



FY 2027

Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP)

Funding Report

Presented to the Audit Committee

March 27, 2026

Background

The Water Residential Assistance Program, or WRAP, provides assistance to eligible households with a low-income that receive water and/or sewer service from Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) member partner communities. Households can receive help paying down past-due balances and assistance with water and sewer bill payments for up to two years. Eligible seniors and permanently disabled persons can obtain bill credit assistance without an expiration date. Participants may also receive conservation assistance and minor plumbing repairs. GLWA partners with agencies such as Genesee County Community Action Resource Department (GCCARD), Macomb Community Action (MCA), United Way for Southeastern Michigan (United Way), and Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency (Wayne Metro) as service delivery partners that provide WRAP services to residents.

The annual WRAP budget is calculated at one-half of one percent (0.5%) of the regional system operating revenue as authorized in GLWA's founding documents. In addition, the City of Detroit is authorized to include an additional 1% in the local Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD) budget based on its operating revenue budget. This amount is included in the rates for the local DWSD system only.

The WRAP program funding is allocated among three categories of expense for areas outside the City of Detroit: direct assistance (including income-based plan (IBP) payment assistance and arrearage assistance), conservation (including healthy home initiatives and home repairs), and program administration. The percentage of funds allocated to program administration by the service delivery partners is based on contractual agreements and can vary from 15% to 18%. After the administration costs are deducted from the budget, the remaining funds are allocated at 80% to direct assistance and 20% to conservation. Within the City of Detroit, the allocated WRAP regional and local funding supports DWSD's Lifeline H2O Program. DWSD determines the allocation among the expense categories.

The Great Lakes Water Authority WRAP Policy and more information about the program can be found at the following links.

[Water Residential Assistance Program Policy - GLWA \(glwater.org\)](https://www.glwater.org/wrap-policy)

[Assistance - GLWA \(glwater.org\)](https://www.glwater.org/wrap-assistance)

Budget Process

At the February 25, 2026, meeting, the GLWA Board of Directors approved the organization's Fiscal Year 2027 and FY 2028 biennial budget, as well as the corresponding FY 2027 water and wastewater service charges for its member partner communities.

With the budget now approved for FY 2027, the Affordability & Assistance team has prepared the FY 2027 WRAP budget and allocations by county and service delivery partner (SDP). These allocations then support annual contract amendments for the four WRAP SDPs: Genesee County Community Action Resource Department (Area 2), Wayne Metropolitan Community Agency (Area 3), United Way for Southeastern Michigan (Area 4 & Area 6), and Macomb

Community Action (Area 5). The Detroit Water & Sewerage Department holds a separate contract with a third-party administrator for the City of Detroit (Area 1) service, and at the time of this report, the third-party administrator for FY 2027 has not been identified.

There are two elements to the contract amendments. The first is the total allocation for each service area. The second is the allocation among the three categories of expense. Those categories are direct payment assistance (including income-based plan (IBP) payment assistance and arrearage assistance), conservation, and program administration costs.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is to present the upcoming FY 2027 WRAP budget for internal and external stakeholders, as well as to confirm the funding by service area for each service delivery partner.

- ✓ **Area 1** - City of Detroit – **Service Delivery Partner to be identified by DWSD at a future date**
- ✓ **Area 2** - City of Flint – **Genesee County Community Action Resource Department**
- ✓ **Area 3** - Wayne (not including Detroit) and Monroe Counties – **Wayne Metro Community Action Agency**
- ✓ **Area 4** - Oakland County – **United Way for Southeastern Michigan**
- ✓ **Area 5** - Macomb, St. Clair, and Lapeer Counties – **Macomb Community Action**
- ✓ **Area 6** - Washtenaw County – **United Way for Southeastern Michigan**

The tables below detail WRAP funding by service area and expense category. A comparison of current fiscal year funding to prior fiscal year funding has also been included. The Affordability & Assistance team will use the information in these tables to complete the annual service delivery partner contract amendments necessary to support WRAP services for FY 2027.

Questions?

Please contact us at wrap@glwater.org

Table 1 below summarizes the regional and local funding by service area for FY 2027.

Table 1: FY 2027 WRAP Funding Allocation

	Regional Allocation Percentage	Regional Funding	Local Funding	Total Funding
Area 1 (City of Detroit)	27.26%	\$1,316,700	\$2,461,200	\$3,777,900
Area 2 (City of Flint)	0.69%	33,500		33,500
Area 3 (Wayne* and Monroe Counties)	24.62%	1,189,100		1,189,100
Area 4 (Oakland County)	27.06%	1,307,100		1,307,100
Area 5 (Macomb, Lapeer, St. Clair Counties)	18.96%	915,900		915,900
Area 6 (Washtenaw County)	1.39%	67,200		67,200
Total	100.00%	\$4,829,500	\$2,461,200	\$7,290,700

*Wayne County not including City of Detroit

Table 2 below summarizes WRAP funding for FY 2027 by service area, service delivery partner and expense category.

Table 2: FY 2027 WRAP Funding Allocation By Expense Category

	Service Delivery Partner	Direct Assistance	Conservation Assistance	Administration Cost	Total Allocation
Area 1 (City of Detroit - Regional & Local)*	TBD	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$3,777,900
Area 2 (City of Flint)	GCCARD	\$22,780	\$5,695	\$5,025	\$33,500
Area 3 (Wayne** and Monroe Counties)		808,588	202,147	178,365	1,189,100
Wayne County	Wayne Metro	801,448	200,362	176,790	1,178,600
Monroe County		7,140	1,785	1,575	10,500
Area 4 (Oakland County)	United Way	888,828	222,207	196,065	1,307,100
Area 5 (Macomb, Lapeer, St. Clair Counties)		600,830	150,208	164,862	915,900
Macomb County	MCA	579,248	144,812	158,940	883,000
Lapeer County		7,413	1,853	2,034	11,300
St. Clair County		14,170	3,542	3,888	21,600
Area 6 (Washtenaw County)	United Way	45,696	11,424	10,080	67,200
Total		\$2,366,722	\$591,681	\$554,397	\$7,290,700

* DWSD determines expense category allocations for Lifeline H2O Program

**Wayne County not including City of Detroit

Table 3 below compares FY 2027 WRAP funding by service area to FY 2026. WRAP regional funding is calculated as .05% of revenue. The year over year changes by area for the WRAP funding moves in line with the year over year changes in charge adjustments. Area 2 (City of Flint) has a larger percentage change as a result of the decreasing KWA credit for Genessee County which increases their net wholesale revenue.

Table 3: FY 2027 WRAP Regional Allocation - Current Year vs Prior Year

	FY 2027	FY 2026	Year over Year Change \$	Year over Year Change %
Area 1 (City of Detroit - Regional Only)	1,316,700	\$1,251,200	\$65,500	5.23%
Area 2 (City of Flint)	33,500	27,000	6,500	24.07%
Area 3 (Wayne* and Monroe Counties)	1,189,100	1,144,000	45,100	3.94%
Area 4 (Oakland County)	1,307,100	1,250,000	57,100	4.57%
Area 5 (Macomb, Lapeer, St. Clair Counties)	915,900	872,600	43,300	4.96%
Area 6 (Washtenaw County)	67,200	63,700	3,500	5.49%
Total	4,829,500	\$4,608,500	\$221,000	4.80%

*Wayne County not including City of Detroit