GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

Jeffrey W. Cown, Director

EPD Director's Office
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Suite 1456, East Tower
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
404-656-4713

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

The City of Blairsville 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 installing force main and gravity sewer lines, as well as a new pump station to connect the Victoria's Center commercial corridor to the city's central sewerage system. 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 Blairsville SR-515 Sewer Extension GEFA Loan No. CW-2025-019 ARC Grant No. ARC-GA-22568
Project Location:	City of Blairsville, Union County, GA
Total Project Cost:	$5,119,000
Anticipated SRF Loan Amount:	$3,119,000
Anticipated ARC Grant Amount:	$2,000,000

Project Description

The City of Blairsville proposes to install approximately 7,500 linear feet of gravity sewer, 10,300 linear feet of force main, and a new pump station to connect the Victoria's Center commercial corridor. This area currently relies on aging and failing septic systems, of which residential and commercial users have frequently expressed complaints, and the City wants to connect this corridor to their central sewerage system.

Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve the businesses within the Victoria's Center business corridor in the City of Blairsville, Georgia. A second commercial corridor named the Windy Hill Plaza may choose to connect to the extended sewer system in the future. The project will provide reliable sewer service to businesses in the area.

Minor negative temporary impacts may include noise, dust and erosion/sedimentation associated with construction activities. Best Management Practices will be in place during construction.

The project will be located in the 100-year floodplain as indicated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) map. However, the scope of work taking place within the floodplain consists of extending sewer lines and will not impact the floodplain. The lift station and any manholes located within the floodplain will be elevated above the 100-year flood elevation to be protected from flood impacts. Detailed mitigation measures will be described in the construction documents (plans and specifications) for the project.

The project will take place primarily on City property (or right-of-way) and/or previously disturbed land; however, construction will include temporary construction disturbance and installation of manholes at a public park (Farmers Market Dog Park).

Historic Preservation Division requested an archeological survey within parts of the project area that may impact historical resources in the area. The survey concluded no archeological sites were found within the project area.

Wildlife Resources Division requested Best Management Practices during construction to avoid sedimentation encroachment into nearby riparian habitats associated with Butternut Creek in which the project will be located. Detailed mitigation measures will be described in the construction documents (plans and specifications) for the project.

The current rates for wastewater are anticipated to increase by an additional $16 per customer per month.

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 February 20, 2026 at Blairsville City Hall to discuss the proposed project. No adverse comments were received during the 30-day advertisement period or during the meeting.

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 Environmental Review and Planning Document (ERPD) is available for public review upon request at Blairsville City Hall 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/grant 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 *rhiannon.bishop@dnr.ga.gov* or to the following address:

Rhiannon Bishop
Wastewater Regulatory Program
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Suite 1470A East
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

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

Loan/Grant Recipient: City of Blairsville
62 Blue Ridge Street
Blairsville, GA 30512

Issue Date: 10/30/2026

Jeffrey W. Cown

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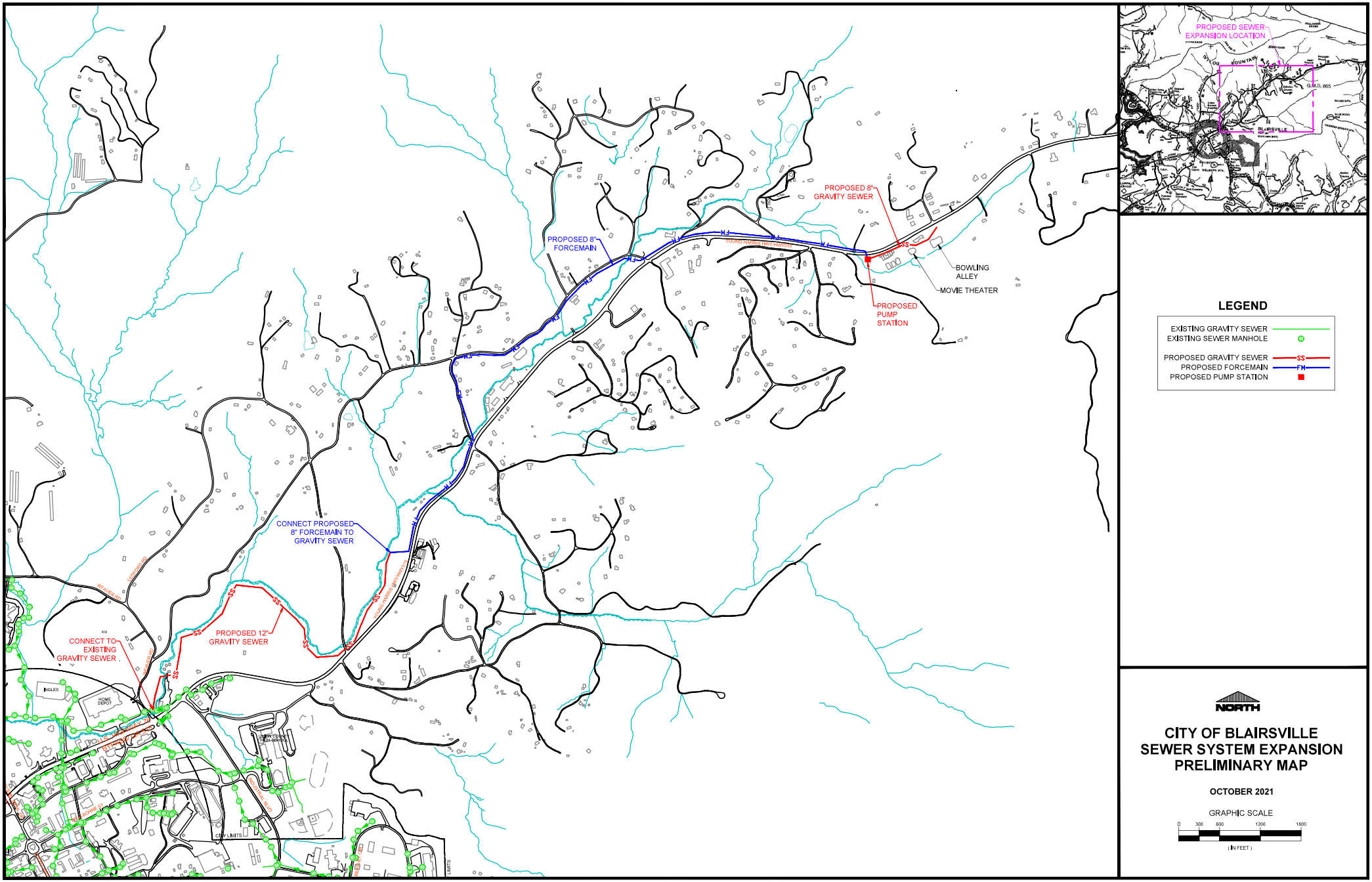
Environmental Protection Division


PROPOSED SEWER EXPANSION LOCATION
PROPOSED 8" FORCEMAIN
PROPOSED 8" GRAVITY SEWER
BOWLING ALLEY
MOVIE THEATER
PROPOSED PUMP STATION
CONNECT PROPOSED 8" FORCEMAIN TO GRAVITY SEWER
PROPOSED 12" GRAVITY SEWER
CONNECT TO EXISTING GRAVITY SEWER
CITY LIMITS
LEGEND
EXISTING GRAVITY SEWER
EXISTING SEWER MANHOLE
PROPOSED GRAVITY SEWER
PROPOSED FORCEMAIN
PROPOSED PUMP STATION
NORTH
CITY OF BLAIRSVILLE
SEWER SYSTEM EXPANSION
PRELIMINARY MAP
OCTOBER 2021
GRAPHIC SCALE
0 300 600 1200 1800
(IN FEET)