



CITY OF OXFORD NEWS RELEASE



City of Oxford Executive Office
300 Williamsboro St.
Oxford, NC 27565
P: 919-603-1102
E: socialmedia@oxfordnc.org

\$10 Million Allocation for Kerr Lake Water Plant Expansion in Oxford October 9, 2023

Representative Frank Sossaman and Senator Mary Wills Bodie announced \$10 Million appropriation from the NC General Assembly to the City of Oxford for the expansion of the Kerr Lake Regional Water System Treatment Plant.

Mayor Jackie Sergent stated, "This greatly needed and generous allocation comes as a result of extensive efforts put forth by Representative Frank Sossaman and Senator Mary Wills Bodie, showcasing the power of bipartisan and bicameral collaboration when it comes to making a positive impact on local communities. We are deeply grateful to our legislators for their work on Oxford's behalf." The gathering celebrated this achievement and marked it as a testament to the dedication and hard work of countless individuals over the years since planning for the plant expansion began.

The Kerr Lake Regional Water System (KLRWS), jointly owned by the City of Henderson, the City of Oxford, and Warren County, operates a water treatment plant (WTP) providing high-quality drinking water to the region for nearly fifty years, and this project seeks to ensure a sustainable water supply for future generations and support rural development. Originally, the project aimed to rehabilitate the 1975 plant, but later expanded it from 10 million gallons per day to 20 million gallons per day to support rural development. However, COVID-related cost increases delayed the project, leading to a downsizing of the expansion to 15 million gallons per day. This appropriation will increase the plant's capacity from 15 million gallons per day to 20 million gallons per day. Consequently, the City of Oxford will see its daily allocation rise from 2 million gallons to 4 million gallons per day.

Representative Sossaman expressed his gratitude to the general assembly for understanding the need and appropriation of the funds. "This is a special day. This was a long process, and I'm glad we can finally cross the finish line. \$10 million will expand the regional water system to assist Oxford and Granville county with future growth."

Senator Bodie also emphasized the significance of this expansion and her continued support for securing the future of Oxford and Granville County. "Building a stronger future for our communities is a journey, and we understand the importance of water; it helps fuel our growth."



CITY OF OXFORD NEWS RELEASE



Amy Ratliff, the City Engineer, emphasized the importance of this funding for supporting the city's and county's growth. She mentioned there is a lot of interest from developers to build subdivisions, commercial, and industrial projects. "Without this money, we would certainly have a lot further to go. But this will allow us to do the great business that Representative Sossaman and Senator Bodie spoke about, and we cannot thank you enough!"



Pictured (left to right): City Commissioner John Tovey, Mayor Jackie Sergent, County Commissioner Russ May, City Manager Brent Taylor, David Cottrell(Fire Chief), Senator Mary Wills Bodie, Melanie Trexler(Financial Director), Representative Frank Sossaman, Mya Wilson(Engineer Technician), Alyssa Blair(Downtown Economic Director), Amy Ratliff(City Engineer), Reed Barton(CDM Smith Engineer)