

July 19, 2022

Nicolette Bateson  
Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer  
Great Lakes Water Authority  
735 Randolph Suite 1608  
Detroit, MI 48226

Dear Ms. Bateson:

We are pleased to inform you, based on the examination of your budget by a panel of independent reviewers, that your budget document has been awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the current fiscal period. This award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting. Its attainment represents a significant achievement by your organization.

The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is valid for one year. To continue your participation in the program, it will be necessary to submit your next annual budget document to GFOA within 90 days of the proposed budget's submission to the legislature or within 90 days of the budget's final adoption. Information about how to submit an application for the Distinguished Budget Program application is posted on GFOA's website.

Each program participant is provided with confidential comments and suggestions for possible improvements to the budget document. Your comments are enclosed. We urge you to carefully consider the suggestions offered by our reviewers as you prepare your next budget.

When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to an entity, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated as being primarily responsible for its having achieved the award. Enclosed is a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Preparation for:

#### **Financial Services Area**

Continuing participants will receive a brass medallion that will be mailed separately. First-time recipients will receive an award plaque within eight to ten weeks. Enclosed is a camera-ready reproduction of the award for inclusion in your next budget. If you reproduce the camera-ready image in your next budget, it should be accompanied by a statement indicating continued compliance with program criteria. The following standardized text should be used:

Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) presented a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award to **Great Lakes Water Authority, Michigan**, for its Annual Budget for the fiscal year beginning **July 01, 2022**. In order to receive this award, a governmental unit must publish a budget document that meets program criteria as a policy document, as a financial plan, as an operations guide, and as a communications device.

This award is valid for a period of one year only. We believe our current budget continues to conform to program requirements, and we are submitting it to GFOA to determine its eligibility for another award.

A press release is enclosed.

Upon request, GFOA can provide a video from its Executive Director congratulating your specific entity for winning the Budget Award.

We appreciate your participation in this program, and we sincerely hope that your example will encourage others in their efforts to achieve and maintain excellence in governmental budgeting. The most current list of award recipients can be found on GFOA's website at [www.gfoa.org](http://www.gfoa.org). If we can be of further assistance, please contact the Technical Services Center at (312) 977-9700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michele Mark Levine". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Michele Mark Levine  
Director, Technical Services Center

Enclosure

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 19, 2022

**For more information, contact:**

**Technical Services Center**

**Phone: (312) 977-9700**

**Fax: (312) 977-4806**

**E-mail: [budgetawards@gfoa.org](mailto:budgetawards@gfoa.org)**

(Chicago, Illinois)--Government Finance Officers Association is pleased to announce that **Great Lakes Water Authority, Michigan**, has received GFOA's Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its budget.

The award represents a significant achievement by the entity. It reflects the commitment of the governing body and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the budget award, the entity had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as:

- a policy document
- a financial plan
- an operations guide
- a communications device

Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories, and in the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award.

When a Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is granted to an entity, a Certificate of Recognition for Budget Presentation is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated as being primarily responsible for having achieved the award. This has been presented to **Financial Services Area**.

There are over 1,700 participants in the Budget Awards Program. The most recent Budget Award recipients, along with their corresponding budget documents, are posted quarterly on GFOA's website. Award recipients have pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example for other governments throughout North America.

*Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) advances excellence in government finance by providing best practices, professional development, resources and practical research for more than 22,500 members and the communities they serve.*



GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

*Distinguished  
Budget Presentation  
Award*

PRESENTED TO

**Great Lakes Water Authority  
Michigan**

For the Fiscal Year Beginning

**July 01, 2022**

*Christopher P. Morill*

Executive Director