

GRU Backyard Sewer Relocation

JOINT FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL

PUBLIC NOTICE

August 27th, 2021

The Federal Housing and Urban Development Agency and Florida Department of Economic Opportunity have received the following application for Federal grant funding. Final notice is hereby given of the Federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) consideration to provide funding in the form of mitigation from Community Development Block Grant-Mitigation Program (CDBG-MIT) in response to Hurricanes Hermine (2016), Matthew (2016), and Irma (2017). Funds will be provided in accordance with Federal Registry / Vol. 84, No.169 / Friday August 30, 2019 / Notices pages 45838 – 45871. This program is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant – Mitigation (CDBG-MIT) allocation as described in Public Law 115-123.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990 HUD is required to consider alternatives to and to provide public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires HUD to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority or low-income populations.

The Rebuild Florida Mitigation General Infrastructure Program by the DEO has a total allocation of \$475 million to reward for the program applicants that is implemented in three rounds, and available to local entities of the local government, such as GRU. The program rewards \$150 million for Round I, \$175 million for Round II, and \$150 million for Round III. GRU's water/wastewater department has moved forward to Round II and is requesting approximately \$2,445,097 for the Backyard Sewer Relocation project.

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions.

Applicant:

Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU)

Project Title:

GRU Backyard Sewer Relocation

Location of Proposed Work:

The areas affected by this project consists of the following locations:

1. SE 12th Pl, Gainesville
2. SE 13th Pl, Gainesville
3. SE 14th Ave, Gainesville
4. SE 15th Ave, Gainesville

Proposed Work and Purpose:

GRU is proposing to relocate backyard sewers to accessible points on SE 12th Pl, SE 13th Pl, SE 14th Ave, and SE 15th Ave. The replacement of these older sewer lines will lessen inflow and infiltration of storm water into the sewer system minimizing risk and allowing for more resiliency during sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs).

GRU's wastewater infrastructure transports sewage waste to treatment facilities, which is crucial in preventing waterborne illnesses, maintaining the health and sanitation of the community as well ensures overall environmental safety. Due to the inconvenient location of these backyard sewers, it is currently difficult to maintain wastewater mains, therefore increasing hazardous overflows during inflow and infiltration of storm water. An SSO can back-up into homes, causing property damage, as well as contaminate waterways and jeopardize public health. The regular inspection of sewers and maintenance of blockages will diminish the threat of SSOs. This project would serve the Food, Water, and Shelter Community Lifeline by relocating backyard sewers to public streets where GRU can regularly uphold wastewater mains to evade SSOs.

Comment Period:

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state or federal agencies; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. These are due within 14 days of this notice (Friday, September 10th, 2021). Interested persons may submit comments, obtain more detailed information about the proposed action, or request a copy of the findings by contacting:

Rick Hutton, PE

(352)-393-1218

Gainesville Regional Utilities

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DEO will take comments via USPS mail or email at:

Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

Attention: Office of Disaster Recovery

107 East Madison Street

The Caldwell Building, MSC 160

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100

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