

2023-105

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY'S
REQUEST FOR AN APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST THE UTILITY'S OAKWOOD
DISTRICT INTERCOMMUNITY RELIEF SEWER MODIFICATION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Great lakes Water Authority (GLWA) is a regional sewer authority organized under the provisions of Michigan Public Act 233 of 1955; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, pursuant to lease agreements with the City of Detroit, GLWA began operations of the regional water and sewer located in southeastern and mid-Michigan; and

WHEREAS, GLWA is the largest drinking water provider in Michigan providing water of unquestionable quality to 112 communities located throughout Oakland, Wayne, Macomb, Monroe Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, and Washtenaw Counties; and

WHEREAS, GLWA is the largest wastewater treatment provider in Michigan providing effective and efficient wastewater services to 79 Michigan Communities located within Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland Counties; and

WHEREAS, GLWA has a six member Board of Directors (Board) consisting of a representative appointed by the County Executive of Macomb County, a representative appointed by the County Executive of Oakland County, a representative appointed by the County Executive of Wayne County, two representatives appointed by the Mayor of the City of Detroit, and a representative appointed by the Governor of the State of Michigan who resides in a community served by GLWA located outside of Macomb, Oakland and Wayne Counties; and

WHEREAS, GLWA's Articles of Incorporation intended that GLWA's Board be reflective of the communities served by the utility and join collaboratively to establish policy for the region, its residents, and the utility; and

WHEREAS, many communities within the GLWA territory area utilize combined sewer systems collecting both storm flow and wastewater; and

WHEREAS, GLWA and the communities it serves have a goal of supporting system resiliency and mitigating possible flooding associated with rain events; and

WHEREAS, GLWA and the communities it serves have a goal of minimizing the overflow of untreated or partially treated wastewater into the surrounding waterways; and

WHEREAS, GLWA has focused on optimizing the regional wastewater system's capacity to reduce combined sewer overflow incidents; and

WHEREAS, the discharge of combined sewer overflow is regulated through the system's (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) NPDES permit and utilizes various outfall points at CSO control facilities located along the Detroit and Rouge Rivers; and

WHEREAS, Oakwood District Intercommunity Relief Sewer Modification Project (Oakwood Project) includes improvements to the Oakwood District Sanitary Sewer System and the implementation of various projects such as: 1) Cleaning & inspecting trunk sewers, 2) Analyzing and improving operation of the Oakwood Pump Station and Retention Treatment Basin (RTB), 3) Constructing a second influent sewer to Oakwood Pump Station, and 4) Constructing a Northwest Interceptor(NWI) Diversion for combined sewer overflow (CSO) Control. The Oakwood Project includes a basis of design (study) report on alternative solution for the proposed Oakwood District Intercommunity Relief Sewer's, diversion of storm water flow, and construction of the emerging projects; and

WHEREAS, The Oakwood Project will allow GLWA to isolate portions of the NWI from the Water Resources Recovery Facility (WRRF) and divert flow to the Oakwood Pump Station which will directly assist GLWA and member partner communities in reducing physical damage by maintaining existing wet weather contract capacities and increasing GLWA's ability to provide adequate Combined Sewer Outflow (CSO) treatment during extreme storm events; and

WHEREAS, GLWA the Oakwood Project is estimated to cost \$83.5 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, GLWA seeks consideration of an appropriation to support the Oakwood Project; and

WHEREAS, the Board believes that such an appropriation is consistent with the desire and needs of the communities served by GLWA,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT:

RESOLVED, that for the reasons set forth above, the Board of GLWA supports GLWA's request for a federal appropriation to assist the utility's efforts in support of the Oakwood Project.