COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & COMMERCE

Congress of the United States Bouse of Representatives

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May 2, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole Chairman, Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rose DeLauro Ranking Member, Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Washington County, Sunny Hills Water/Sewer Infrastructure Improvements in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Washington County, located at 1331 South Blvd. Chipley, FL 32428. The funding would be used for water/sewer infrastructure improvements to the Sunny Hills area of Washington County. This 29 square mile area is growing at an incredible rate due to 3 prominent national home builders currently developing the area. Improving the water/sewer infrastructure would not only alleviate the residential well and septic needs for housing growth but will also allow for new schools and commercial business. With public-private partnership potential with N FL Community Water Systems (US Water), this crucial project could feasibly come to fruition. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection expressly discourages the installation of new wells and septic tanks across the 29 square mile Sunny Hills area, recognizing the potential threat to the integrity of the Florida aquifer and the region's precious water resources. Washington County remains committed to safeguarding these vital natural assets by pursuing this essential infrastructure initiative.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it seeks to address the increasing demand for water and sewer services in the Sunny Hills area while ensuring the protection of our environment and natural resources. This project is essential to support residential and commercial growth, ultimately creating job opportunities for the residents of Washington County and neighboring areas.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family."

Sincerely,

Neal P. Dunn, M.D.

Member of Congress