



June 17, 2015

Governor John Kasich
State of Ohio
Riffe Center, 30th Floor
77 South High Street
Columbus, OH 43215-6117

Premier Kathleen Wynne
Province of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A1
Canada

Governor Rick Snyder
State of Michigan
P.O. Box 30013
Lansing, Michigan 48909

Dear Governor Snyder, Governor Kasich, and Premier Wynne:

The Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative (Cities Initiative) congratulates you on your bold action calling for a 40 percent reduction in loadings of total and dissolved reactive phosphorus to the western basin of Lake Erie by 2025. Your leadership on the major challenges we face on the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence makes our chances for success much greater in solving this nutrient problem and many others.

We are prepared to work with you to achieve the reductions to accomplish the goal starting immediately. Cities have realized major reductions in phosphorus loadings since efforts began in the 1970's, but more can be done. We need to reduce combined sewer overflows and manage storm water runoff more effectively through mechanisms like green infrastructure and other control measures. We would like to approach this collaboratively with you, the agricultural community, industry, the federal governments, and other willing partners to move ahead now with proven approaches to nutrient reductions. Much good work is being done already. We need to get more people to do it.

We understand each of your jurisdictions will likely have a different approach to formalizing a framework for accomplishing the reductions, looking to the right combination of voluntary and mandatory programs. We understand the value of tailoring things to fit these efforts in with those already underway and in a manner consistent with your existing programs and requirements. Again, we offer to work closely with you and other stakeholders to make this a reality.

We hope that both federal governments will move forward promptly with targets and timelines consistent with those of the states and province.

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www.glslicities.org / @GLSLCities

John Dickert, Mayor of Racine, Chair

Mitch Twolan, Mayor of Huron-Kinloss, Vice-Chair

Denis Coderre, Mayor of Montréal, Secretary-Treasurer



Thank you again for your leadership on this and many other issues. We look forward to working with you to sustain this wonderful resource we share in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence.

Sincerely,

Mayor John Dickert, Chair
Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative
Mayor of Racine, Wisconsin