

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

March 23, 2023

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the City of Winfield's Wastewater Treatment Project in Fiscal Year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Winfield located at 115 N. Locust Street, PO Box 73, Winfield, Iowa 52659.

The City of Winfield is 59.9% low to moderate income and a disadvantaged community whose current WWTF is in the 'significant non-compliance' category The funding would be used to upgrade the city's wastewater treatment plant to comply with ammonia, E. coli effluent limits and dissolved oxygen limits. In addition to the compliance, improvements are needed to replace failing equipment and increase peak flow capacity at the WWTF's main lift station. The scope of work will include construction of four Submerged Attached Growth Reactors, blower building, upsize lagoon intercell piping, lagoon sludge removal and lift station improvements.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the current presence of ammonia nitrogen and E. coli in the wastewater can create toxins that pose a threat to aquatic life in discharge streams and a threat of sickness to those people in and near the site where the toxins are present. Elimination of these substances will benefit the community by providing a safe, sanitary sewer system. Additionally, the WWTF discharges to an unnamed creek, which combines into the East Fork Crooked Creek, which then combines with the Skunk River and eventually the Mississippi River. Both the Skunk River and the Mississippi River are on the 2014 impaired waters list.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.

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

Sincerely,

Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.

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Member of Congress