



June 9, 2025

Chris Carmical  
Walters Construction Co., Inc.  
2051 Hwy 84 E  
Laurel, MS 39443

RE: Time extension request dated May 16, 2025  
Joe Wheeler Avenue ARPA Utility and Roadway Improvements Project  
City of Laurel, Mississippi

Dear Mr. Carmical,

I received your letter dated May 16, 2025 requesting time extension on the Joe Wheeler Avenue Utility & Roadway Improvements project. My response to the requested dates are as follows:

**21 Days Requested**

You requested an additional 21 days be added due to various reasons. In my review of the additional information provided for the requested dates, it is my recommendation that Walters Construction Co. is due **11 calendar days** related to additional items of work outside the original scope of work. My responses have been summarized for your reference below.

Date	Additional Days	Note
1/13/2025	0	\$52,164.98 of contract work was performed this day: 2 valve insertions, 13 water meters, reinforcing steel, and asphalt patching. Exploratory excavations are an absorbed item of work. <i>Reference: Section 01025 - 1.04.B.1.g; Section 01041 – 1.04; Section 02200 – 1.04.A.2, 1.04.B.1; Sheet 2 Note 7</i>
1/14/2025	0	\$7,601.86 of contract work was performed this day. This was the day the tie-in was started on 20th St. Tie-in was shown on the plans. Exploratory excavations are an absorbed item of work. <i>Reference: Section 01025 - 1.04.B.1.g; Section 01041 – 1.04; Section 02200 – 1.04.A.2, 1.04.B.1; Sheet 2 Note 7</i>
3/4/2025	0.5	Upon review of the additional information provided, additional time this for day is justified.
3/5/2025	0.5	Upon review of the additional information provided, additional time this for day is justified.
3/10/2025-3/19/2025	10	Upon review of the additional information provided, additional time for these days is justified. The work completed was outside the original scope of work. These are the dates for the water line tie-ins behind Blue's Super Store and the additional riprap channel lining near 13 <sup>th</sup> St.

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328 N. Magnolia Street  
Laurel, MS 39440

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3/20/2025	0	Sewer work and storm drainage was performed this day. That work is part of the contract. Although some other items were waiting on answers, there were other items of work available to be performed.
3/21/2025	0	Box culvert work was performed on this day. That work is part of the contract. Although some other items were waiting on answers, there were other items of work available to be performed.
3/22/2025	0	Saturday. No work performed this day.
3/23/2025	0	Sunday. No work performed this day
3/24/2025	0	No work performed this day due to rain. (4 actual rain days in March vs. 6 allowed per contract)
3/25/2025- 3/26/2025	0	No work performed these days. Although some other items were waiting on answers, there were other items of work available to be performed.
3/27/2025	0	Storm drainage, curb and gutter, and box culvert work was performed this day. That work is part of the contract. Although some other items were waiting on answers, there were other items of work available to be performed.

Based on this information, I will recommend to the city that an additional 11 calendar days be added to the contract.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

NEEL-SCHAFFER, INC.



Jonathan G. Keith, P.E.

Cc: City of Laurel (Mayor Magee)  
Mandy Hegwood





## Walters Construction Co., Inc.

### SITE WORK & ASPHALT PAVING

May 16, 2025

**Jonathan Keith, P.E.**

Neel-Schaffer, Inc.

328 N. Magnolia

Laurel, MS 39440

Project: Joe Wheeler Ave. ARPA  
Utility & Roadway Improvements Project  
Laurel, MS

Dear Jonathan,

I am writing this letter in response to your letter dated 04/22/25 concerning the approval of our time extension requests. Below you will find my responses to several of the days that you did not grant additional days and request that you reevaluate these additional days:

**01/13-01/14 Exploration for existing water lines and valves 2 Days**  
*(Additional time not allowed due to other work being performed)*

I do not dispute that other work was being performed on these days. However, this work was out of the original scope of work and this crew was added to begin work on other utility items (not do water line exploration) and this delay was because Veolia didn't have time to locate the existing shut-off valves. I also don't dispute that pot holing is part of our work but digging a trench across two roads is beyond potholing, and this is what we did for these 2 days.

**03/04 Veolia exploration for existing water valves @ 13<sup>th</sup> Street delayed installation of fire hydrant .5 Days**  
*(Additional time not allowed due to other work being performed)*

We had 2 crews setup for this day to remove and replace 2 fire hydrants and were only able to get 1 fire hydrants removed and replace, because of this delay.

**03/05 Located water valve on 13<sup>th</sup> Street shut-off Nora Davis Elementary that delayed installation of fire hydrant .5 Days**  
*(Additional time not allowed due to other work being performed)*

We had 2 crews setup for this day to remove and replace 2 fire hydrants and were only able to get 2 fire hydrants removed and 1 fire hydrant replaced, because of this delay.

**03/10-03/27 Issue with abandoning existing 6" water main on Joe Wheeler, the existing line has an unknown water service which delayed project waiting on Veolia's exploration of the service and decision on how to resolve the issue 18 Days**  
*(Additional time not allowed due to other work being performed)*

The items of work performed during this time frame were not part of the original contract work or not in the Critical Path of the project schedule. Also, the work in this section could not be completed until the additional work on 19<sup>th</sup> Street was completed.

The items of work done during this time frame are:

- 6" & 2" water service tie-in behind Blues Store (items not part of this contract and unknown by the City or Veolia)
- installation of riprap behind Coastal Electric (not part of this contract but added to items of work)
- storm drainage pipe removal/installation & drain inlet (not in Critical Path)

Items of work that were delayed as a direct result of this delay are as follows:

- abandoning of existing 6" water main with flowable fill (in Critical Path)
- disconnecting the existing water main from new water main (in Critical Path)
- final tie-in of the new 6" water main from 16<sup>th</sup> Street to 19<sup>th</sup> Street (in Critical Path)
- fire hydrant removal and replacement
- curb & gutters removal and replacement

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**Total Days Requested to Reevaluate:**

**21 Days**

Respectfully,



Chris Carmical  
Walters Construction Co., Inc.  
Project Manager