



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

The Town of Braselton has made an application to the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority (GEFA) and the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD) for a loan through the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund (DWSRF). The loan is for streambank restoration and enhancements along one mile of the Mulberry River which will incorporate proven natural and manmade components to stabilize the west riverbank and provide a permanent and ecological sound solution to the preservation of vital water supply resources, and also relocate a portion of the water transmission main. The applicant has certified that the project is environmentally sound. As required by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program Guidelines, an environmental review has been performed on the project described below:

Project Name:	Mulberry Riverbank Restoration Project, Town of Braselton
Project Location:	Barrow and Jackson County, Georgia
Total Project Cost:	\$1,900,000
Anticipated DWSRF Loan Amount:	\$1,900,000

Project Description

Under this project, the Town of Braselton will provide streambank restoration activities along 5,254 linear feet of the Mulberry River and 132 linear feet of unnamed intermittent tributary flowing into the Mulberry River. Restoration activities would include the placement of sill logs, log deflectors, rock J-Hooks and toe wood. The proposed project is needed stabilize the west bank of the river which will protect the River walk and existing utilities (three water supply wells, a water transmission main and water treatment facility) that are located close to the Mulberry River. EPD requires that wells must be protected from contamination by surface waters and other sources of contamination. Also, a section of the proposed project will involve relocation of a portion of the water transmission main.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will have minimal impact on the environment as construction will be limited to the existing riverbank. A continuous soil stabilization program in accordance with the manual for Erosion and Sediment Control in Georgia will be implemented in all phases of the project. Appropriate trees will be planted along the streambank including Willow, Alder and Elderberry to help stabilize the streambank to prevent future erosion. This project will protect the town's open space and Mulberry Riverwalk from further erosion. The proposed design will include the construction of bankfull bench on both sides of the Mulberry River, which will provide additional floodplain volume for flooding events. The overall project will provide long term improvements to the health of the stream and protection of the adjacent facilities. Consequently, the decision not to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement has been made.

The reason for such a decision not to prepare such a statement is as follows: No project activity is anticipated to have adverse environmental impacts, as no critical habitats and endangered species are present on the project site. The project's construction will occur on the existing riverbank which is already eroding and overflowing and will attempt to stop overflow and prevent future erosion, temporary impacts due to construction can be minimized.

A review of the Engineering Report and Environmental Information Document for the proposed project has been performed by EPD's Drinking Water Permitting and Engineering Program. A copy of these documents is available for public examination upon request at EPD between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The addresses where a copy is available are listed below.


On August 6, 2020, the Town conducted a public meeting in accordance with the requirements of the DWSRF guidelines in order to inform the public about the project. The town received no adverse comments. The project has undergone an Executive Order 12372 Review through the State agencies. The project has also been submitted to the Corps of Engineers, State Historic Preservation Office, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for review. No adverse comments have been received. No further environmental review of the 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 thirty (30) days of the issuance date of this notice to:

Georgia Environmental Protection Division
ATTN: Hilda Ifesiokwu, Environmental Engineer
Drinking Water Program
2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, SE - Suite 1362 East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-9000

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

Issue Date: 9/3/20


Manny Patel
Drinking Water Program Manager
Watershed Protection Branch
Georgia Environmental Protection Division

Loan Recipient:
Town of Braselton
P.O. Box 306
Braselton, GA 30517