

# OKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY



Southwest Wastewater Service Area  
(SWSA)  
Project 2 Septic to Sewer Conversion

## Town Hall Meeting

June 27, 2023



## Southwest Service Area Project 2

### PROJECT PURPOSE

- Provide wastewater service to existing OUA water customers in the southwest section
- Some residences experience localized flooding of the septic tank drain fields
- All septic tank drain fields add to the nutrient loadings of ground waters as well potentially to surface waters in close proximity



# Southwest Service Area Project (The “Big Picture”)

The SWSA project consist of three major projects

## Project 1:

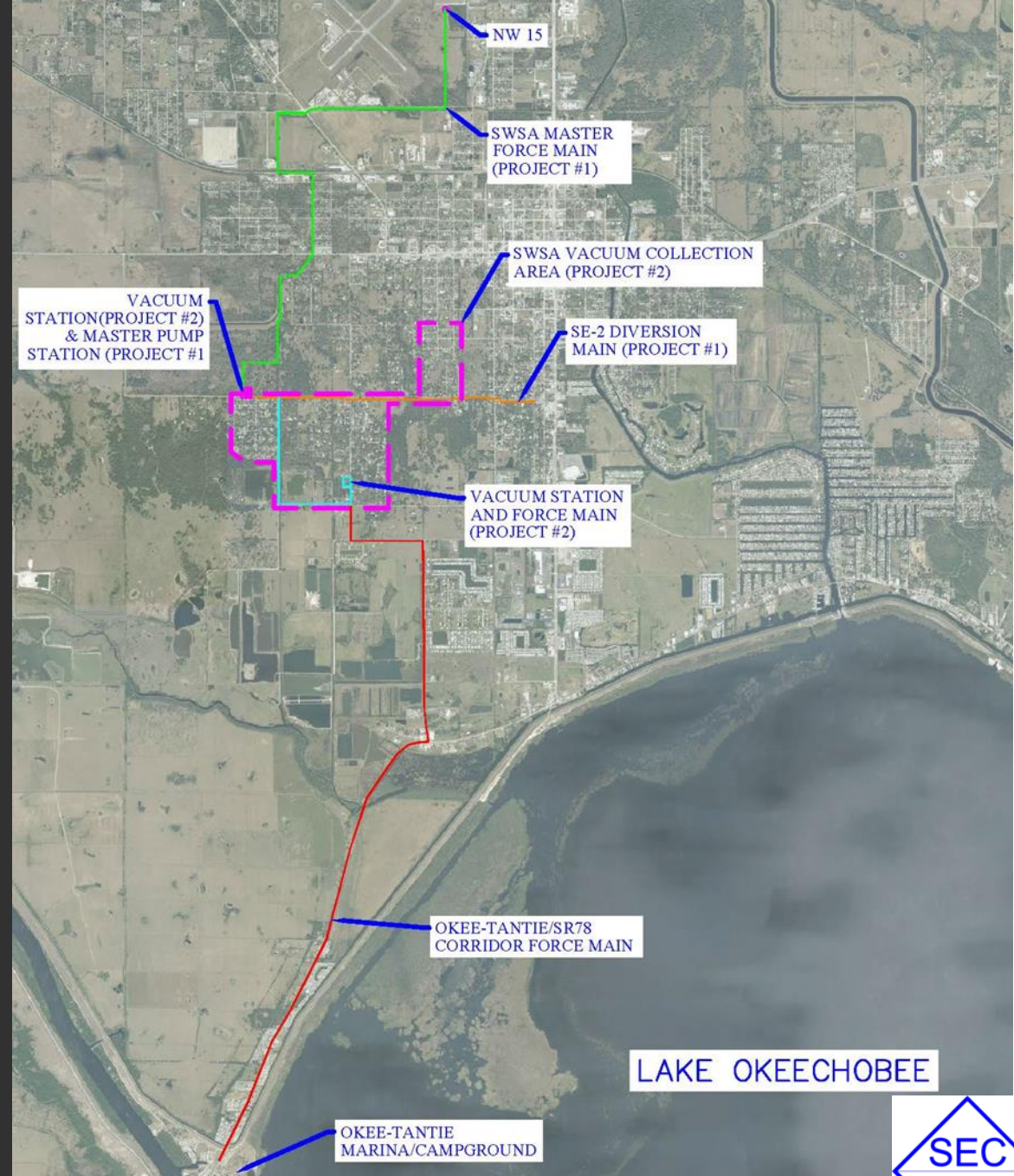
- Master Pump Station
- Master Force Main
- SE-2 Diversion Force Main

## Project 2:

- SWSA Vacuum System

## Project 3:

- Okee-Tantie Force Main / SR78 Corridor



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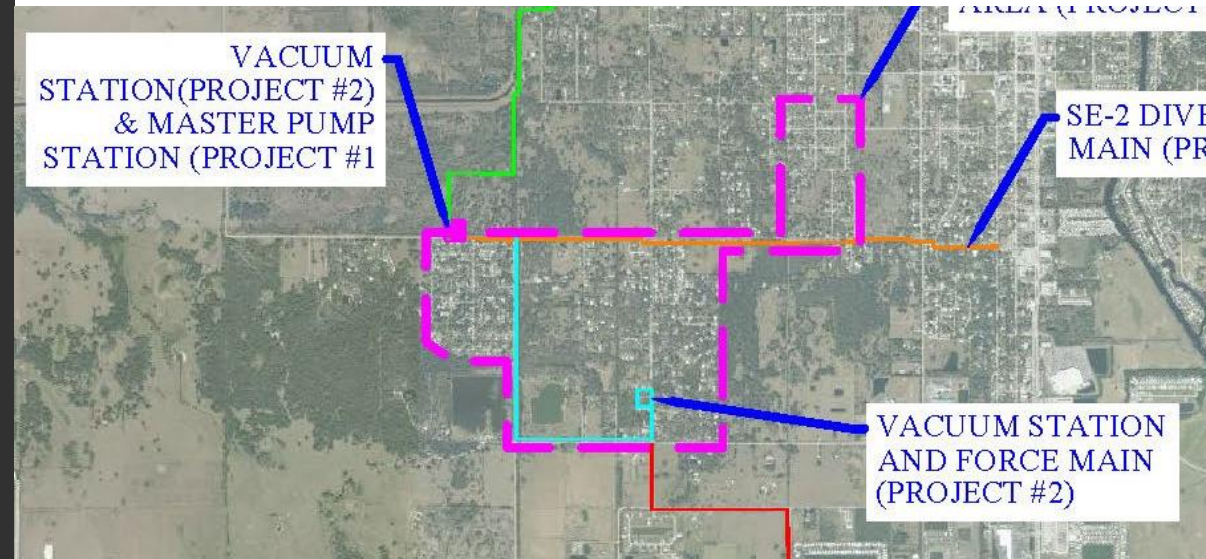
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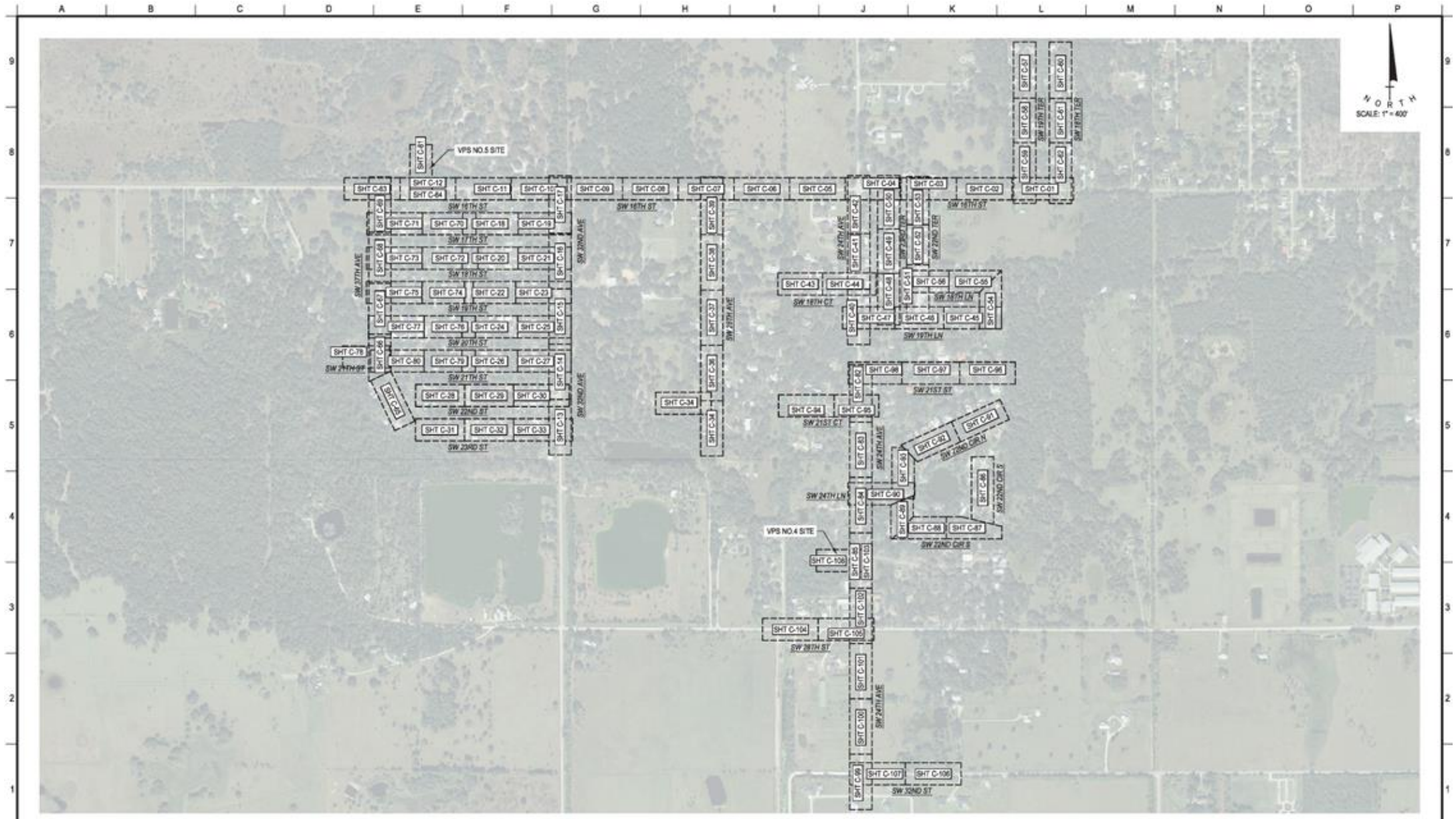
## Project 2:

- SWSA Vacuum System

## Project 3:

- Okee-Tantie Force Main / SR78 Corridor





**ECKLER ENGINEERING, INC.**  
 4700 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, SUITE 110 - CORAL SPRINGS, FL 33067  
 (954) 510-4700 - FAX (954) 755-2741  
 CA No. 7803

DESIGNER: C. HAN  
 DRAWN BY: M. MARY  
 CHECKED BY: C. DONOHUE  
 APPROVED BY: D. HAMMANN

NO.	DATE	REVISIONS	BY	APPROVED	CONSULTANT

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DOUGLAS K. HAMMANN, P.E.  
 FLORIDA PE #05589

OSKEECHOBEE UTILITY AUTHORITY,  
 FLORIDA  
 OUA SWSA PROJECT 2 - VACUUM COLLECTION SYSTEM

KEY MAP

DRAW NO.	09	SHEET	G-09
OF	136	PROJECT NO.	282-002.01
DATE	NOVEMBER 16, 2022		

File: C:\04\20\Projects\282-002.01 OUA Southwest Area Vacuum Phase F01\_Rev\04282-002.01\_G-12.dwg Plotted: 11/16/2022 1:24:22 PM Scale: 1/1 Printed by: Rey, Marc. Website: CONFORMED CONSTRUCTION SET



# Southwest Service Area – Project 2

- SWSA – Project 2 consists of the following components

1) Vacuum Station No. 4

This station will receive collected wastewater generated in the southern portion of the Project 2 area

2) Vacuum Station No. 5

This station will receive collected wastewater generated in the northern portion of the Project 2 area

3) SWSA Collection System

This is the piping system and vacuum pits for residential connection to the system



Southwest Service Area  
Project 2  
Why Vacuum Sewer?

## Vacuum Sewer

- Advantages
  - Lower Capital Cost than Gravity
  - Easier to Construct than Gravity
  - Less Operational Issues than LPSS
  - Low Disruption to Area



# Southwest Service Area – Project 2

- Total cost including engineering & construction
  - Approximately \$13,100,000
- Partially funded by FDEP Appropriation with the remainder from a USDA loan / grant
- Project Bids Received January 5, 2023
  - Selected Contractor was Hinterland Group, Inc. (HGI)
- Notice to Proceed issued March 29, 2023
- Construction began in May, 2023
- Expected Final Completion is May 12, 2025
- Service provided to approximately 518 new connections
  - Removal of 6.7 tons of nitrogen per year
  - Removal of 1.6 tons of phosphorus per year





# Southwest Service Area – Project 2

- Construction Notices on OUA Website  
[www.ouafl.com](http://www.ouafl.com) (Weekly or Bi-weekly Notices)



EXAMPLE:

**ATTENTION OAK PARK CUSTOMERS:**

Please see the displayed map for the construction timeline of the OUA Contractor, Hinterland. Should you have any questions, please contact our office.



# Southwest Service Area Project 2 Project Economic Summary

- **Capital Cost to OUA**
  - Design, Permitting and Construction and Associated Costs to be covered by FDEP Appropriations and USDA Loan / Grant
- **Cost to Homeowners**
  - Costs associated with the abandonment of the septic tank and the installation of piping connecting the house to the streetside collection point (estimated at **\$3,000**) is by the property owner
  - OUA connection fees paid by the property owner
    - \$ 838 Capital Connection Charge
    - \$ 574 Connection of Service Lateral
    - **\$1,412 Total**



# Southwest Service Area Project 2 Project Economic Summary (cont.)

## Potential Financial Assistance to Homeowners

- Funding for septic abandonment and hookup may be available through TMDL Grant monies specifically set aside for that purpose (**OUA has filed an application specifically for Project 2**)
- Existing Legislative Appropriation (all OUA projects)
- Connection Fees
  - Could be paid “up front”, or
  - OUA would allow payment over 24 months
- TOTAL cost could be financed by OUA
  - Example – 1% APR interest over 20 years:
    - Annual Cost to Homeowner: \$244.49 (non ad-valorem assessment on tax bill), or
    - Monthly Cost to Homeowner: \$20.29 (on monthly OUA bill)



QUESTIONS?

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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