



**Board of Directors**  
735 Randolph Street, Suite 1900  
Detroit, Michigan 48226  
(313) 224-4785

## **RESOLUTION 2021-229**

### **IN SUPPORT OF THE GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY'S REQUEST FOR AN APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST THE UTILITY'S EFFORTS TO REHABILITATE AND OPTIMIZE THE FUNCTIONS OF THE DETROIT RIVER INTERCEPTOR**

**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 together 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 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 as a means to reduce combined sewer overflow incidents; and

**WHEREAS**, the Detroit River Interceptor is a major interceptor within the GLWA system originally designed over 100 years ago to divert flow from the wastewater collection system to the Water Resources Recovery facility for treatment thereby minimizing the overflow of untreated or partially treated wastewater into the surrounding waterways; and

**WHEREAS**, GLWA is engaged in a multiphase project to clean, repair, rehabilitate, and increase the capacity of the Detroit River Interceptor; and

**WHEREAS**, when completed, the Detroit River Interceptor project will support businesses and residences by minimizing sewer back-ups and basement flooding; and

**WHEREAS**, when completed, the Detroit River Interceptor project will support businesses and residences by minimizing the discharge of untreated and partially treated wastewater to the Detroit River and the Great Lakes associated with major storm events; and

**WHEREAS**, by minimizing the discharge of untreated and partially treated wastewater to the Detroit River and the Great Lakes, the Detroit River Interceptor project will support businesses and residences by minimizing the discharge of phosphorus; and

**WHEREAS**, GLWA has committed \$48 million Dollars towards this project; and

**WHEREAS**, GLWA has used borrowing through the Strategic Revolving Fund (SRF) program under the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq. (1972), to help finance the costs of the Detroit River Interceptor project; and

**WHEREAS**, GLWA is now focused on Phase 3 the Detroit River Interceptor project focusing on the area of that interceptor running under the central business district of the City of Detroit to GLWA’s Water Resource Recovery Facility located at the intersection of the Detroit and Rouge Rivers; and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated cost of Phase 3 the Detroit River Interceptor project is estimated to be \$15-20 million Dollars; and

**WHEREAS**, GLWA seeks consideration of an appropriation to support Phase 3 the Detroit River Interceptor 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 to clean, repair, rehabilitate, and increase the capacity of the Detroit River Interceptor.