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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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

April 25, 2025

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

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the **Lake Helen Watermains Replacement** for fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the **City of Lake Helen**, located at 327 South Lakeview Drive Lake Helen, FL 32744.

The City of Lake Helen, population of approximately 2,964, is located within the central part of Volusia County. The City's Public Works department provides potable water to residents within the city, as well as nearby Cassadaga and other unincorporated areas. The City's Water System Master Plan notes that several existing distribution piping materials are no longer recommended for use in water systems.

Funding a replacement would enhance water infrastructure, improve public health, and provide a safer and more reliable water supply for residents. This project will have a lasting positive impact on the community, helping ensure access to clean and safe drinking. The replacement of outdated and problematic materials with modern PVC in the area directly addresses the Safe Drinking Water Act's (SDWA) requirements for safe drinking water by eliminating potential sources of contamination.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds to replace these deteriorating watermains due to the use of outdated pipe materials is a health concern for Lake Helen and the residents connected to the surrounding service areas. The prioritization of this project ensures that taxpayer funds will be used effectively to address the most critical needs of public health and continued water service.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, 42 U.S.C. 300j-12.

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

Sincerely,

Cory Mills
Member of Congress