

United States Senate

May 27, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chairman
Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510


The Honorable Jeff Merkley
Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Ranking Member
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chair Merkley, and Ranking Member Murkowski,

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending items that I have requested in the Fiscal Year 2023 Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate.

Sincerely,



Tina Smith
United States Senator

Smith, Tina(D-MN) Interior and Environment Congressionally Directed Spending Requests

Recipient Name	Project Purpose	Project Location	Amount Requested (\$000)
City of Barnesville	This project will replace old and failing sanitary sewer and water infrastructure that has reached its life cycle. There are routine watermain breaks in this area and the sanitary sewers are very old and susceptible to inflow and infiltration. The watermain in this area is also undersized with respect to providing fire flow.	Barnesville MN	\$5,169
City of Boyd	This Congressionally Directed Spending Request would assist the City of Boyd in the pre-design, design, and construction of upgrades to their aging and failing infrastructure system. Selected portions of the water distribution system would be replaced. This would include new water mains, gate valves, fire hydrants, and service laterals/curb stops. The storm sewer system needs replacement of approximately 3,500 LF of storm sewer pipe. Congressional funds would also assist the City of Boyd with street restoration that is required for all work within roadways.	Boyd MN	\$8,104
City of Brooten	Federal funds will be used to fund the design and construction of drinking water distribution and sanitary sewer collection, including a well and well house and a lift station, and connect residents and business not currently serviced within city limits.	Brooten MN	\$4,680
City of Buhl	Additional funding for this project will allow the City to invest in other areas such as economic development, recreational amenities, and community improvements that will have a direct benefit for our residents, businesses, and surrounding area. Additional funding would enable our City to do more and not as a way to cover funding shortfalls as many other cities are experiencing. The City of Buhl is nearing the end of a project because of thorough planning and being financially responsible. We've proven that we spend public funds responsibly. Federal funds for the completion of this project will allow the City to further invest in our community and our region as a whole.	Buhl MN	\$2,650
City of Calumet	The 6th Avenue/Shipka Street water main reconstruction will replace 4" diameter cast iron water main with 8" ductile iron pipe, to increase flows and improve water quality. The 4th Avenue/Morgan Street water main reconstruction will replace the patched water main that broke in 2014 and drained the elevated water tank for the city.	Calumet MN	\$800
Leech Lake Tribal College	The Leech Lake Tribal College, in collaboration with Leech Lake Nation community members, aims to build a Roundhouse. Roundhouses are important to Native American communities as places where the tribal community holds traditional ceremonies. The ceremonies help community members have a good life (mino-bimaadiziwin). Ceremonies held in a community roundhouse may include marriage, naming, and healing ceremonies.	Cass Lake MN	\$1,915
City of Beaver Bay	The purpose of this project is to fix the water source to local residents and the 3-5 million tourists that pass through the city each year.	City of Beaver Bay MN	\$102,000
City of Elizabeth	Federal funds will be used to fund the design and construction of replacement drinking water treatment and distribution and sanitary sewer collection. Part of the water distribution system would be replaced using trenchless construction methods. New service connections would be made from the new mains to existing buildings. Several additional watermains would be installed with additional looping that would be incorporated into the system to provide increased reliability and enhanced water quality for the community. Gate valves would be added to the system along with more hydrants. New meters would also be installed. Proposed wastewater improvements include 2,100 LF of 8" sewer main, service connection point repairs.	City of Elizabeth MN	\$2,162
City of Fosston	The federal investment will help construct two new wastewater treatment ponds. The first pond would be 16-acres with the second pond sized at 20-acres. They will be constructed on property owned by the city and adjacent to the existing wastewater ponds.	City of Fosston MN	\$4,000

City of Halstad	The first phase of this project (per this application) would allow for the construction of the necessary transmission pipeline network to connect the 10 Cities with a shared, redundant, and safe water supply system. This transmission pipeline network will be sized appropriately such that future build out of the project will allow for the rural domestic and agricultural needs across the counties of Polk, Norman and Clay to be satisfied.	City of Halstad MN	\$6,000
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe	The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe would use congressionally directed spending (CDS) funds to construct a water and wastewater system that connects a neighborhood populated mostly by Band member households to an existing regional system in Isle, MN. This existing regional system is currently undergoing an expansion sponsored by the City of Isle. However, the Band's neighborhood within the city limits of Isle is bypassed by the City's Isle Water Expansion Project.	City of Isle MN	\$4,245
City of Lake Henry	Federal funds will be used to fund the design and construction of replacement sanitary sewer collection and treatment infrastructure, and storm sewer conveyance infrastructure. Piping to be replaced includes 1/4 of the wastewater collection system and 1/3 of the existing stormwater conveyance system.	City of Lake Henry MN	\$1,278
City of Le Sueur	The City needs to do water treatment plant upgrades, SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) upgrades, and a hydropneumatic tank in the water distribution system.	City of Le Sueur MN	\$2,800
City of Prinsburg	Federal funds will be used to fund the design and construction of replacement stormwater collection and street infrastructure. The proposed project will take the CSAH 1 stormwater flow and redirect it into Cedar Ave, bypassing an existing chokepoint in the system in Roseland Ave. This new line will eliminate the flooding issues along CSAH 1, Roseland, and around the school by adding a storm sewer line in Cedar Ave and allowing Roseland Ave to drain without addition CSAH 1 flow being directed through it. This new storm line will take a different route west of the City, eventually meeting up with the existing City outlet pipe draining into Chetomba Creek. Where the new storm outlet meets up with the existing outlet in the farm field, the pipe size will increase from 30" to 42". A pond will be constructed after this point and before being discharged into Chetomba Creek to help to attenuate the flows coming from town and help to mitigate adding more water to an already overwhelmed Chetomba Creek or Hawk Creek, which is downstream of Chetomba Creek.	City of Prinsburg MN	\$9,530
City of Russell	Federal funds will be used to fund current project gap items including storm and street. Storm sewer collection system improvements are needed to prevent flooding. Likewise, street reconstruction is necessary where utility reconstruction is occurring including repairing County roadways needing utility replacements underneath.	City of Russell MN	\$6,783
City of Sacred Heart	The City of Sacred Heart requires funding to support improvements to their Drinking Water Treatment Facility (DWTF) which was originally constructed in 1969. Although improvements have been made since 1969, Sacred Heart received a Notice of Violation (NOV) for their DWTF backwash being discharged into the storm sewer system. This is concerning because of the high concentration of chlorides that were in the discharge. The Sacred Heart DWTF has an ion exchange salt softener that processes an average of 60,000 gallons of water per day. The ion softener requires 40,000 lbs. of salt (which contains chlorides) approximately every 41 days.	City of Sacred Heart MN	\$4,977
Reconnect Rondo	The Rondo Underground Railroad Research and Education study; acknowledges past harms, aims to identify individuals, sites and locations and verify connections to the Underground Railroad, to preserve Rondo history, establish curricula and programs with education and interpretive organizations and its importance in Minnesota history.	City of St. Paul MN	\$150
City of Winton	Winton's public water system consists of two municipal wells, one elevated storage tank, and a cast-iron water main distribution system, build in the 1930s, that serves all developed properties within the Winton city limits. This project will improve the safety and reliability of the municipal water supply by: Elevated Storage Tank - The vault structure that houses the recirculation pump and other equipment is undersized. The structure should be replaced with a large vault structure and a heated, above-ground building to house the controls and pumps. A generator connection will be added to attach a portable generator as necessary. These improvements total \$156,000.	City of Winton MN	\$1,663

	Pumphouse - All of the existing equipment is aged and should be replaced including:		
City of Woodbury	Well Manifold Pipe Project - This is a "shovel ready project" that will connect three municipal drinking water supply wells (Well 15, 16, and 18) within the City of Woodbury to a single raw water line to facilitate subsequent connection to water treatment facility addressing contamination now and into the future. This project supports good governance, builds resiliency in potable water supply, and takes steps towards resolving identified operational issues, water quality differences in the community, and cost disparities, and supports future flexibility as the science on water quality evolves.	City of Woodbury MN	\$4,400
City of Woodbury	Funds if provided will be directly used to facilitate the replacement of aging water main pipe infrastructure in the City of Woodbury. Implementation of this effort is project driven. When done in concert with other infrastructure installation it will minimize impact to the community, local businesses, result in a more resilient water system, and minimize contamination risk to the potable water supply system.	City of Woodbury MN	\$468
City of Cologne	The funds will be used to replace a roughly 25 years old treatment facility in Cologne. The replacements include a new lift station, new pretreatment building, new aeration basin, a new clarifier to be used alongside the current clarifier, new sand filters and biosolids storage tanks.	Cologne MN	\$4,000
City of Cook	This project includes the creation of a stormwater management plan, engineering, and construction to address the drainage issues on North River Street. The reconstructed road would be full-depth bituminous designed to properly drain water from the road and divert it to storm drains.	Cook MN	\$250
City of Duluth	The pedestrian sidewalks suspended off each side of the bridge's trusses require substantial work. The sidewalk structural steel support system and concrete-filled steel sidewalk grating are heavily deteriorated resulting in ongoing repairs to maintain safe pedestrian travel. To affect a proper repair, the sidewalk grating and much of its underlying steel support system require replacement.	Duluth MN	\$6,000
City of Cloquet	Funds would be used for replacement of existing electrical infrastructure at Pump Station 1 and 2 in addition to recoating and structural repairs required at both ground storage reservoirs.	Duluth MN	\$5,446
City of Eagle Lake	The funds would be used to purchase property for a new facility, complete a hydrogeological study for a new well, complete test well, complete and submit engineering plans and specifications, and begin construction.	Eagle Lake MN	\$4,750
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	The Band is seeking to replace expendable water treatment facility components (e.g. filtration media and filter underdrain). The Ridge Road Pumphouse and gravity filter was originally constructed in 1985. The gravity filter media is at the end of its design life and needs to be replaced in order to continue effective iron, manganese, and hydrogen sulfide removal. The project would also incorporate additional water storage, as the existing water storage tank (1700 gal) is 171% less than the required amount per Ten (10) State Standards, and does not provide adequate volume to provide fire flows or protection.	Fond du Lac Reservation located by Cloquet, MN MN	\$2,500
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	he Band is seeking planning and implementation funds to assist in establishing its own sanitation facilities for the Big Lake Area and Sawyer District, located within the Fond du Lac Reservation.	Fond du Lac Reservation located by Cloquet, MN MN	\$16,000
City of Gilman	Federal funds will be used to fund the design and construction of replacement sanitary sewer and stormwater collection infrastructure. Select portions of the sanitary sewer system will be replaced and new sanitary sewer pipes and forcemains would be added to the existing system to provide sanitary service to new users. A new, deeper lift station is needed in order to provide proper cover for the sanitary sewer extensions to the new users. Existing rip rap along the wastewater pond berms would be removed and replaced to provide proper erosion control. The access road would also be improved by adding aggregate surfacing and geotextile fabric to the roadway. The proposed stormwater project will include minor grading and installation of curb and gutter to facilitate proper drainage along the city streets. Storm sewer pipe, catch basins, and storm manholes would also be added to the city roads using standard open cut construction methods. This will reduce the amount of water near	Gilman MN	\$6,924

	homes and on city streets that have experienced standing water in the past due to poor drainage in these areas. The existing storm pond will also need to be expanded or dug deeper in order to provide enough storage for the increased amount of water that will be conveyed to the pond by the storm sewer pipes and curb and gutters.		
City of Hanley Falls	Federal funds will be used to fund the design and construction of replacement drinking water distribution, sanitary sewer collection, stormwater collection, and street infrastructure. Piping to be replaced includes approximately 2/3 of the drinking water distribution system, approximately 3/4 of the wastewater collection system, and approximately 1/2 of the storm sewer system.	Hanley Falls MN	\$12,840
City of Hinckley	The purpose of the project is to expand water, wastewater, stormwater and roads to an undeveloped parcel of land to provide commercial and residential growth opportunities for the City of Hinckley.	Hinckley MN	\$2,400
City of Lafayette	The City of Lafayette is requesting funding to pay for a portion of needed water treatment plant improvements. Lafayette is a small community and the current utility rates are already a financial burden for many of our residents. The water plant improvements are needed so that we can be in compliance with MPCA regulation.	Lafayette MN	\$1,000
City of Lake Lillian	The City of Lake Lillian has an existing infrastructure system that is over 65 years old and has exceeded its useful life. Many portions of the existing infrastructure system in Lake Lillian are failing and are in immediate need of replacement. Federal funds will be used for the design and construction or replacement of sanitary sewer, watermain, storm sewer, force main to wastewater ponds, inlet structure to wastewater ponds, water tower rehabilitation, and street infrastructure.	Lake Lillian MN	\$18,433
City of Lamberton, MN	Federal Funds will be used to construct 13,000 feet of sewer and water service to meet industrial requirements of 10 industrial lots and one large industrial user.	Lamberton MN	\$7,753
City of Lewisville	Replacing our sanitary sewer system, water system and roads.	Lewisville MN	\$6,000
City of Flensburg	Federal funds will be used to fund the design and construction of replacement wastewater collection and street infrastructure, as well as a new drinking water system. Piping to be replaced includes all of the wastewater collection system including service lines, some storm sewer lines, and a new drinking water system.	Morrison County MN	\$10,545
City of Nashwauk	This infrastructure project replaces the water, sewer, and stormwater system for six blocks of Third Street that pass through the heart of the City of Nashwauk, providing access and utility service to the Nashwauk-Keewatin High School, churches, business, and residential housing. The improvements were part of a 5-year Capital Improvement Plan which outlined all city streets, alleys, and buildings and the repairs that would be needed for them all. The City Capital Improvement Plan is updated annually and identifies Third Street as needing imminent repair within the next 1-2 years and other sections of the street as needing repairs within the next 3-5 years.	Nashwauk MN	\$1,000
City of New Germany	The City of New Germany needs to upgrade their wastewater treatment facility to allow for more homes and industries to be built and to meet MPCA requirements for phosphorous limits.	New Germany MN	\$2,000
Northern Township	Northern Township and Beltrami County request a grant to install a sanitary sewer and a water main extension and stormwater planning for the reconstruction of Beltrami County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 20. Northern Township will be installing water and sanitary sewer extensions from the City of Bemidji.	Northern Township MN	\$4,200
City of Otsego	The project is needed for the reduction of manganese and radium levels in City's drinking water wells. The project consists of preliminary design, final design, and construction of drinking water treatment improvements for the City of Otsego. Treatment will be added to remove manganese, radium, and iron and will include process equipment, piping, valves and appurtenances, mechanical and electrical systems, site work and architectural.	Otsego MN	\$3,400

Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians	The purpose of this project is to replace the asbestos cement (AC) sanitary sewer and water mains that were originally constructed in the 1960s to serve the existing homes south of Highway 1 and west of Pike Creek commonly referred to as Back-of Town (BOT) on the Red Lake Indian Reservation. The project will include approximately 35,500 feet of gravity sewer mains and/or force mains with service lines along existing roads, driveways, and utility corridors with service lines to each of the 96 existing homes. There is proposed to be approximately 16,000 feet of new water main lines and 15,000 feet of new water service lines to be replaced in the community system. Some storm sewers may be replaced if they cannot be salvaged. Replacement of the lines protects the health and safety of 96 households from harmful AC that causes high rates of cancer and prevents overcrowding if they are required to vacate their homes. This project will provide for safe drinking water and hygienic sewage disposal for community members, as well as safe working conditions for sanitation and repair workers. The Tribe expects to complete the project in 12 months upon receipt of funds.	Red Lake Indian Reservation MN	\$4,339
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community	The funding for this project would be used to complete a water reclamation system that would provide a regional example of how to protect our surface waters and ground water while operating an organics recycling facility. The organic materials received may contain PFAS and other elements that are environmental concerns. The stormwater reclamation system requiring funding support, reuses all water runoff (approximately 10,000,000 gallons annually) and allows the site to operate without discharges off-site even in extreme rainfall conditions.	Scott County MN	\$2,500
Scott County	The Merriam Junction Regional Trail Riverbank Restoration project is an essential component of a decade-long initiative to convert an abandoned rail bed to a regional, multi-use, accessible destination trail connecting Scott and Carver Counties across the Minnesota River. The requested funding will provide for the clean up and environmentally responsible restoration of the banks of the Minnesota River along a 2.4 mile segment from Louisville Township to Carver.	Scott County MN	\$3,000
Sherburne County Parks Department	Federal funds would be used for preservation planning of the Native American mound group cemetery, removal of Euro-American structures, restoration of native vegetation on 150 acres of cultivated land, trail development, wildlife viewing platforms, interpretive features, and accessibility.	Sherburne County MN	\$2,500
City of Silver Bay	Specifically, funding will be used for the replacement of raw water pumps, valves actuators, filter media, chemical feed equipment, roofing and building supplies, electrical and control upgrades, a new booster station/distribution main, and expansion of water, sewer, and storm water. The application is to improve a nearly 70 year old facility that has mostly original equipment and is in need of replacement of various treatment and pumping components to ensure reliable ongoing treatment and production of water for all city users, including the largest employer of the city and county, Cleveland Cliffs-Northshore Mining.	Silver Bay MN	\$2,000
Town of Silver Creek (MN Township)	This Congressionally Directed Spending request would assist the Silver Creek community in the pre-design, design, and construction of a publicly owned wastewater collection system to replace the outdated private septic systems along the shores of Lake Superior, from the Silver Creek Cliff tunnel to the Two Harbors city limits. The project is proposed to construct a grinder pump pressure system to service each individual user in combination with a regionalization connection to the City of Two Harbors for treatment. Each of the private septic systems will be removed from service. Due to underground bedrock formations, the required drilling needed for the collection system will add significant cost above and beyond typical construction costs.	Silver Creek Township MN	\$15,204
City of St. Joseph	The project includes construction of a trunk sanitary sewer line in the City of St. Joseph to allow for business and residential growth in the community.	St. Joseph MN	\$3,000
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa	The Ojibwe Language Master Apprentice Program will be dedicated to create new Ojibwe Language teachers through an immersion setting designed to honor and perpetuate the Ojibwe culture and language in order to develop intergenerational language growth.	St. Louis County MN	\$683
City of Gilbert	The City of Gilbert's project is to design and construct a new water treatment plant and demolition of the existing water plant, sludge facility and abandoned wells. . The existing plant was constructed in 1915 and has outlived its useful life.	St. Louis County MN	\$4,000

City of Aurora	The City of Aurora, in cooperation with the Town of White, is undertaking a project that consists of constructing a new water treatment plant, raw water intake and pump station, raw water lines and a distribution system extension to Scenic Acres. The design intent is for this infrastructure to be expanded upon in the future to serve the communities of Biwabik and Hoyt Lakes. Currently, these communities each own and operate their own water supply, treatment and distribution systems. Each of the systems are facing significant near and long term challenges. This project will be completed in two phases. The initial phase would include the City of Aurora and the Town of White. A later phase would include the City of Biwabik and the City of Hoyt Lakes.	St. Louis County MN	\$4,000
Crane Lake Water and Sanitary District	The Crane Lake Water & Sanitary District is seeking federal dollars for a proposed capital project which will provide a needed upgrade to the wastewater treatment plant, adding a flow equalization step to the existing wastewater treatment plant. Crane Lake users already have some of the highest sewer rates in the state of Minnesota and this project cost will impact all the sewer rate payers with even higher rates.	St. Louis County MN	\$1,000
City of Thief River Falls	To move the raw drinking water intake for the Water Treatment Plant from the existing location on the Red Lake River to an area upstream of the confluence of the Thief River and the Red Lake River.	Thief River Falls MN	\$20,946
Tower Breitung Wastewater Board	This project will allow the communities of Tower and Breitung to comply with state wastewater regulations, protect humans and the environments from harmful and toxic elements commonly found in untreated wastewater.	Tower MN	\$4,250
City of Tower	The project would include approximately 1800 feet of water line and 3200 feet of sewer pipe with a lift station and the restoration of the street.	Tower MN	\$1,725
Town of Thomson	The Town of Thomson, locally as Esko, desires to plan, design, and build a potable water system to serve its residents with a safe and reliable water.	Town of Thomson MN	\$250
City of Tyler	Federal CDS funds will be utilized to fund approximately 50% of the total estimated remaining wastewater rehabilitation and improvement construction costs. The funds awarded will help to minimize the financial burden on the city of Tyler and its taxpayers who are already paying above average sanitary sewer rates.	Tyler MN	\$3,545
City of West Union	Congressionally Directed Funds will be used to construct a new wastewater collection and treatment system for West Union. The wastewater collection system includes new sewer mains, manholes, cleanouts, and service laterals between the mains and the structure being serviced (within 5' of structure). The wastewater treatment system includes a 2-cell pond system, 6" forcemain, and lift station. Federal Funds will also be used for street restoration within roadways and restoration of disturbed private properties up to the structure being serviced.	West Union MN	\$6,321
Willmar Municipal Utilities	The NEWTP Improvements Project (Project) implements an advanced biological treatment process to remove the high ammonia, iron, and manganese concentrations in City's source waters, while providing non-corrosive water with a persistent distribution residual with minimal DBPs - thereby improving the NEWTP's treatment performance.	Willmar MN	\$3,500
City Clerk	Federal funds will be used to fund the design and construction of replacement drinking water distribution, sanitary sewer collection, stormwater collection, and street infrastructure. Piping to be replaced includes all of the drinking water distribution system including service lines and remote read water meters, and approximately 3/4 of the storm sewer system.	Wright County MN	\$10,200
City of Clarkfield, MN	Federal funds will be used to fund the design and construction of replacement drinking water distribution, sanitary sewer collection, stormwater collection, and street infrastructure. Piping to be replaced also includes a connection to the Lincoln-Pipestone Rural Water System to supply higher-quality water to the City.	Yellow Medicine County MN	\$8,520
City of Wood Lake	Federal funds will be used to fund current project gap items including storm and street. Reconfiguring the storm sewer collection system is needed. Likewise, street reconstruction is necessary where utility reconstruction is occurring including repairing County roadways needing utilities replacements underneath.	Yellow Medicine County MN	\$8,690