

December [XX], 2021

**Re: Allocation of American Rescue Plan Act funds for water infrastructure investments**

Dear Gov. Murphy, Senate President Sweeney, and Speaker of the Assembly Coughlin,

On behalf of the [insert #] organizations listed below—including [list types of orgs]—we write to urge you to use a significant portion of the state’s available American Rescue Plan Act “State Fiscal Recovery Fund” (SFRF) monies to support a generational investment in modernizing New Jersey’s critical water infrastructure. These funds would benefit communities across New Jersey. To redress historic and ongoing inequities, these investments should prioritize disadvantaged communities (including funds provided as grants rather than loans).

As you know, our state has massive, unmet needs for investment in water and wastewater infrastructure, which is vital to the health and economic well-being of all New Jerseyans. The urgent needs include funding for removal of all lead service lines (as required by legislation enacted this year); reduction of sewage overflows (as required by state-issued permits); treatment of so-called “emerging contaminants,” PFOA and PFOS (as required by state regulations); stormwater management and flood mitigation; ensuring systems are climate-resilient; making water and sewer service affordable for all households, regardless of income; and providing technical assistance to disadvantaged communities to ensure they can access available funds.

Although federal funds from the recently enacted Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will provide a critical infusion of money for water, New Jersey’s share will only address a fraction of the state’s challenges. New Jersey should join more than 18 states that are using a portion of their SFRF funds (in some cases well over \$1 billion) for water infrastructure investments and household water affordability assistance.

As you determine how to allocate the billions of dollars in remaining SFRF funds, we urge you not to pass up this historic opportunity.

Sincerely,

[signatories]

CC: Kevin Drennan  
Matt Peterson

Mark Magyar  
Skip Cimino  
Catherine Tung  
Hannah Thonet  
Dennis Zeveloff  
Jane Cohen  
Shawn Latourette  
Katie Angarone  
Jane Rosenblatt  
Pat Gardner  
David Zimmer  
Joe Fiordaliso  
Bob Brabston  
Thomas Koenig

Although each of the signatories is a member of Jersey Water Works, Jersey Water Works does not take a position on this matter and each of the signatories is signing on their own behalf.