarding approval of the project. No administrative action will be taken on the project for thirty (30) calendar days after publication of this Notice.

**NOV 16 2020**



Publish Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Richard E. Dunn, Director  
Environmental Protection Division



**PROJECT AREA  
MAP**

**2020 CWSRF APPLICATION MAPS  
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TOWN OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

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