

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 16, 2025**

## **A STEP FORWARD WITH A NOD TO THE PAST**

### **New Helm Street Water Tank Completed**

BEDFORD, Va. — In celebration of the completion of the new Helm Street Water Tank, the Bedford Regional Water Authority (BRWA) held a ribbon-cutting ceremony today along with officials from the Town of Bedford, various contractors that contributed to the project, and the Bedford Area Chamber of Commerce. Through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding received through the Town of Bedford, the BRWA has made significant strides in improving its infrastructure and operations with the completion of the new storage tank. The new facility was built on the site of an existing water tank at the location of a former water treatment facility for the Town of Bedford.



To commemorate the milestone, Bedford Mayor C.G. Stanley joined the BRWA staff and Board Members, local business leaders, as well as employees from WGK Construction in the celebration.

*"The ability of the Town of Bedford and Bedford County to work together during the process referred to as reversion laid the ground work for today. That ability for us to work together made it easy to commit the ARPA funds to this project to benefit everyone in Bedford."*

## Everything Old is New Again

The new tank built on the footprint of the old one will achieve impressive improvements, including:

- **Better Efficiency:** The new tank is built at a higher elevation, allowing the full use of both tanks at that site—this was not possible with the one that was replaced.
- **Enhanced Fire Suppression:** More water storage means additional water for firefighting needs.
- **No Negative Customer Impact:** Since this was fully funded with a grant, there was no effect from this project on the billing rates.

Brian Key, Executive Director of the BRWA, reflected on the new tank: *"The water system in Bedford was originally started following a fire that devastated the Town in the 1880s. It is truly special for us to partner with the Town of Bedford almost 150 years later on a project that continues to improve water service and fire suppression capacity."*

### About the Bedford Regional Water Authority

The Bedford Regional Water Authority (BRWA) provides reliable, high-quality water and wastewater services to the residents and businesses of Bedford County and the Town of Bedford. With a commitment to collaboration, adaptability, results, and enthusiasm, we ensure that our community thrives through sustainable water management.

In partnership with the Western Virginia Water Authority, we also serve the Smith Mountain Lake area, including parts of Bedford and Franklin Counties.

At the BRWA, our vision is clear: *Clean Water. Healthy Environment. Thriving Community.* For more information, visit [www.brwa.com](http://www.brwa.com).

For more information, please contact:

**Kyle Draper**

Communications Supervisor  
Bedford Regional Water Authority  
540-586-7679  
[K.draper@brwa.com](mailto:K.draper@brwa.com)