

Executive Summary

Town of Pittsboro

Jordan Lake Water Supply Storage Allocation Request

December 2014

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The Town of Pittsboro is requesting a 3% (3 MGD) Level I and a 3% (3 MGD) Level II Jordan Lake water supply storage allocation. This will enable the Town to cost-effectively participate in the development of new intake, treatment, and transmission facilities proposed near the western shore of Jordan Lake as shared with other utilities. In addition to Pittsboro, these “Western Intake Partners” include Chatham County, Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA), and the City of Durham, who have all collaborated in a recent engineering study that established the technical, economic, environmental, and institutional feasibility of the proposed joint venture. The City of Durham has taken a lead role in this process and invested approximately \$100,000 in the initial study.

Pittsboro has historically been a very slow growing town, where water demands have remained constant or even reduced as a result of economic downturns. However, recent development trends have produced unprecedented actual growth and near-term growth projections, including the recent approval of the Chatham Park Planned Development District. Today, all aspects of growth planning and water demand increases are occurring in Pittsboro. Together with our JLP Partners, Pittsboro is committed to providing safe and reliable drinking water to its citizens and businesses beyond 2045 and is committed to water use efficiencies and conservation through more proactive policies and ordinances to sustain this vital natural resource.

The proposed regional facilities on the western shore of Jordan Lake would enable Pittsboro to balance our current reliance on the Haw River with Jordan Lake as a second reliable source, as well as cooperate with the regional utilities for needed redundancies via interconnections. We believe that regional reliability and redundancy of the triangle area’s water supply, treatment, and transmission infrastructure is critical moving forward. The additional 6% of Jordan Lake storage allocation requested by Pittsboro is essential to realizing our objectives in a cost-effective and prudent manner.