

LORI TRAHAN
3RD DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY
AND COMMERCE

CO-CHAIR, DEMOCRATIC POLICY AND
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND
POLICY COMMITTEE

DEPUTY WHIP



United States
House of Representatives

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May 16, 2025

The Honorable Mike Simpson
Chairman, Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies
2084 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chellie Pingree
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and
Related Agencies
2354 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Simpson and Ranking Member Pingree,

As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2026 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, I respectfully request that you consider the following funding items that are shown below in priority order:

1. Provide a funding level of **\$5,000,000** for the **Centralville Sewer Separation Project** as a **community project funding request**. The intended recipient is **the City of Lowell, Massachusetts** located at 375 Merrimack Street, Lowell, MA 01852. The funding would be used to support the completion of the first phases of the separation of the Humphrey's Brook and Billings Street Wetlands combined sewer system in the Centralville neighborhood of Lowell. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will directly contribute to the reduction, both by frequency and volume, of combined sewer overflows (CSOs) in the Merrimack River. This has clear public health benefits for the greater Lowell community and when completed, will allow for additional sewer capacity to support future economic development in Lowell.
2. Provide a funding level of **\$4,500,000** for the **Groton/Dunstable/Pepperell Regional Water System Expansion for PFAS Mitigation Project** as a **community project funding request**. The intended recipient is **the Town of Groton, Massachusetts** located at 173 Main Street, Groton, MA 01450. The funding would be used to extend the municipal water from the Groton Water Supply System to provide the Groton-Dunstable Regional High School and surrounding properties with clean potable drinking water. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will directly address the public health threat of PFAS contamination detected in the school's water supply. This system expansion will also add new pressurized fire protection to a rural area of Groton and Dunstable while providing emergency interconnections between the Towns of Groton, Dunstable, and Pepperell, benefiting the public health and safety of all three communities.
3. Provide a funding level of **\$2,134,000** for the **Westford PFAS Treatment Infrastructure Project** as a **community project funding request**. The intended recipient is **the Town of Westford, Massachusetts** located at 55 Main Street, Westford, MA 01886. The funding would be used to support the construction of new water treatment infrastructure to mitigate PFAS contaminants detected in the Town's drinking water supply. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will support critical infrastructure upgrades which will ensure the public health and safety of the residents of Westford.



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4. Provide a funding level of **\$1,500,000** for the **Littleton Common Sewer System Expansion Project** as a **community project funding request**. The intended recipient is **the Town of Littleton, Massachusetts** located at 37 Shattuck Street, PO Box 1305, Littleton, MA 01460. The funding would be used to expand the Littleton Common Sewer System's discharge site. The project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because the redevelopment of Littleton Common, the Town's central commercial hub, is currently underway and this project will provide the additional sewer discharge capacity necessary to support this project. Additionally, the added capacity will support the mitigation of existing water quality concerns.
5. Please provide \$280 million for the **Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant Program**.
6. Please provide \$1.5 billion to the **Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)**.
7. Please provide \$8 million for the **Southeast New England Program (SNEP)**, which supports innovative solutions to ecological and economic issues in southeastern New England estuaries.
8. Please provide \$33.5 million for the **Heritage Partnership Program**.
9. Please provide robust funding for the **United States Semiquincentennial Commission/White House Task Force on Celebrating America's 250th Birthday**.
10. Please provide balanced allocations for the **Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**, retain unobligated funds with LWCF programs, and include the full project priority lists in the Subcommittee report accompanying the bill.
11. Please provide robust funding for the **National Park Service (NPS)**.
12. Please provide \$36.5 million for the **Lead Testing in School and Child Care Program Drinking Water grant program**.
13. Please provide \$65 million for the **Reducing Lead in Drinking Water grant program**.
14. Please provide at least \$300 million in new funding for zero-emission school buses under the **Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus Program**.
15. Please include the following language:

The Committee provides not less than \$300,000,000 to the Clean School Bus Program for zero-emission school bus deployment and related electric vehicle charging infrastructure. The Committee directs the Agency to conduct outreach to inform, encourage, and support potential award recipients from prioritized groups as identified under section 71101 of

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P.L.117-58 regarding the availability of resources for the replacement of existing school buses with zero-emission school buses. The Agency shall collaborate with the Department of Energy and Department of Transportation to ensure funding and technical assistance resources for the transition to zero-emission school buses are deployed alongside resources for workforce development, charging infrastructure planning, and vehicle to grid opportunities to optimize program outcomes.

16. Please provide at least \$50 million for the **National Estuary Program** to ensure continued progress in protecting these vital ecosystems and the communities that depend on them.
17. Please provide robust funding for the **Conte Refuge within the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**.
18. Please provide at least \$209 million for the **National Endowment for the Arts (NEA)**.
19. Please provide \$5.648 million for the **National Park Service's Partnership Wild and Scenic Rivers program**.
20. Please provide at least \$209 million for the **National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)**.
21. Please provide robust funding for the **Environmental Protection Agency's Brownfields Program**.
22. Please provide \$73.48 million for the **Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund**.

Thank you for your hard work in support of the programs and for your consideration of these critical requests. Please let me know if I can be of assistance to you as you work to complete the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2026.

Sincerely,

Lori Trahan
Member of Congress