



# Town of Jackson

## South Carolina

September 16, 2019

Please review the following water system summary submitted by Will Buchanan of Johnson, Laschober & Associates. The Town has a long history with this firm. Please be aware that some of the issues addressed were items that DHEC found insufficient or unsatisfactory and had to be moved up the list. We will continue to be vigilant on upgrading our water system needs. Thank you for your continued patience and support.

*Mayor Etheredge and Council*

### Water System Summary

In 2010, the Town of Jackson (TOJ) hired Johnson, Laschober & Associates (JLA) to produce a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) outlining numerous improvement projects to the water system with the goal of addressing issues that had the potential to become major issues. The PER included 14 potential projects ranging from improving water pressures in areas with known inadequacies, replacing infrastructure nearing the end of its service life, improving interoperability between the Town's High Level System and Low Level System (note that there are two different pressure zones in the Town's system), updating equipment and eliminating costly components in the system that require power and frequent maintenance. The Town pursued and received grant funding and low interest rate financing through the State Revolving Fund (SRF) and the Rural Infrastructure Authority (RIA) to undertake one of the fourteen projects (aka the Dragstrip Project) with a nearly \$1,000,000 construction cost. This project was determined to be the most critical of the fourteen and met several of the goals described previously. This project was completed in 2015. Since then, the Town has self-funded 3 other projects from the PER list. In 2018, TOJ hired JLA to pursue additional grant funding through RIA to continue addressing projects from the original list. The Town received grant funding to execute another large water system improvement project (aka Hwy. 125 and Goodman Estates). Also in 2018, TOJ hired JLA to provide an updated System Priority List to account for what had been done and to address other pressing needs that had become more obvious with the passage of time. This System Priority List, which can be viewed at the Town Hall, puts much more emphasis and priority on replacing aging infrastructure within the in-town area. The in-town area contains significant amounts of transite pipe, galvanized pipe and associated components (obsolete fire hydrants) that were constructed in the 1960's and 1970's and are nearing or exceeding the end of their service life. Unfortunately, the Town does not have the budget to replace all of its aging infrastructure at once and it has proven very difficult to seek grant money or other funding mechanisms for these types of projects. However, the Town is committed to dedicating resources as they become available to replace its aging water system infrastructure. The Town can't predict when and where the next water main break will occur, but please be aware that we are and have been proactively pursuing projects within the system to make improvements based on priority and vigilantly reassessing the prioritization of how dollars are spent to provide the best water system possible within our budgetary constraints.

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