If you live in the Walker Road area, you probably wish to know when the City will start on the water line improvements for the area. While we would love to have already begun, you should know that, just because our Senator got money appropriated for the project, we have not been given the funds yet. All projects funded by Federal dollars are subject to the completion of certain requirements before the funds are released, including an EPA study, which has been in progress, and which resulted in a request for additional information.

According to our engineers, this is the current status:

<u>Regarding Funding:</u> We submitted the full application to EPA last month, with the additional information which was requested. We are waiting for a response.

<u>Regarding Design & Permitting:</u> We have the survey of the route and we have field-verified existing information. We hope to have a set of documents ready for EPD (Georgia version of EPA) and City review by the end of March.

<u>Regarding Bidding & Construction:</u> We cannot begin advertising until we have EPA's award- we need money after all - but we will likely start advertising while EPD is still reviewing our documents (assuming EPA left this in the State's hands). We are confident that our design practices will meet almost every EPD requirement. We may be able to squeeze the Bidding and Contract Execution steps into a 3 month process. We anticipate construction for a project this size to take approximately 9 months. We believe we can be underway with construction this year.