Walker County
WATER & SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
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Understanding How Water Authority ARPA Funds Work

Dear Residents and Customers,

Recently, there have been questions regarding how our Water Authority receives and manages American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. We appreciate the opportunity to clarify how these public funds function, as the rules for a water authority are very different from those applied to general city or county governments.

Under federal law, cities and counties received direct, upfront formula allocations of ARPA funds. They received their funding up front to address broad local government needs, after which they report back on how those dollars were utilized.

Our Water Authority did not receive an upfront allocation of money, nor do we have broad flexibility in how these funds are spent. Instead, our funding process operates under strict competitive and restricted state guidelines:

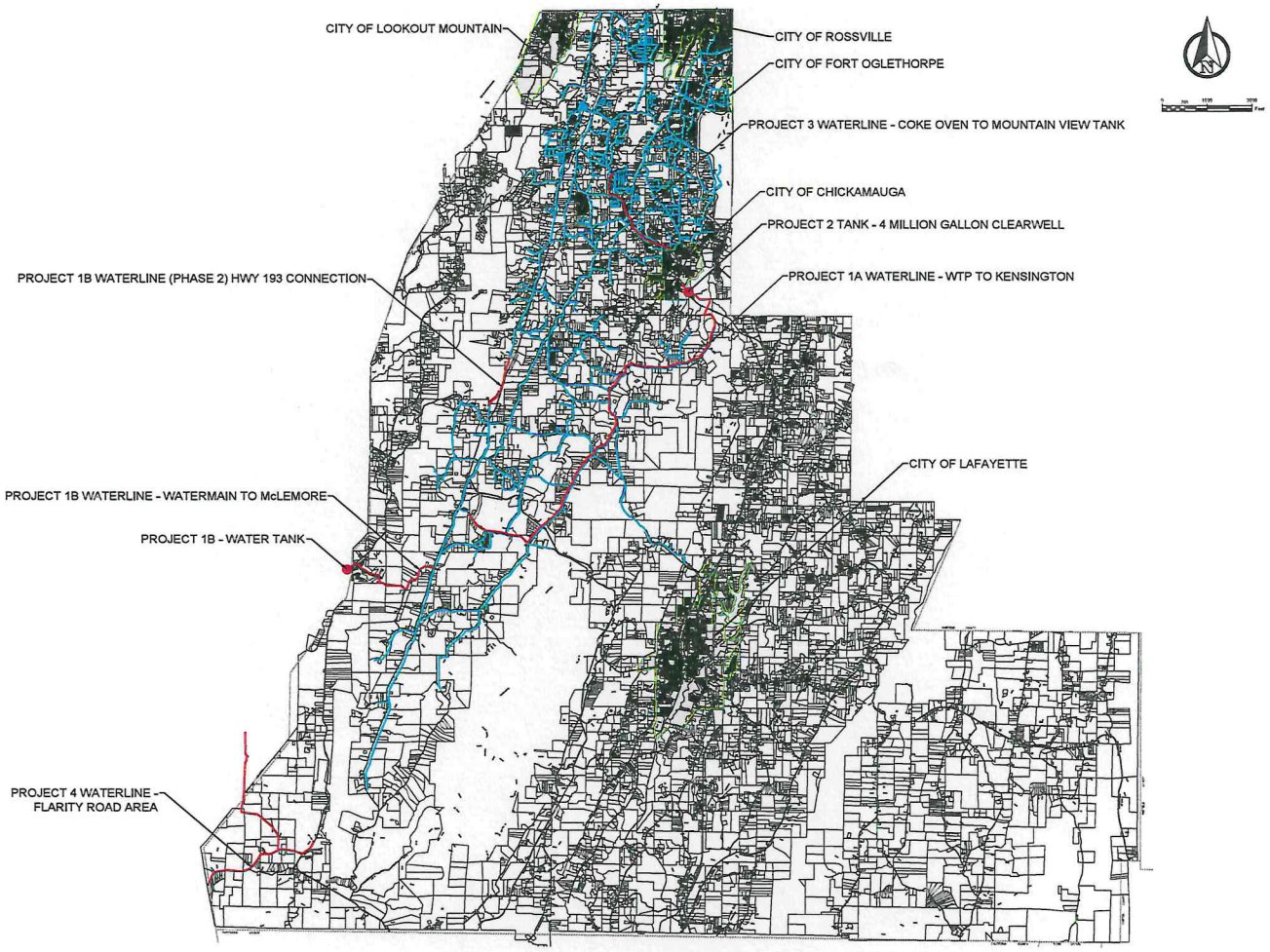
- We were required to put together competitive grant application(s) to the State of Georgia. Every dollar awarded to us was tied to specific, line-item infrastructure projects detailed in that application.
- We cannot move or use these funds for any project or purpose outside of what was explicitly approved in our original application.
- Our Authority must complete the approved work, pay the expenses out of pocket, and submit itemized invoices and proof of completion to state administrators before receiving reimbursement.

Every dollar granted to our Water Authority goes directly toward the specific water infrastructure improvements approved by the state to serve our community. The projects requested are shown in red on the following map; however, not all projects were able to be completed in full within the funding allocation our Authority received. We take our fiduciary responsibility seriously and are fully accountable to the customers and community we serve.

Sincerely,

Brandon Whitley

Brandon Whitley
General Manger


CITY OF LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
CITY OF ROSSVILLE
CITY OF FORT OGLETHORPE
PROJECT 3 WATERLINE - COKE OVEN TO MOUNTAIN VIEW TANK
CITY OF CHICKAMAUGA
PROJECT 2 TANK - 4 MILLION GALLON CLEARWELL
PROJECT 1B WATERLINE (PHASE 2) HWY 193 CONNECTION
PROJECT 1A WATERLINE - WTP TO KENSINGTON
CITY OF LAFAYETTE
PROJECT 1B WATERLINE - WATERMAIN TO McLEMORE
PROJECT 1B - WATER TANK
PROJECT 4 WATERLINE - FLARITY ROAD AREA