

September 30, 2025

The Honorable U.S. Senator
Bernie Moreno
Co-Chair
Senate Great Lakes Task Force
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable U.S. Senator
Gary Peters
Co-Chair
Senate Great Lakes Task Force
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable U.S. Senator
Amy Klobuchar
Vice-Chair
Senate Great Lakes Task Force
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable U.S. Senator
Todd Young
Vice-Chair
Senate Great Lakes Task Force
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable U.S. Representative
Bill Huizenga
Co-Chair
House Great Lakes Task Force
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable U.S. Representative
Debbie Dingell
Co-Chair
House Great Lakes Task Force
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable U.S. Representative
David Joyce
Co-Chair
House Great Lakes Task Force
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable U.S. Representative
Marcy Kaptur
Co-Chair
House Great Lakes Task Force
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear House and Senate Great Lakes Task Forces:

As members of the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative, we are writing to encourage the U.S. Congress to **reauthorize the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) with annual authorization levels of \$3.25 billion each** – consistent with each program’s authorized amount for Fiscal Year 2026 – and to continue current levels of investment. These foundational federal programs are essential to public health and safety, especially in the **Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River Region** where significant concentrations of lead service lines, urban flooding, and other challenges limit access to clean, safe and affordable water.

Reauthorizing the CWSRF and DWSRF will provide communities with the stability and predictability required to meet complex infrastructure and environmental mandates. By also extending current funding levels, these programs can make a meaningful difference in securing the country’s water future. The low-interest loans made possible by these programs are especially critical for smaller or less resourced communities that lack strong bonding capacity. Reauthorization would also reinforce the importance of these programs in the federal budget process, helping ensure future appropriations keep pace with real-world need.

Water infrastructure is not a niche concern – it is **the backbone of our public health, economic development, and community resilience**. Every dollar invested in water yields substantial returns, supporting local jobs, protecting the environment and preparing our communities for extreme weather and other disruptions. By leveraging federal dollars with state and local contributions, the SRFs multiply each dollar invested, ensuring taxpayers get maximum return. Reauthorization of the CWSRF and DWSRF are necessary steps to **close the \$91 billion annual gap** in national water investment and to protect the progress that has been made in recent years.

While reauthorization is essential to maintain the legal foundation of the CWSRF and DWSRF, it is only meaningful if paired with the funding necessary to meet the scale of community needs. Authorizing these programs without ensuring corresponding appropriations risks leaving local governments with the same unmet

challenges and widening the national water investment gap. We therefore urge Congress not only to advance reauthorization but also to provide sustained, increased federal investment, so that authorization translates into real, on-the-ground progress for communities of every size.

We respectfully urge you to:

- **Advance bipartisan reauthorization legislation** that strengthens and expands the CWSRF and DWSRF;
- **Extend and maintain funding levels** for water and wastewater infrastructure;
- **Pair reauthorization with sustained additional appropriations** so that communities can continue to repair aging infrastructure, replace lead pipes, and address other water challenges; and
- **Protect and scale critical access and technical assistance programs**, particularly those designed to help communities like mine navigate and apply for federal funding.

Thank you for your strong consideration of our requests. We look forward to working with you to maintain robust federal support for water infrastructure nationwide and guarantee all residents have access to clean, safe and affordable water.

Sincerely,

Cavalier Johnson
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

Mike Duggan
Mayor, City of Detroit

Marcus Muhammad
Mayor, City of Benton Harbor

Ken Johnson
Mayor, City of Muskegon

Shawyn Patterson-Howard
Mayor, City of Mount Vernon

Leon Rockingham Jr.
Mayor, City of North Chicago

Ryan Sorenson
Mayor, City of Sheboygan

Roger Reinert
Mayor, City of Duluth

Eddie Melton
Mayor, City of Gary

Malik Evans
Mayor, City of Rochester

Shannon Holsey
President, Stockbridge-Munsee Community

Cory Mason
Mayor, City of Racine

Lamar Tidwell
Mayor, City of Ecorse

Joey Awonohopay
Chairman, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin

Wade Kapszukiewicz
Mayor, City of Toledo

CC:
The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito, Chair, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
The Honorable Sam Graves, Chair, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
The Honorable Rick Larsen, Ranking Member, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
The Honorable Brett Guthrie, Chair, House Committee on Energy and Commerce
The Honorable Frank Pallone, Ranking Member, House Committee on Energy and Commerce