

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

Congressman Greg Landsman (OH-01)  
January 11, 2024

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Water Resources Development Act of 2024 Member Day

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Thank you, Chairman Graves, Ranking Member Larsen, and Members of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for the opportunity to provide Member testimony regarding the Water Resources Development Act of 2024.

As the Committee undertakes its important work on the Water Resources Development Act, I respectfully request consideration be provided to the City of Cincinnati's request for an increase of its authorization to \$30 million for much-needed Capitol Improvement Program projects being carried out by the Metropolitan Sewer District of Greater Cincinnati (MSD).

MSD – located in and serving Ohio's First Congressional District as well as the wider Southwest Ohio region – is a ratepayer-funded wastewater utility that provides service to approximately 240,000 households and businesses in the Greater Cincinnati Area, - including portions of Hamilton County, Butler County, Clermont County, and Warren County.

MSD operates a service area that encompasses 290+ square miles and consists of more than 3,000 miles of public sewers, approximately 100 pump stations, nine wet weather facilities, and nine wastewater treatment plants. MSD is subject to a federal consent decree with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission – which mandates extensive improvements to the MSD system primarily focused on reducing sewer overflows. Since 2009, MSD has invested over \$1.1 billion in mandated system improvements and subsequent phases are expected to exceed another \$1 billion.

MSD's approved 2023-2027 Capital Improvement Program totals more than \$1.4 billion, which includes costs associated with consent decree Phase 2A projects as well as anticipated Phase 2B projects. In addition to these obligations, inflation, increasing regulatory requirements, and aging infrastructure are drastically increasing utility cost of service. MSD is already seeing many ratepayers with paying utility bills in the post-pandemic economy, creating a significant concern as to the negative impacts of rate increases to fund these obligations and continuing operations – and an increase of the existing authorization to \$30 million will significantly benefit the households and businesses throughout the Greater Cincinnati Area.

Thank you, Chairman Graves, Ranking Member Larsen, and Committee Members for the opportunity to provide testify. I appreciate the important work each of you is undertaking for the people we all serve.