



THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 22 2016

The Honorable Karen Williams Weaver
Mayor of Flint
1101 South Saginaw Street
Flint, Michigan 48501

Dear Mayor Weaver:

The city of Flint is facing a crucial deadline to apply for funding that it needs to improve its drinking-water infrastructure. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency provides annual grants to the state of Michigan under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund. These funds, along with other state funds, are then provided to communities across Michigan to improve water infrastructure to protect public health. The Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund are state-run programs, and the application deadline set by your state is July 1, 2016. If the city fails to submit an acceptable application that meets the program requirements to the state by the deadline, you will miss a tremendous opportunity to take advantage of this funding source.

As I understand it, the application deadline for the Michigan Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program was originally May 1, 2016, but was moved back to July 1, 2016, to allow Flint more time to submit an application. I also understand that the state is not in a position to incur further Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program delays without impacting the state's ability to access these federal funds. Further delays would also impact the ability for other communities across the state to receive funding through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund.

While we are aware that there have been interactions between the state and city regarding the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program, we remain concerned that the city is not identifying, prioritizing and performing adequate planning for needed infrastructure projects as well as taking the necessary steps to meet the requirements of an acceptable Drinking Water State Revolving Fund application. As stated above, failing to submit an application will constrain the city's ability to move forward on priority infrastructure projects. While the structure of the funding remains a concern for the city, the opportunity to work with the state on funding options will be foreclosed without meeting the July 1 deadline. Your leadership is essential to resolving these issues and to ensuring that the city submits a timely and complete application.

Should you have any questions about this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. In addition, your staff may contact Bob Kaplan, the EPA's acting Region 5 administrator, at (312) 886-1499 or kaplan.robert@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina McCarthy".

Gina McCarthy

cc: The Honorable Kerry L. Nelson
President, Flint City Council