

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** Albemarle County Board of Supervisors  
**From:** Gary O'Connell, Executive Director  
**Date:** March 28, 2016  
**Re:** Albemarle County Service Authority (ACSA) Quarterly Briefing  
**cc:** Mr. Tom Foley, County Executive; ACSA Board of Directors;  
ACSA Lead Team

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We appreciate the continuing opportunity to brief the Board of Supervisors on the ACSA and our work to provide safe, clean, reliable water at a good value. We provide this report as background for your April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting:

1. **Budget and Rates** – The proposed budget and rates are being finalized to present to the Board at their April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. About two-thirds of our budget goes to pay for the wholesale water and wastewater treatment costs. Our rates continues to be below the statewide average for comparable water and sewer residential bills
2. **Drinking Water Week** – The ACSA Board has proclaimed the week of May 1-7 as Drinking Water Week. This national program is themed this year around “Your water, to know it is to love it.” We hope to use the week as an educational effort to remind our residents of the vital role water plays in our lives, and the value of clean water in our community.
3. **Lead Content in Drinking Water** – Given the national discussion of water, and in particular lead in drinking water, we want to assure the Board that we have an exceptional track record of providing reliable, top quality water that meets or does better than all federal and state standards for public health, including lead and copper testing. Test results are sent to our customers each year in the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report (the current year report is on our website [www.serviceauthority.org](http://www.serviceauthority.org); the 2015 report will be sent to our customers in May). Several other factors assure us of clean, safe water to our customer's homes and businesses: we utilize high quality and consistent sources for our drinking water; conduct sampling of select customer's drinking water at the tap to assure lead free, and maintain

corrosion control (corrosion inhibitor coats the inside of water pipes to lessen any potential corrosion). Although our water system delivers clean, safe water in lead-free distribution lines, customer-owned service lines and plumbing fixtures may contain lead materials. Our robust corrosion control practice minimizes the risk that lead from plumbing would leach into the water.

4. **Wastewater Cost Allocation** – As the Board is aware, a recent Wastewater Cost Allocation Agreement was approved that determines the cost share between the City and the ACSA for RWSA (Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority) Wastewater Treatment Project debt service payments. The agreement was to be based on metered flows in the wastewater systems to account for average day wastewater flows and peak wet weather flows. The results from the latest round of wastewater metering has been provided, and now applied to the FY 2017 RWSA wholesale wastewater debt service charges. We estimate about a \$300,000 a year cost savings to our ACSA customers as a result of this agreement and new cost sharing formula.
5. **ACSA Capital Projects Update** – This section will update some of our current Capital Improvement Projects (CIP), and share some of the new projects that are being proposed in the FY 2017 CIP Budget. Maps are included at the end of the CIP projects that are proposed for next year, which show the extent of the projects in the areas that they will serve.
  - **Water Tank Maintenance Program** - This is a comprehensive, ongoing water storage tank maintenance and rehabilitation program for the eight tanks in the ACSA system. The goal is to have an ongoing review of our tanks to ensure they are kept in good condition to be able to serve the community.
  - **Key West Water Main Replacement** – More than two thirds of the installation of a replacement water main has been completed. Replacement and the addition of new fire hydrants will improve the fire service in the neighborhood.
  - **Dunlora-Key West Water Interconnect** – A companion project is a new interconnect waterline under the river that will provide additional redundancy and emergency backup, as well as improve water quality.
  - **Westmoreland Water Main Replacement** – This project is in the design and easement phase, which replaces a nearly 50 year old waterline that has recently experienced multiple water leaks.
  - **Michie Tavern Water Main Replacement** – Work is underway on the replacement waterline. Current work includes boring under Route 20 from the beginning of Piedmont Virginia Community

College to the adjacent UVa Blue Ridge property. The new line will replace one that is over 70 years old.

- **Ivy Water Main Extension** – A DEQ project to provide public water to several residences and businesses in the Village of Ivy along Route 250 west that have contaminated wells by leaking underground fuel tanks. Initial design work is underway.
- **Berkeley Water Main Replacement** – This project replaces waterlines in the Berkeley subdivision that are failing and leaking. The lines are nearly 60 years old. Design is complete, and we are in the midst of acquiring easements to then be able to go to bid.
- **Glenmore Water Tank Project** – This project is for system redundancy and emergency backup. The present line extends 4 ½ miles to Glenmore. The project design is complete and nearing bidding for a new water tank to serve Glenmore.
- **Ivy Road-Flordon Water Connection** – Part of our water system reliability and redundancy projects. The waterline on the south side of the railroad is complete and in service, while the north side waterline is about to go into service.
- **Ednam Water Pump Station Upgrade** – Another of the water system reliability and redundancy projects which will also increase the water pumping capacity. The project has been bid and a contract signed to start the work.
- **Crozet Phase 3 Water Main Replacement** – Beginning design work to replace older waterlines in Crozet.
- **Orchard Acres Water Main Replacement** – Older waterlines to be replaced in Crozet. Design is complete and we are now in the easement phase of work.
- **Greenbrier Drive Sewer Replacement** – Part of the Hillsdale Drive Road Project, this short section of sewer line will be replaced. A significant cost savings by combining this sewer line replacement with the planned road project. Design work is nearly complete.
- **Oak Hill Sewer Phase 2** – New sewer line to serve 20 homes in the Oak Hill subdivision. Community Development Block Grant funds through Albemarle County are being used to fund part of the project cost. A contractor has been selected to begin construction of this new sewer line.
- **Camelot and PVCC Sewer Rehabilitation** – Sewer replacement, relining, and manhole repairs to reduce infiltration and inflow are needed for a well-functioning sanitary sewer.
- **West Leigh Water Main Replacement** – Project has been phased to replace aging and deteriorating waterlines. Work has just been completed on Croydon Road and the next project underway is along Sheffield Road.
- **Route 29 Utility Relocation** – As part of the Route 29 project, a number of ACSA waterlines have been relocated and new connections made.

- **FY 2017 CIP Budget** – The proposed CIP is \$6.78 million for next year, with \$5.46 million for water projects and \$1.32 million for sewer projects. The new projects include the replacement of existing water mains, creating redundancy in the water system, increasing capacity at water pump stations, replacement of existing sewer mains, identifying and fixing infiltration/inflow (I/I) in our sanitary sewer system, and upgrading an existing sewer pump station; “new” below indicates a new project proposed in the FY 2017 CIP:
  - **Camelot Water Main Replacement (new)** – Replacement of nearly 50 year old waterlines that are also undersized.
  - **Scottsville Water Main Replacement (new)** – Replacement of an aging waterline along East Main Street.
  - **Pantops Sewer System Study (new)** – Sanitary Sewer System Evaluation Study to determine repairs and rehabilitations that may be needed.
  - **Barterbrook Water Main Replacement (new)** – Waterline replacement of aging and deteriorating lines along Solomon Road, North Berkshire Road, and Inglewood Drive.
  - **Madison Park Sewer Pump Station Upgrade (new)** – This pump station is in need of upgrading and conversion to modern operating equipment.
  - **Fontana Loop Water Connections (new)** – New waterline loops at Verona Drive and Olympia Drive will create secondary water feeds for system redundancy and emergency backup to the Fontana subdivision.
  - **West Woods Water Main Replacement (new)** – The project completes the waterline replacements along West Pines Drive.
  - **Ashcroft Water Pump Station Improvements (new)** – This project will upgrade an existing water pump station, which will result in improved water quality.

Thank you for the opportunity to share what is going on at your water agency, the Albemarle County Service Authority.

Attachment – CIP Maps