

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2307

March 19, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Wood Lake's Infrastructure Improvements Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Wood Lake, MN, located at PO Box 115, Wood Lake, MN 56297.

The funding would be used to implement phase three of a three-phase project. This project centers on working to update Wood Lake's aging infrastructure, with some watermains dating back to 1927 (some with asbestos) and a faulty sanitary sewer system. The city has experienced multiple boil water orders and frequent flooding due to infrastructure issues. The city has completed phases one and two of the project, which replaced lift stations, sewer mains, watermains, a new well, and a new stormwater outlet. This funding will be for phase three, which will reconstruct 48% of the drinking water distribution systems, reconstruct 72% of the sanitary sewer system, reconfigure the wastewater treatment pond facility, and reconfigure the storm sewer conveyance system.

Using taxpayer funds for this effort is a practical and cost-effective decision, as it addresses urgent infrastructure needs before they result in more severe damage, higher emergency repair costs, and greater disruptions to residents. It also helps protect a community with a significant number of low- to moderate-income households from even steeper utility rate increases by investing in efficient, modern systems that are less expensive to maintain over time.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding is provided for purposes authorized by the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. §300f.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress