Orange Water and Sewer Authority

OWASA is Carrboro-Chapel Hill's not-for-profit public service agency delivering high quality water, wastewater, and reclaimed water services.

PRECONSTRUCTION COMMENTS

Project Name: _____

Project Address: _____

This document shall be executed at a preconstruction conference prior to beginning any water or sanitary sewer utility construction. If the utility contractor who will be performing this work is not present, a separate preconstruction conference will be required and must be coordinated with the OWASA Inspector. **OWASA Inspector will not provide any services until this document is fully executed.**

1. **OWASA line break numbers.** Any leak or line break shall be reported immediately by calling **(919) 968- 4421** between 8:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and (919) 369-1460 between 3:30 p.m. and 8:00 a.m.

2. The Utility Contractor shall have in their possession a copy and follow the current OWASA Standard Specifications, any other governing ordinances and policies, and drawings that have been stamped *Approved for Construction* by OWASA prior to beginning construction. **Only drawings showing OWASA's approval for construction shall be used for water or sewer utility construction**. All revisions shall be approved by OWASA before changes are made in the field.

3. In accordance with 15A NCAC 18C .0303, any project involving extension of a public water main permitted by the NDDEQ Public Water Supply Section shall have **the *Authorization to Construct* permit posted at the primary job entrance of the job site** throughout the project construction without exception.

4. The Utility Contractor responsible for installing public water and sewer mains must be licensed the State of North Carolina to install public water and/or sewer mains. **License Number: _____**

5. Onsite visits are subject to inspector availability. Inspections and site visits shall be requested ***by the Designated Primary Contact for Scheduling*** on the last page by scanning this QR code and completing the request form. It is the Contractor's responsibility to anticipate needed testing and/or inspections and arrange for these services with the OWASA Inspector a **minimum** of **10 working days in advance** for **testing, sampling, or valve operation; 10 working days** for **planned water outages; 5 working days** for **unplanned water outages,** and **3 working days** for **other site visits.** Requesting appointments within these timeframes does not guarantee inspector availability. Fees for retesting, resampling, and missed appointments are listed at: https://www.owasa.org/rates-fees/.

6. Contractor shall notify OWASA inspector when water and sewer materials/ products have arrived on the jobsite for inspection prior to installation. All water and sewer utility materials/products that will be installed for the project shall comply with OWASA Standard Specifications. OWASA Construction Inspector shall inspect all components listed below before burying, and witness all testing:

   a) earthwork or demo near existing OWASA infrastructure;

   b) utility crossings and separations and portions of: installed sewer/water piping, bedding, and backfill;

c) *installation* or *adjustment* of system components, including tapping sleeves; valves; air release valves; fittings; blocking; backflow piping; fire hydrants; manholes; fire lines and fire line riser room piping; remote read boxes; meter vaults, drains and meters; sewer plugs, including removal; water/sewer taps and services;

d) *abandonment* of all meters, mains, manholes, and services, and

e) *testing*, including air testing, vacuum testing, mandrel pulls, and flashing of sewer lines/manholes; pressure testing, chlorinating, and dechlorinating water lines.

Note: Burying these installations prior to inspection will result in uncovering for OWASA to inspect!

7. Sewer lines under construction shall be plugged with a mechanical plug at the first manhole upstream from the point of connection. Plug shall be placed in the outlet connection and secured with a steel cable. Plug shall remain in place until acceptance of lines by OWASA. The Owner and Contractor shall be responsible for any damages to the OWASA Sanitary Sewer System, and any fines imposed by the State of North Carolina Division of Water Resources due to sewer spills or overflows. **Contractor's identity with telephone number and contact shall be affixed to plug in a manner acceptable to the OWASA Inspector**.

8. Contractor is responsible for verifying existing valve at the point of connection to the OWASA system is adequate for performing and passing hydrostatic pressure and leakage tests. Contractor may, at their expense, replace valve or install a new valve for the purpose of performing a pressure test for new main installation. If Contractor elects to pressure test against existing valve, Contractor accepts responsibility for ensuring passing pressure test in accordance with OWASA requirements. In any case, no claim whatsoever shall be made against OWASA for failure of a pressure test.

9. Existing valves shall be operated by OWASA personnel only. The OWASA inspector may temporarily open valves for loading and flushing. **Valves separating sample-approved water and unapproved water are to remain closed at all times**. All meter bypass piping in meter vaults shall be locked and secured by Contractor with a chain and lock provided by OWASA.

10. The contractor is responsible for dechlorinating all chlorinated water, regardless of the concentration. Before discharging super-chlorinated water, a Dechlorination Plan for Flushing and Discharging Super-Chlorinated Water located at https://www.owasa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Dechlorination-Plan-for-Flushing-and-Discharging-Super-Chlorinated-Water.pdf showing how and where the water will be dechlorinated and discharged must be submitted to and approved by OWASA.

11. Purity samples are collected by OWASA and analyzed at OWASA's certified laboratory. No private sampling will be considered. OWASA accepts no liability related to the failure of a Contractor to pass required testing and sampling.

12. After passing testing and inspection of **water lines**, purity testing will not begin until site is ready for the flushing, including containment and dechlorination of flushed water, pavement, and curb and gutter.

13. No meter shall be set, nor lines placed into service, until all construction, inspection and testing are complete; required close out materials (including as-builts, Engineer's Certification, easements, third-party agreements, fees, letter of dedication, asset letter, and State final approval) are received; and in-service sewer is available. Guidance to improve purity sampling results is at: https://www.owasa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Purity-Sampling-Ways-to-Improve-Results.pdf.

14. Contractor or Owner's Representative shall ensure Engineer of Record is notified of any field changes to be made to the approved design prior to constructing the change to ensure the change does not have any unacceptable impact to the design. Both contractor and Engineer of Record will maintain detailed records of any such changes to ensure record drawings accurately reflect the utilities as installed.

15. After passing testing and inspection of **manholes and sewer lines**, the lines shall not be placed into service until all required close out materials (including as-builts, Engineer's Certification, easements, third-party agreements, fees, letter of dedication, asset letter and State final approval) are received.

16. To ensure the safety of the water supply, OWASA may require any public water main, service, or fire line that has previously passed purity testing but has not been placed into service to implement additional procedures or testing, to include flushing, bacteria sampling, full purity testing, or disinfection. Such determination will be made on a case-by-case basis, considering such factors as the length of time the line has been out of service, the degree of stagnation, the complexity of the distribution system piping and appurtenances, and the difficulty in passing initial testing. Charges assessed for these services shall be based on labor, time, materials, and laboratory testing costs.

17. Other Conditions:

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NOTE: This brief summary is in no way intended to substitute for reading and following the OWASA *Manual of Standards, Specifications, and Design* and other requirements.

_____ _____ _____

OWASA Construction Inspector Signature Date

The undersigned acknowledge receipt of a copy of these Orange Water and Sewer Authority Preconstruction Comments and agree to comply with regulations governing construction set forth in the OWASA Manual of Standards, Specifications, and Design. We agree to notify OWASA of updates to the contact persons below:

Owner/Developer: □ Check one box for the Primary Designated Contact for scheduling

_____ _____ _____

Name/Company Authorized Signature Date

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Engineer: □ Check one box for the Designated Primary Contact for scheduling

_____ _____ _____

Name/Company Authorized Signature Date

Email: _____ Phone: _____

General Contractor: □ Check one box for the Designated Primary Contact for scheduling

_____ _____ _____

Name/Company Authorized Signature Date

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Utility Contractor: □ Check one box for the Designated Primary Contact for scheduling

_____ _____ _____

Name/Company Authorized Signature Date

Email: _____ Phone: _____