April 27, 2021

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C.  20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C.  20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for a water reservoir project in the Charter Township of Shelby, Michigan in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Charter Township of Shelby, located at 52700 Van Dyke Ave., Shelby Township, MI 48316.

This project would be a valuable use of taxpayer funds because Shelby Township’s water distribution system provides a reliable source of safe quality drinking water to over 80,000 residents, businesses, medical facilities, governmental agencies, schools and users. The Township is a Tier One customer to the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) and purchases clean potable water from them. The Township was recently advised that water usage, during GLWA coincidental peak periods, has exceeded their contractual limits on several occasions. In keeping with good system management philosophy, after careful consideration and investigative analysis, it was determined that the installation of a 3.5 million gallon Water Reservoir Facility within the system, at a strategic location, would mitigate these exceedances and serve to lower water purchase rates from GLWA, thus benefiting all Township customers. Additionally, this assists the GLWA in managing and reducing costs to their customer base which includes approximately 4,000,000 customers.

Providing safe affordable water to its customers, on a consistent and reliable basis, is an obligation that requires a thorough understanding of the system and its related assets. Once the water enters Shelby’s system it is transported and delivered throughout the Township. This water distribution system is comprised of over 410 miles of watermains, of varied size, and many components, some visible and some not, that contribute to its ability to effectively and efficiently serve over 80,000 residents, businesses and users on a daily basis.

This is a shovel ready project, the anticipated construction time associated with this facility is estimated at 8 or 9 months for substantial completion and system operation, which is aggressive but consistent with the needs of the Township’s and GLWA’s customer base. Upon completion of
construction of this Water Reservoir Facility an important component of the Township’s water distribution system will be available to the benefit of the entire Township’s health, safety and welfare. This facility will be designed to equalize water demands, reduce pressure fluctuations in the distribution system and to manage and reduce rates to users of the system. Additionally, this facility can be used to provide other benefits such as reserves for firefighting, power outages and other emergencies. Granting of this request will allow a program that focuses on improved public safety, reliability, and service throughout the system.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Lisa McClain
Member of Congress