

# Media Release



**bluffton**  
HEART OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

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## **Town of Bluffton Completes Jason-Able Sewer Extension Project**

The Town of Bluffton and contractor Potter Construction, recently completed the construction of the main water and sewer lines for the Jason-Able Sewer Extension Project. This project, a joint effort between Beaufort Jasper Water and Sewer Authority (BJWSA) and the Town of Bluffton, provides access to sanitary sewer to 42 homes and businesses in the neighborhood and provided access to 54 lots which have potential for future development in the area of Jason and Able Streets. The project also installed one fire hydrant on Kerby Lane.

Homes and commercial facilities on Jason Street, Red Cedar Street, Whispering Pine Street, Pin Oak Street and Kerby Lane now have access to sanitary sewer infrastructure. These homes and commercial facilities, which are not in a planned community, did not have the benefit of pre-planned sanitary sewer infrastructure.

Bryan McIlwee, the Town's director of engineering, said this project is important because it prevents failed septic tanks from polluting the May River and surrounding waterways.

"One of the Town's highest priorities is protecting the May River and supporting the Town's May River Watershed Action Plan," McIlwee said. "For these residents and businesses who live and work in close proximity to the May River, they are now able to connect to public sanitary sewer lines and safely decommission their septic tanks."

BJWSA funded approximately 20% of the cost of this project as well as providing project management services. The Town's portion of the project, which includes lateral connections to the sewer infrastructure, cost \$1,130,240 and was paid through stormwater utility funds, capital improvement program fund balance and state proviso grant funds.

"Only a small portion of the Town of Bluffton is not in a planned community and this portion did not have access to sewer infrastructure," Mayor Pro Tempore Larry Toomer said, "Providing sewer infrastructure to these areas is important to the entire community due to reducing contamination to the Town's watershed."

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The Jason-Able Sewer Extension project is a part of the Town's multi-year, multi-phase plan to provide public sewer service to homes and businesses which have relied on septic tanks. Beginning in 2010, the Town has installed public sewer infrastructure concentrating on Buck Island and Simmonsville Roads. The Jason-Able Sewer Extension Project is the first public sewer project outside the Buck Island-Simmonsville community.

If any residents have questions about the project, please contact Director of Engineering Bryan McIlwee at (Office: 843.706.7824).