

Financial Services Audit Committee Communication

Date: March 28, 2025

To: Great Lakes Water Authority Audit Committee

From: Haran Stanley, Affordability & Assistance Management Professional

Re: Affordability & Assistance FY25 Q2 report

The Quarterly WRAP Report

The Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP) provides sustainable funding for qualifying households served by the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) member partners. GLWA funds the program at an amount equal to 0.5 percent of budgeted revenues for the Regional System and not less than 0.5 percent but not greater than 1.0 percent of budgeted revenues for the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) Local System. The budgeted WRAP funding for FY 2025 is \$6.7 million for water and sewer services combined.

The approved guidelines include funding for a) payment assistance, b) water audit, and c) healthy home and water conservation measures. Eligible residential customers with a past due bill and/or who are in active shut-off can receive assistance with paying down arrears and receive a monthly bill credit unique to their household. Bill credits are calculated so that the credit applied leaves that household expected to pay approximately 3% or less of their household income toward the monthly water bill. To participate in WRAP, an applicant must have a household gross income at or below 200% of the federal poverty income threshold.

GLWA works with three WRAP service delivery partners that offer other support services to households enrolled in the program, such as financial coaching and energy-conserving resources. Currently, GLWA has three community action agencies (CAA) and nonprofit organizations working as SDPs and administering the WRAP program across five WRAP service areas. Macomb Community Agency (MCA) services Macomb County, Lapeer County, and St. Clair County. Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency (Wayne Metro) services the City of Detroit (Lifeline Plan), the City of Flint, Monroe County, Washtenaw County, and Wayne County. United Way for Southeastern Michigan (UWSEM) services Oakland County.

This report provides the enrollment, inflow, and spending data for the first six months of fiscal year 2025 across these WRAP service areas.

Proposed Action: Receive and file this report.