Your Comprehensive Public Works Resource

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September 12, 2018

The Honorable Bill Shuster Chairman House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee 2079 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Barrasso Chairman Senate Environment and Public Works Committee 307 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Greg Walden Chairman House Energy and Commerce Committee 2185 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Peter DeFazio Ranking Member House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee 2134 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Carper Ranking Member Senate Environment and Public Works Committee 513 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Frank Pallone Ranking Member House Energy and Commerce Committee 237 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster, Ranking Member DeFazio, Chairman Barrasso, Ranking Member Carper, Chairman Walden, and Ranking Member Pallone:

On behalf of the American Public Works Association (APWA) and our more than 30,000 members, I am writing to thank you for your continued work and focus on our nation's infrastructure. A perfect example of this focus is your work on S. 3021, "America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018." APWA is appreciative of your efforts to pass this important bipartisan legislation as a vehicle to address water infrastructure issues. We are especially appreciative of your work to include the Securing Required Funds for Water Infrastructure Now (SRF WIN) Act and the Drinking Water Systems Improvement Act within the final bill.

The SRF WIN Act will help communities across our nation maintain and enhance their water infrastructure by providing much needed financial support. The legislation provides dedicated federal funding, directly to states, allowing our nation's communities to finance essential water infrastructure projects. By applying the leveraging component of the Water Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act (WIFIA) program directly to the state-administered State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs, SRF WIN has combined the best elements of both programs. Additionally, by providing funding directly to state financing authorities, as prescribed in WIFIA, the legislation has streamlined the application process, allowing states to bundle projects from their intended use plan into one application. Finally, SRF WIN includes language preserving continued federal funding for the SRF Capitalization Grant program and WIFIA, ensuring that funding levels for those programs will not decrease.

PRESIDENT David (Dave) Lawry, P.E.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Scott D. Grayson





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Inclusion of the Drinking Water Systems Improvement Act will provide much needed support for the repair and renewal of millions of miles of aging water infrastructure throughout the country. APWA is heartened that the legislation reauthorizes the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program and increases funding levels over the next three years.

APWA is extremely supportive of the work Congress has done to address the issues surrounding water infrastructure in our country. Specifically, we are pleased to see inclusion of the following provisions in S. 3021:

- Clean, safe, reliable water infrastructure (Sec. 2002);
- Study on intractable water systems (Sec. 2003);
- Asset management (Sec. 2012);
- Community water system risk and resilience (Sec. 2013);
- Authorization for grants for state programs (Sec. 2014);
- State revolving loan funds (Sec. 2015);
- Report on Federal cross-cutting requirements (Sec. 2019);
- Stormwater infrastructure funding task force (Sec. 4101);
- Sewer overflow control grants (Sec. 4106);
- Reauthorization of the WIFIA program (Sec. 4201); and
- Water infrastructure and workforce investment (Sec. 4304);

All these elements, combined with language enabling the Army Corps of Engineers to undertake important projects throughout the country, combine to make this bill a positive step in finding solutions to our nation's water infrastructure problems.

Each day public works professionals are diligently working to protect and maintain the critical infrastructure that is so essential to protecting our health and quality of life. Because of our shared commitment, APWA looks forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on this legislation to help public works professionals meet our water infrastructure challenges.

Sincerely,

David L. Lawry, P.E. President

PRESIDENT David (Dave) Lawry, P.E.

