

September 9, 2020

To: John Flythe, City Manager
iflythe@winstream.net
112 N. Parrish Avenue
Adel, GA 31620
(229) 896-4504

Cc: Rhonda P. Rowe, City Clerk
rowe@southlink.us
Pam Hamilton, Administrative Assistant
phamilton@southlink.us

Re: Water trails, runoff, and waterway contamination

Dear City Manager and City Clerk,

Could you please distribute this letter to Mayor and Council before tonight's 5:30 PM meeting?

Please convey our thanks again to the Mayor and Council for their resolution of January 2018 supporting the Withlacoochee and Little River Water Trail (WLRWT).

<http://wwals.net/?p=41284>

Thanks to a grant from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, we have ordered road signs from the Georgia Department of Transportation for many of the landings and boat ramps on the Little and Withlacoochee Rivers. As you know, four of them are in Cook County. We are also working up designs for metal signs to go near the water at each location. Please let me know who might be interested in reviewing drafts of those signs before we print and plant them.

People enjoy boating, fishing, and swimming in our rivers best when our waterways are clean.

I hear you have on your agenda for this evening a rezoning for a wood pellet plant to export our trees to Europe for burning. I'm guessing that is this item:

5.B. ANNEXATION AND ZONING OF INDUSTRIAL AUTHORITY PROPERTY

Such a plant would, by more severe clearcutting and eventual use of whole trees, contribute to more runoff, with more sediments, fertilizers, pesticides, and *E. coli* getting into our waterways, as well as contributing to flooding.

It would, by sourcing wood from up to 75 miles around, affect numerous cities and counties in Georgia and Florida. Yet there has been very little public notice of this rezoning.

If the underlying maps and plans for this rezoning are online somewhere on the City's website, please let me know where.

Meanwhile, I urge the Mayor and Council to reject this rezoning.

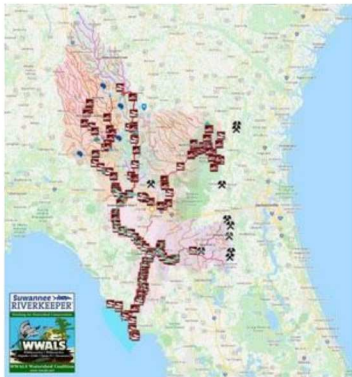
Thank you for your consideration.

For the rivers and the aquifer,

John S. Quarterman
Suwannee RIVERKEEPER®

/s

WWALS Watershed Coalition, Inc.
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WWALS is an IRS 501(c)(3)
nonprofit charity est. June 2012

WWALS Watershed Coalition advocates for conservation and stewardship of the Withlacoochee, Willacoochee, Alapaha, Little, Santa Fe, and Suwannee River watersheds in south Georgia and north Florida through education, awareness, environmental monitoring, and citizen activities.

Suwannee RIVERKEEPER® is a program and a paid staff position of WWALS.

