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We are here to serve you. If you have any questions regarding our services, please feel free to contact us at (678) 475-9212

CORPORATE PROFILE

ESG Operations, Inc. was established in 2003, and is one of the nation's fastest growing utility and public works management companies. ESG provides a wide range of engineering consulting services along with operations, maintenance and management of utility and public works systems.

Our goal is to make a measurable difference in every community in which we provide services.

News and Information from ESG Operations, Inc.

The Clarifier

City of Waycross Awarded GAWP Plant of the Year

ESG's Waycross Project was recently awarded the coveted "Plant of the Year" from the Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) in recognition for the best operated and maintained water treatment facility in Georgia serving 2,500 to 10,000 connections. This award followed both the City's water and wastewater treatment facilities receiving the prestigious Gold Awards for complete and consistent compliance with stringent water quality permit requirements for the calendar year 2008. Gold Awards are presented annually in recognition of municipalities that are able to maintain the exceptionally high standards of water quality required by their individual permits. The GAWP Gold Awards Program acknowledges and recognizes municipalities for their environmental stewardship and dedication to keeping Georgia's natural waterways and tap water safe.



City officials and ESG managers and employees celebrated on Tuesday, April 21, their "2009 Plant of the Year" award for the "perfect" operation of the city's wastewater and drinking water facilities.

The dedication and hard work of ESG/Waycross associates contributed to being honored with these prestigious industry awards. The Waycross Team continues to go the extra mile to ensure that the City of Waycross receives the most benefit from their partnership with ESG Operations—and we thank them for their hard work and commitment to excellence.

► Read more and see more photographs from ESG/Waycross on **Page 3** inside.

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The West Nile Virus



how to protect
yourself and your family
this summer

The West Nile virus is transmitted to a human by a mosquito that has first bitten an infected bird. A person who is bitten by an infected mosquito may show symptoms from 3 to 15 days after the bite. Mosquitoes, which can carry the West Nile virus, breed in places like ditches, open septic systems, discarded tires, unused wading pools, and other assorted containers, particularly if they are in the shade.

How Can I Protect Myself?

- When possible, avoid places and times when mosquitoes bite.
- Use an insect repellent containing DEET (N,N-diethyl-m-toluamide).
- Wear shoes, socks, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt when outdoors for long periods of time, or from dusk to dawn, when mosquitoes are most active. Clothing should be light colored and made of tightly woven materials to keep mosquitoes away from the skin.
- Make sure all windows and doors have screens, and that all screens are in good repair.
- Use mosquito netting when sleeping outdoors or in an unscreened structure.
- Mosquitoes breed in standing water. Even a small bucket that has stagnant water in it for seven days can become home to up to 1,000 mosquitoes.

You can also protect your family and your community from biting mosquitoes by:

- Eliminating areas of standing water on or near your property.
- Repairing failed septic systems.
- Drilling holes in the bottom of recycling containers that are left outdoors.
- Keeping grass cut short and shrubbery trimmed.
- Disposing of any unused containers that can hold water.
- Cleaning clogged roof gutters, particularly if leaves tend to plug up the drains.
- Turning over plastic wading pools when not in use.
- Turning over wheelbarrows and not allowing water to stagnate in birdbaths.
- Cleaning and chlorinating swimming pools that are not being used.
- Using landscaping to eliminate standing water that collects on your property.

How Serious is West Nile Disease?

Most people infected with West Nile virus will have either no symptoms or mild symptoms. A few individuals will have a more severe form of the disease, encephalitis (inflammation of the brain) or meningitis (inflammation of the tissues that cover the brain and spinal cord). Health officials say that individuals over age 50 are at higher risk for serious illness.

There is no specific treatment for West Nile virus, and no vaccine is available for humans. In severe cases, intensive supportive therapy including intravenous fluids, airway management, respiratory support, prevention of secondary infections (pneumonia, urinary tract, etc.) and good nursing care are indicated.

Symptoms

You should see a doctor if you develop symptoms such as the following: high fever, severe headache, neck stiffness, muscle weakness or paralysis, nausea, vomiting, sore joints, or confusion.

In humans, symptoms generally occur three to 15 days following the bite of an infected mosquito. Mild cases of West Nile encephalitis may cause a slight fever, rash, swollen lymph nodes, conjunctivitis (irritation of the eye), or headache. Patients with mild symptoms are likely to recover completely and do not require any specific medication or laboratory testing.

More severe infections are marked by rapid onset of a high fever with head and body aches, stiff neck, muscle weakness, disorientation, tremors, convulsions and, in the most severe cases, coma or paralysis. In some individuals, West Nile Virus can cause permanent neurological damage or death.

Project News and Recent Highlights

WAYCROSS, GEORGIA



Congratulations to the entire ESG/Waycross Team for their hard work and dedication which made these awards and recognition a reality

City of Waycross Wins Plant of the Year Award and... Water and Wastewater Facilities Recognized for Exemplary Operations Compliance

more from our cover story

ESG Operations, Inc. and the City of Waycross would like to congratulate all of our associates at the Waycross Project for being selected Ground Water Plant of the Year for 2008 in the 2,500-10,000 services category. While every employee was instrumental in this significant achievement, a special note of appreciation is given to **Kelly Bryson, Jerry Richardson, Will Corbitt** and **Scott Murphy**—along with gratitude to Peter Pyrzenski and Frank Baugh of the City of Waycross for their support. Both the wastewater and drinking water facilities in Waycross were also recognized with Gold Awards (see below) for 2008. Both the WPCP and Water Treatment facility consistently maintained flawless records of

compliance for the period, in spite of several harsh weather events, and major equipment loss due to storm damage. The WPCP in particular was able to demonstrate a 99.7% removal of pollutants for the year.

The dedication and hard work of all our Waycross associates led to 2008 being one of ESG's most successful and productive years at Waycross.

ESG/Waycross associates have gone the "extra mile" to ensure the City of Waycross receives the most benefit from their partnership with ESG Operations, Inc.—and we thank you!

Congratulations to the entire Waycross Team! Keep up the good work.

Gold Awards are given by the Georgia Association of Water Professionals to operations in recognition of complete and consistent permit compliance



Project News and Recent Highlights

VIDALIA, GEORGIA



ESG Cofounder and President, **Clay Sykes**, congratulates ESG/Vidalia Associate, **Malchus Robinson**, on his completion of 5 years of service with ESG Operations. Malchus was presented with a canvas jacket and five year service pin.

Malchus Robinson Completes Five Years of Service with ESG

The ESG Family congratulates Vidalia associate, **Malchus Robinson**, on his completion of five years of service with ESG Operations, Inc. On April 22, **Clay Sykes**, ESG Cofounder and Principal, visited the Vidalia Project to congratulate Malchus and to present him with a jacket from Lands' End, embroidered with the ESG logo, and a five year service pin.

Congratulations, Malchus, on this significant achievement—and we thank you for your dedication and commitment to ESG and for your many contributions to the ESG/Vidalia Team.

More News from the Vidalia Team

Significant Accomplishments of Our Team Members

Frank Landrum

Completed his Advanced Waste Treatment SAC Course

Matt Ragan

Completed Volume I Wastewater Treatment SAC Course

Brian Thompson

Promoted to C&D Supervisor

James O'Neal

Promoted to Street Supervisor

Celebrating a Birthday at Team Vidalia

These ESG/Vidalia team members recently celebrated a birthday!

January 18 • **Jimmy Mills**
February 11 • **Kenny Bryant**
February 16 • **Calvin Williams**
March 4 • **Spencer Ricks**
March 5 • **Paul Pratt**
March 7 • **Frank Landrum**
March 17 • **Tony Byrd**



OPELIKA, ALABAMA

TEAM OPELIKA

CONTINUING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Groundskeeping Superintendent **John Holley** of Team Opelika serves as the City's liaison to the Planning Commission. Annually the ESG/Opelika Groundskeeping department assists with several plantings for the Opelika Tree Commission. Recently **Ferrow "Shorty" Morgan**, ESG associate, planted a 9-foot tall magnolia tree at the Lee County courthouse square in memory of a woman and life that made a difference in Opelika—Jane Walker, late wife of retired lawyer Jacob Walker, Jr. The tree planting served as the kick off of the Tree Commission's 2009 Tree Trust program which over the past 10 years has planted about 25 trees in public spaces in the city in honor or in memory of individuals.

Project Goals Being Achieved. One of the project goals at Team Opelika has been to tame the sewer ROWs. A combined effort by the Groundskeeping Department and Wastewater Collection has shown great progress in this area. For several years the sewer ROWs were not properly maintained. Some of them even had large trees on them. Since the City of Opelika partnered with ESG in 2005, Team Opelika has been working to correct this problem. Great results have been achieved which reinforces the importance of **consistent maintenance**.

Family News from Team Opelika



Haley Paulan Wallace, granddaughter of Calvin Wallace, was born April 14, 2009.

Congratulations to **Calvin Wallace**, Building Maintenance Superintendent, who is a proud first-time grandfather! Haley Paulan Wallace was born on April 14, 2009, weighing 7 pounds and 10 ounces. Her parents are Brian and Lexy Wallace.



Misty, daughter of Betty Messer, married Ron Boywer on April 18, in Gatlinburg.

Betty Messer, Office Assistant, has gained a son! Betty's daughter, Misty, was married to Ron Bowyer on April 18, 2009. Misty and Ron were married in a chapel in the mountains of Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2009
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Ferrow Morgan, with ESG Operations of Opelika, plants a magnolia tree at the courthouse square Wednesday in memory of Jane Walker.

Courthouse magnolia honors memory of Jane Walker

BEVERLY HARVEY
STAFF WRITER

A 9-foot tall magnolia tree at the Lee County courthouse square now stands as a living monument in memory of a woman and a life that made a difference in Opelika — Jane Walker, late wife of retired lawyer Jacob Walker Jr.

The tree was planted by the Opelika Tree Commission Wednesday morning to kick off its 2009 Tree Trust program, with the honoree selected by the commission's newest member Christine Carson.

Carson was a high school student when she first met Jane Walker. Over the years, Carson witnessed a number of kind gestures and unselfish assistance provided by Walker that touched many people's lives, including her own.

"She did a lot of different things for young children," said Carson, whose husband Steven Carson served on the Opelika Housing Authority with Walker. "She just had such a pleasing personality."

Retired Opelika lawyer Jacob Walker Jr. said his wife, who died in September 2006, would have loved the tree.

"She was a lovely lady," he said. "She was very much interested in the people of Opelika and particularly the children of Opelika."

The planting of a tree — particularly a magnolia tree — in honor of his mother seemed fitting said her son, Judge Jacob A. Walker III. "She was very interested in horticulture and gardening," he said.

In the last 10 years, the Opelika Tree Commission Tree Trust has planted about 25 trees in public spaces in the city in honor or in memory of individuals. The cost is \$75, which includes the planting of a tree with a 4-inch by 4-inch placard.

So far, the tree commission has planted maple, dogwood, oak, poplar and magnolia trees in areas that have also included Municipal Park and West Ridge Park, commission Chairman Leh Bass said.

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"She was a lovely lady. She was very much interested in the people of Opelika and particularly the children of Opelika." — Jacob Walker Jr.

ESG Associate **Ferrow "Shorty" Morgan** is shown above planting a magnolia tree in the Lee County courthouse square for the Opelika Tree Commission, which kicked off its 2009 Tree Trust program on May 13. The ESG/Opelika Groundskeeping Department assists the Tree Commission with plantings throughout the year. **John Holley** is Opelika's Groundskeeping Superintendent.

Project News and Recent Highlights



PERRY, GEORGIA

Project Highlights from the ESG/Perry Team

The City of Perry, Georgia recently celebrated the city's 185th birthday with a grand celebration (in April 2009). The Mayor of Perry and City Council celebrated with a birthday cake and invited the citizens of Perry to a "birthday party" following the City Council meeting on April 21.



Gold Awards for ESG/Perry. The Georgia Association of Water Professionals (GAWP) presented the City of Perry's WWTP with a 2008 Gold Award for perfect permit compliance. In addition the City of Perry's Wastewater Treatment Plant was also awarded the WEF 2008 Safety Awareness Award. The GAWP also presented the City of Perry's Water Treatment Plant with the Gold Award for perfect compliance in 2008.

The Department of Health and Human Services/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) presented the City of Perry's Water Treatment Plant with the 2007 Water Fluoridation Quality Award. This prestigious award is given in recognition of those water systems that adjust the fluoride concentration in drinking water, achieving a monthly average fluoride level that is within the optimal range for 12 consecutive months in a year. The CDC's website states..."This represents a high level of operator care and accomplishment.

Providing a consistent level of fluoride in water ensures the greatest benefit in reducing tooth decay." We congratulate the Perry Team on these significant awards.

Wastewater personnel are working closely with construction personnel to complete Part I or Phase II Upgrade at the WWTP. This upgrade will increase WWTP permitted flows from 3.0 MGD to 4.5 MGD. **Water Operations personnel** are assisting Constantine Engineering with a water study to increase their withdrawal permit from 2.8 MGD to more than 3.0 MGD.

Smoke Testing Helps to Save the City More Than \$1 Million in Sewer Upgrades

Line Maintenance

just completed their first six months with ESG. ESG/Perry is averaging 300 work orders per



month. Line Maintenance personnel recently completed smoke testing on several quadrants of Perry's collection system with the support of Constantine Engineering. The results of this testing allowed the City of Perry to save more than \$1 million dollars in scheduled sewer upgrades.

A New Addition to Our ESG/Perry Family

On March 24, 2009, Line Maintenance associate **Jermail Hammett** celebrated the birth of a new son, **Jayden Wade Hammett**, who weighed 6 pounds and 3 ounces. Congratulations, Jermail!



TUPELO, MISSISSIPPI



Clean up at one of Tupelo's Major Pumping Stations

Project Manager **Chris Holloway** and Assistant Project Manager **Jeff Faye** have their team hard at work on cleaning up one of Tupelo's major pumping stations—Central. In addition to the pumping station clean up, ESG/Tupelo continues to work on permit renewal and warranty issues.

Two associates at Tupelo have taken their Class II and Class IV certifications. Barry West has completed the exam for the Class II certification, and Christopher Holloway has completed the exam for his Class 4 certification.



ESG/Tupelo is now in the process of reseeding the plant and plant grounds with grass seed. Also they are gearing up for grass cutting at all pumping stations. The hay cutting operation has also started (see photo at right).



Photo above shows ESG/Tupelo's hay cutting operation and below, tractor and disc grass seeding project.



Meet ESG Associate **Roy Myers** of the Tupelo team. Roy is the Maintenance Supervisor at ESG/Tupelo.

PROJECT GOALS

- Finalize Permit Renewal
- Warranty Issues
- Wastewater Certifications
- Reseeding the Wastewater Plant
- Finish Major Clean Up at Central Pumping Station.

Project News and Recent Highlights

WAKULLA COUNTY, FLORIDA

Board of County Commissioners Complex Parking Lot and Wakulla County Courthouse Parking Lot:

The Road & Bridge Department, as well as the Parks and Recreation Department, have teamed up to make the Board of County Commissioners Complex a safer area in which to drive and park, and they have also given the landscaping a much needed face lift. The Courthouse public parking areas also received a paving face lift and re-striping.

April Rains bring in FEMA: The majority of the damage occurred in the very low lying areas on Sander's Cemetery Road in Sopchoppy. FEMA will assist in replacing failed culverts and building the road back up above flood level.

Household Hazardous Waste Day (also known as Amnesty Day): ESG/Wakulla recently hosted Wakulla County's Amnesty Day at the Trice Lane Annex. Vendors are brought in to collect paint, electronics, oil, antifreeze, fluorescent bulbs, and any hazardous materials that our local ESG operated landfill cannot accept. **We do this two times a year, and it is always a big success. We saw over 300 cars come through our lines.**

Preparation completed for 2009 Storm/Hurricane Season: After multiple glitches in the plan and several attempts, we now have a back-up generator on stand by at the Trice Lane Annex. On Friday, March 37, a successful power test was run. The generator is able to run the Fuel Master system, all lights and computers in the ESG offices, one set of bay lights in the shop, the service office and the parts room. During the test, we also finalized the "switch over" procedure from line power to generator power and marked all the components in reflective lettering which can be easily read by flashlight.

Attached to the generator is the procedure list and there is also a waterproof copy in the mechanical room on the manual transfer switch. This generator was loaned out during the cleanup of Hurricane Andrew. When the generator was returned, it was in very poor condition, and was put out on the surplus line. Rather than buy a new backup generator, this one was reclaimed and refurbished at a very small fraction of the cost of a new one.



In Other News at ESG/Wakulla

Dave Turner, originally hired as a mechanic's helper, has transferred to the Landfill to be a truck driver. **Dale Mayfield**, originally with Road & Bridge (and agreed to move to the landfill when we were short a truck driver) has transferred back to the Road & Bridge Department.



REMEMBERING A
FRIEND AND
ASSOCIATE



Pat Hilliard
who faithfully
worked with
the Public Works
Department
of Wakulla County
for 27 years,
recently passed away.
He will be missed
by all of us.

ROCKDALE COUNTY, GEORGIA

ROCKDALE COUNTY COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

ESG Staff Participate in the Dedication of the Newly Remodeled J.P. Carr Center

Recently ESG Corporate and Rockdale Project Staff participated in the dedication of the newly remodeled and expanded J.P. Carr Center in Rockdale County. This complex is an historic landmark. The land was originally donated and the facility constructed for black students living in Rockdale County until 1969, when the community integrated all public schools. The J.P. Carr Complex was then converted into a middle school. Rather than demolish the center due to years of deterioration, the County rehabilitated the facility to maintain the legacy of J.P. Carr and reopened its doors to serve the needs of the people in Rockdale.

ESG smoked boston butts, and served chicken and all the fixings to over two hundred guests in attendance for the dedication. ESG/Rockdale personnel and corporate staff that assisted with this event include: **Dan Groselle, Clay Sykes, Paul Tickerhoof, Ryan Bode, Rob Burton, Becky Alexander** and **Daryl Waits**.

ESG/Rockdale Participates in the **Great American Cleanup.**

ESG/Rockdale associates also participated in the Rockdale County/City of Conyers annual **Great American Cleanup**. This annual event brings together 200 to 300 volunteers to cleanup around the City of Conyers and Rockdale County. ESG staff participated in the cleanup and cooked burgers and hot dogs for all of the volunteers. ESG staff participating in the event were: **Dickey Thompkins, Garry Echols, Jay Jones, Noah Perrymond, Rob Burton** and **Michele Burton**.



Pictured above: ESG Assistant Project Manager Rob Burton and his wife, Michele, cooking at the recent cleanup day in Rockdale County.
Pictured at left: Rob Burton, Dickey Thompkins, Jay Jones, Noah Perrymond and Garry Echols provided hamburgers and hot dogs for all the cleanup day volunteers.

Thank you, ESG Associates, for your help and support with this community event.



Congratulations on These Significant Accomplishments



- **Omari Griffin**, Operator in Training, (pictured above at right) received his Georgia Wastewater III certification. Way to go, Omari!
- **Andy Southerland**, Operator in Training, (pictured above left) passed his Georgia Wastewater III certification exam and was rehired at the Rockdale County Project. Congratulations, Andy!

Welcome **New Associates** at Rockdale

- **Chris Grubbs**, Georgia Wastewater III certified operator, was hired as an Operator at our Quigg Branch facility. Chris has 10 years of experience in the wastewater industry.
- **Noah Perrymond** was hired as an Operator in Training at our Quigg Branch facility. Noah has a Bachelors of Business Administration and is studying to get his wastewater license.

PROJECTS UNDERWAY

- Installation of new gravity chutes to replace a damaged screw conveyor at a savings of \$6,000 at Quigg.
- Installation of a new weir and ultrasonic flow meter to measure flow that diverts to Quigg from Almand Branch.
- Retrofit of the inlet piping to the new Septage Receiving Station at Quigg.
- Removal of old influent troughs on both package plants at Honey Creek.

Project News and Recent Highlights

WARNER ROBINS, GEORGIA



Land Application Underway at Warner Robins Project

- Land application began April 29, 2009, and we have three properties and are well on our way to adding more.
- Plant of the Year inspection went very well at the ESG/Warner Robins water plants.
- New barscreen was installed at Wastewater Plant #1.
- Outfall cleaning is currently underway at Wastewater Plant #2.
- Reuse system is now online at Wastewater Plant #1.
- ESG/Warner Robins has a new Chevrolet Boom Truck
- **Harold Glover** is now a Class III Wastewater Operator. (*Harold is pictured above at the land application site*).
- Cleaned polishing pond at Wastewater Plant #2.

Photographs from ESG/Warner Robins

Above left: Land Application Equipment

Above right: Richard Adams assisting Auger Monster unloading

■
New Chevrolet Boom Truck

ESG/Warner Robins Welcomes These **New Associates**



New Associate
Scott Willis
Wastewater
Department



New Associate
Thaddus Clark
Wastewater
Lead Operator



New Associate
Roger Gordon
Wastewater
Department



New Associate
Joshua Maloy
Water
Department

More News from Warner Robins



project goals

F R O M W A R N E R R O B I N S

- Aeration Basin T2 and T3 refurbishment.
- New barscreen installation at Wastewater Plant #2 scheduled for October 2009.
- Cindy Mason and Delia Spann are working with Sean Meyer, Technical Services Manager, on the ESG Operations, Inc. Wastewater Manual.
- We are working to get permitted to do Land Application for two properties.
- Refurbish water lines at Wastewater Plant #1.

A NEW ADDITION TO THE FAMILY

Congratulations to ESG Associate Gregory Skinner...

Congratulations to Gregory Skinner on the birth of his daughter, **Paige Hayden Skinner**, born April 21, 2009. Gregory is a proud new dad—and is photographed below (right) with ESG Associate Joshua Purvis.



human resources

Debbie Linton, PHR

Human Resource and Administrative Service Director

ESG's 401(k) Plan is moving from Nationwide to Hartford Life on July 1, 2009. This transition (blackout) will be complete by July 15. Hartford will send confirmations to each participating ESG associate with your account information and PIN numbers. When you receive this information, please verify your personal data. If you have any questions, please give me a call at the Corporate Office at 678-475-9212.

Do you have an idea or topic that you would like to see highlighted in a future issue?

If you have an idea, story or topic that you would like to see covered in a future issue of *The Clarifier*, then please let us know. Your ideas and thoughts are very important to us. Email your ideas to John Eddlemon at jeddlemon@esginc.net.

Thank you to our Project Managers and Administrative Assistants who submitted project highlights and photographs for this issue. Photographs tell a story and help us get acquainted with each other while also learning about the work being accomplished by ESG associates. We appreciate the time you invest in helping us compile this newsletter each quarter.



ESG Operations, Inc. takes great pride in being a 100% American owned and operated company.



Left to right: John Eddlemon, Clay Sykes, Congressman Mike Rogers of Alabama, Mike Hilyer (ESG/Opelika Project Director) and Dan Groselle.

ESG Representatives Attend the National League of Cities Conference

Earlier this year representatives from ESG attended the National League of Cities Conference in Washington, D.C. The City of Opelika hosted a dinner during the conference for the 3rd Congressional District of Alabama with special guest Congressman Mike Rogers. ESG was proud to be a sponsor of this dinner event. Congressman Rogers, members of his congressional staff, elected officials and their spouses were the invited guests. Over 80 guests were in attendance. ESG Operations has proudly served the City of Opelika, Alabama since 2005.

ESG Expands Partnership with the City of Opelika, Alabama

ESG Operations, Inc. will be taking on an expanded role at the Opelika, Alabama project later this year. We will be adding additional staff to maintain the state-of-the-art aquatics and recreation center



currently in the final stages of construction. ESG will be responsible for maintaining all of the physical structures as well as all of the landscaping for the facility.

This 75,000 square foot facility, constructed on 76 acres, is a 32 million dollar project. It will contain staff offices, meeting rooms, two racket ball courts, indoor heated zero-depth entry pool, indoor walking track, double gym, aerobics room, cardio room, weight room, 5 lighted soccer fields with two control buildings and restrooms, walking trails, amphitheater and lake. A unique feature of this facility will be the Adult Activity Center. This 6,000 square foot addition will be attached to the Sportsplex and feature a computer lab, a media center, a game room, a warming kitchen and a large common area complete with full sized stage.

This will be the largest project in the City's 154 year history, and also represents the first public-private partnership on a construction project, with individuals and companies already contributing more than \$4 million.

ESG is excited about expanding our partnership with the City of Opelika!



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