



BYNUM WATER TANK

Chatham County
Board of Commissioners
October 20, 2025

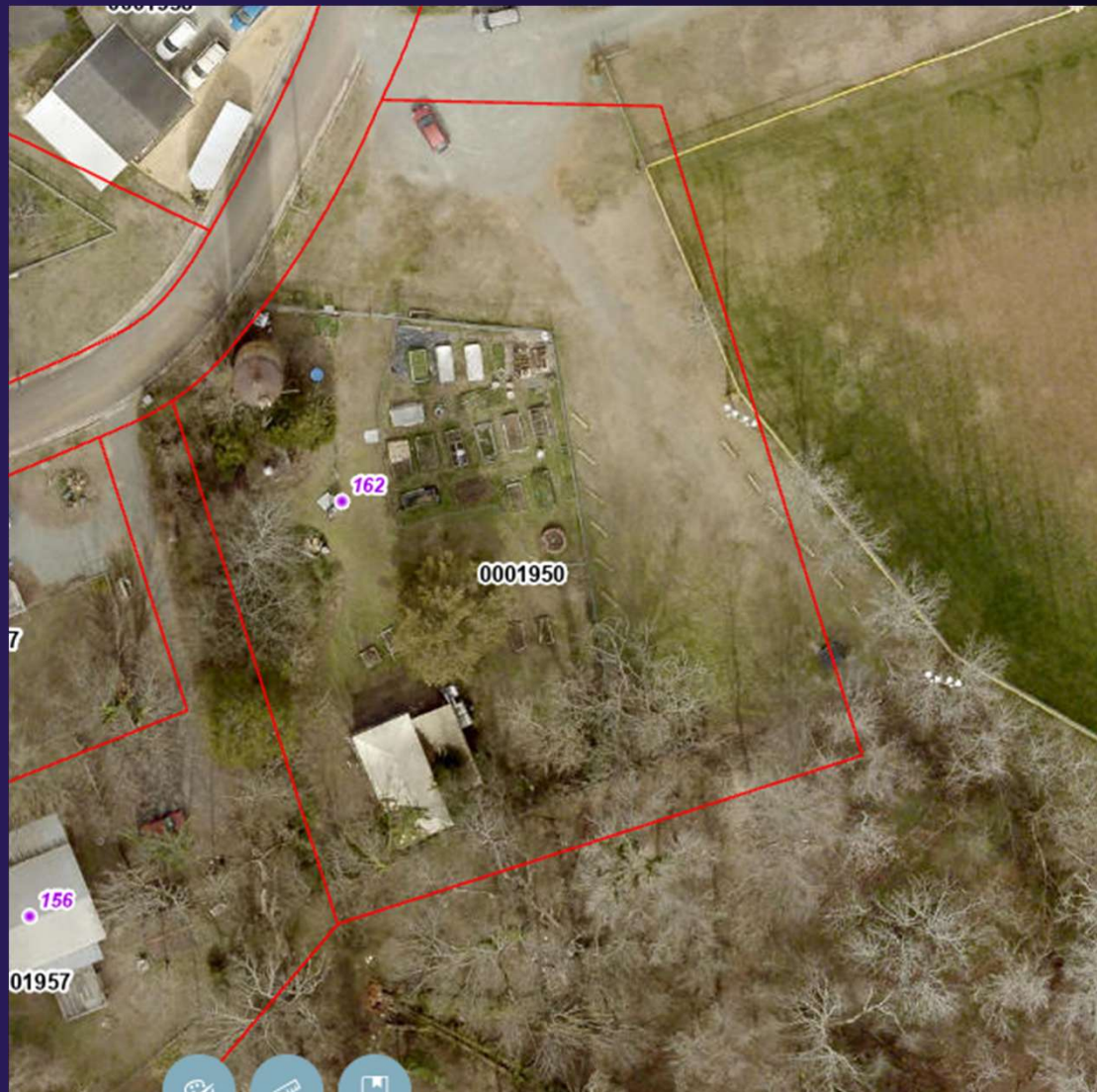


Background

In FY 24, funds were budgeted in the utility fund for the demolition of two (2) decommissioned county-owned water tanks:

- Bynum Hill Rd. (standpipe)
- Jack Bennett Rd. (elevated tank)





Chronology of Events

Winter 2024

- Request for bids for demolition of the water tower requested from interested firms

January 2024-March 2024

- Request from community members to paint rather than demolish water tank
 - Alternate bids are received for painting
- ✓ Cost differential minimal between demolition v. paint
 - ✓ Decision was to paint water tank
 - ✓ Work to commence week of May 20, 2024



Chronology of Events

May 2024

- Work begins to grind surface of tank to prep for painting
- Calls received into County offices regarding grinding discharge off the tank

May 2024-June 2024

- Site work halted
- Round 1 of soil testing done—initial results indicated elevated levels of chromium 6 and lead around tank
- Bynum Community Garden closed
- NCDEQ consulting on next steps

Additional testing recommended



Chronology of Events

July 2024

- Pyramid Environmental retained to conduct more extensive grid soil sampling
- Initial Site Sampling (ISS) plan submitted to NCDEQ for approval

September 2024

- Pyramid Environmental grid sampling commences
- Results to NCDEQ for review and determination

October 2024

- Chatham County agrees to transfer water utility function to TriRiver

Late February 2025

- No Further Action letter issued by DEQ



Chronology of Events

March 2025

- Community meeting held at CCACC to review results with the community

April-May 2025

- New bids received for options to demolish or paint the water tank

July 2025

- Administrative decision by county to demolish tank

September 2025

- Following voiced concerns from the community, community input meeting is held at Bynum General Store



The Numbers

Demolition	Painting
\$31,900	\$51,919
\$59,250	\$56,763
No Bid	No bid
<i>Bids as of May 30, 2025</i>	



Considerations

- Low bidders on both demolition and painting are holding their bids
- Decision and action timeline directly impact community garden
- Painting vs. demolition has inherent long-term costs for the county



Questions?