

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
DEKALB COUNTY TO UPDATE THE ROLES
AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF AN INDEPENDENT WATERSHED CIP PROGRAM
MONITOR TO MONITOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COUNTY'S CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners recognizes the importance of effective watershed management in promoting public health and environmental sustainability, and believes water is a vital necessity that all residents have the right to access; and,

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Watershed Management Department currently services over 5,000 miles of water and wastewater pipes in the county system and is committed to ensuring safe, reliable service to all residents; and,

WHEREAS, increases in water and sewer rates are crucial to ensure that the water and sewer systems are properly maintained and expanded over time; and,

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners recognizes rate increases can disproportionately impact vulnerable populations, including seniors, individuals with disabilities, and low-income families; and,

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners is dedicated to being responsible stewards of resources and maximizing the value of every dollar spent; and,

WHEREAS, independent and timely operational reviews and financial monitoring are crucial tools that can identify inefficiencies, enhance accountability, and can lead to cost savings and better service delivery; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Code of DeKalb County, Sec. 9 (a)(14), the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners may determine the priority of capital improvements through adoption of a Capital Improvement Plan ("CIP"); and,

WHEREAS, an independent monitoring of the Department of Watershed Management and other County departments is essential to ensuring that rate payers' funds are being spent properly and that the Board of Commissioners' identified capital improvement priorities are being implemented; and,

WHEREAS, in order to perform the outlined tasks in an ongoing, thorough and timely manner, the Board shall engage an Independent Watershed CIP Program Monitor, who may utilize subcontracted personnel as necessary to fulfill the contract deliverables.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners that an Independent Watershed CIP Monitor be engaged to perform the following role and responsibilities:

- The primary purpose of the Independent Watershed CIP Monitor is to support government efficiency, accountability, and transparency, by providing taxpayers and the Board of Commissioners with independent monitoring reports and analyses to help ensure they are fully informed regarding all funds spent in implementing projects necessary to complete the Board's established capital improvement project priorities. In order to meet these objectives, the Independent Watershed CIP Monitor will:
 - Perform services pursuant to the terms of the contract of and report directly to the Board of Commissioners;
 - Operate independently from the Administration;
 - Work collaboratively with the Office of Internal Audit, in an advisory, non-decisional capacity;
 - Not supersede or duplicate OIIA's statutory audit authority.
 - Conduct monitoring reviews and analyses of the Department of Watershed Management and other County departments involved in implementing the Board's approved capital improvement priorities to ensure departmental efficiency and effectiveness;
 - Provide early-warning variance alerts on schedule, budget, or scope deviations with a focus on the process from contract procurement to completion of all work contemplated by the CIP.
 - Review pending regulations and make recommendations for updates or changes where necessary;
 - Provide reports upon request, including technical reports and technical interpretations, with a minimum requirement of quarterly reporting to the Board of Commissioners; and,
 - Engage or subcontract additional personnel, as needed, to fulfil the scope of work outlined in the contract.

BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED, that:

- The specific requirements and duties of the Independent Watershed CIP Monitor shall initially be determined by Attachment A to this Resolution, "Water/Sewer CIP independent Program Monitoring Services";
- Professional-service fees for the Independent Watershed CIP Monitor and any subcontracted support staff will be based on regional standards and other customary factors, subject to the contract's not-to-exceed amount. ;
- All proposals for the contract Independent CIP Monitor Services shall be submitted via a standard professional services contract process to expedite project rollout; and,
- The Board of Commissioners or its designee may utilize an advisory committee to review and vet qualified candidate firms;
- The final negotiated professional services contract shall, unless otherwise amended by the Board of Commissioners, identify a Scope of Work in substantial compliance with Attachment A, "Water/Sewer CIP independent Program Monitoring Services";
- An annual performance review of the activities and deliverables of the Independent Watershed CIP Monitor will be performed by the Board of Commissioners. Based on that evaluation, the Board may amend the scope of work, expectations, or other contract terms, consistent with procurement requirements.

- In no event shall the Monitor or the Monitor's firm bid on or otherwise seek to perform work related to the CIP as a prime contractor, however, the Monitor or the Monitor's firm may be permitted to participate as a subcontractor on CIP-related projects, provided that such participation is explicitly subject to the execution of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) and conflict-of-interest mitigation protocols acceptable to the County Attorney to protect proprietary data.

BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED, that:

- The current members of the Board of Commissioners are committed to funding the Independent Watershed CIP Monitor and necessary support staff for each of the next ten years.

BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Administration shall within 30 days, provide a written response to any recommendations or information requests issued by the Independent Watershed CIP Monitor that relate to the Board of Commissioners' approved CIP schedule and priorities, and is encouraged to give full consideration to all other recommendations made by the Monitor.

RESOLVED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

CHAKIRA JOHNSON

Presiding Officer

Board of Commissioners DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this ____ day of _____, 2026.

LORRAINE COCHRAN-JOHNSON

Chief Executive Officer

DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

BARBARA H. SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

TERRY G. PHILLIPS
Interim County Attorney
DeKalb County, Georgia