

Richard E. Dunn, Director

EPD Director's Office

2 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive 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 Lavonia has made an application to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division, and the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority for a loan through the State Revolving Fund (SRF). This loan is for the rehabilitation of the existing water pollution control plant, sewer collection system, and pump stations. 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 Lavonia

2017 Sewerage System Improvements

GEFA Loan No. CW2017-026

Project Location:

City of Lavonia, Franklin County, GA

Total Project Cost:

\$4,600,000

Anticipated SRF Loan Amount:

\$4,600,000

Project Description

The City of Lavonia proposes improvements to both its sewer system and its water pollution control plant (WPCP), as well as additional upgrades to the facility.

Sewer system improvements will include renovating several aging pump stations that have reached the end of their service life. Additionally, sewer and pump station capacity upgrades are necessary to meet the future demand at Gateway Industrial Park. An investigation will also be conducted to identify portions of the sewer system for rehabilitation due to excessive inflow and infiltration. The repairs on the existing sewer lines will aid in reducing peak flows to the WPCP from stormwater.

The proposed project will further provide necessary improvements to the WPCP. The phased modifications will allow the facility to replace components of the facility that have reached the end of their useful life, as well as upgrade components in order to meet new permit limitations.

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Anticipated Impacts

The proposed project will serve the City of Lavonia and the Gateway Industrial Park. The project will decrease the amount of inflow and infiltration into the sewer system, decreasing stormwater peak flows on the WPCP. The project will also improve operation, effluent quality and reliability of the WPCP. Minor negative temporary impacts may include noise, dust and erosion/sedimentation associated with construction activities. Mitigation measures will be in place during construction and 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. The project will take place primarily on City property and previously disturbed land.

The current rates for wastewater are anticipated to increase by approximately \$8.84 per user.

A public information meeting was held on August 24, 2017 to discuss the proposed project. No 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 SRF planning document is available for public examination upon request at the City of Lavonia 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 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 to:

Ms. Kelli-Ann Sottile Environmental Protection Division Watershed Protection Branch 2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive Suite 1152 East Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Notice of No Significant Impact City of Lavonia CW2017-026 Page 3

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 Lavonia

P.O. Box 564

Lavonia, GA 30553

Issue Date: 1 22 | 7

Richard E. Dunn

Director

Environmental Protection Division

