



## AGENDA ITEM

### Consent Agenda

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**REPORT TO:** Work Session (09/23/24)

**REPORT TO:** Voting Meeting (09/24/24)

**ITEM NO:** 513/2024

**SUBJECT:** Approval and authorization for the Chairman to execute a renewal application for the WaterFirst Program; authorization for the Chairman to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the program's renewal, subject to review and approval by the County Attorney.

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#### Meetings:

**Work Session Date:** 09/23/24

**Voting Meeting Date:** 09/24/24

#### Executive Summary:

**Presenter:** BN

**Recommendation:**  
Approve

#### Purpose of Request:

Approval and authorization for the Chairman to execute a renewal application for the WaterFirst Program; authorization for the Chairman to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the program's renewal, subject to review and approval by the County Attorney.

#### History:

Hall County was designated a WaterFirst county in 2019 and requires renewal every 5 years.

#### Facts and Issues:

#### Options:

The WaterFirst Program is a voluntary partnership between local governments, state agencies, and other organizations working together to increase the quality of life in communities through the wise management and protection of our valuable water resources. This proactive approach to water resources requires local governments to make the connection between land use and water quality, and it requires thinking beyond political boundaries to recognize the inextricable links created by shared water resources.

WaterFirst Renewal - Benefits include Statewide recognition for environmental stewardship, 1 (one) percent interest rate reduction on GEFA loans, Annual eligibility for water-related project applications to the Community Development Block Grant Program through the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, and priority status for the 319(h) Grant Program administered by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division.

**Funding Requested** \$ 0.00  
**Are funds within current budget?** No  
**Source of Funds**  
**Does the action involve a Resolution, Ordinance, Contract, Agreement, etc.?** No  
**Has it been reviewed by the County Attorney?** No  
**Is there a deadline for this item?** 2024-10-31

**Approvals:**

<b>Submit</b>	<b>Approve</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Finance</b>
BN	WK	DA	TS
<b>Attorney</b>	<b>Administration</b>	<b>Clerk</b>	
WLI	CR	JR	

**Attachments:**

- WaterFirst Renewal Application
- WaterFirst Renewal Supporting Document