



May 5, 2022

## **2022 CWCC PRIORITIES – DRAFT**

In consultation with Sante Esposito, we developed a set of revised priorities for the Coalition and we share them with you today as a draft. We welcome your input and ask that you share your feedback by Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. We have also integrated some language from the Water Week partners to achieve some level of consistency in message with our partners.

**OVERALL GOAL** - To secure robust funding for programs of interest to the Coalition, either through traditional legislative vehicles or through the passage of infrastructure packages. More funding means more projects and more projects mean more jobs.

### **PRIORITY #1: Increased Funding / Program Improvements**

- Inclusion of funding for the Safe Drinking Water SRF and the Alternative Water Source Program in the final version of what emerges from the Build Back Better framework;
- Inclusion of funding for other water programs of interest in the final version of what emerges from the Build Back Better framework;
- Enactment of Title XVI WIIN grant funding and Federal share increases;
- Continued increased funding for the Clean Water SRF, WIIN grants and other water programs of interest in the FY23 appropriations and congressional budget resolution processes; and,
- Enactment of legislation directing EPA to require State SRF's to streamline review and approval processes for the replacement or improvement of existing water infrastructure assets that are past their useful life as a condition of these funds.

### **PRIORITY #2: Price Escalation / Build America, Buy America Requirements**

- Recognize near-term challenges, such as inflation, disruptions to supply chains, and lack of domestic capacity or supply when implementing new domestic preference procurement requirements for construction materials and manufactured products. Protecting public health and the environment, while maintaining affordable user rates, requires the flexibility to source the most cost-effective materials and best available technologies.

### **PRIORITY #3: Offset Decreased Revenues**

- Water utilities nationwide are experiencing decreased revenues from customers for various reasons. This matter must be addressed in infrastructure legislation. If this issue is not resolved, planned capital programs will undoubtedly suffer.

[cleanwaterconstructioncoalition.org](http://cleanwaterconstructioncoalition.org) | P.O. Box 728 | Allenwood, NJ 08720 | Office: (732) 292-4300 | Fax: (732) 292-4310

Robert Briant, Jr. – Chairman

AGC of America • AGC of Texas • Alabama Utility Contractors Association • Arizona Utility Contractors Association • Associated Pennsylvania Constructors • Associated Utility Contractors Of Maryland\* • Connecticut Construction Industries Association • CIC of Westchester County & Hudson Valley\* • Engineering Contractors Association • General Contractors Association Of New York • Georgia Utility Contractors Association • Indiana Constructors Inc. • Long Island Contractors Association • Maryland Transportation Builders & Materials Association • Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association • Minnesota Utility Contractors Association\* • National Rural Water Association • New Mexico Utility Contractors Association • NYSLECET • Ohio Contractors Association • Public Works Contractors Association of Maryland • Tennessee RoadBuilders Association • Underground Contractors Association of Illinois\* • United Contractors\* • UCA of Anne Arundel County • Utility Contractors Association of New England\* • Utility & Transportation Contractors Association of New Jersey\* • Contractors Association of West Virginia • Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association

\* Steering Committee Member



## **CWCC DC “Fly-In” / Business Meeting**

As you know, we will be having a hybrid meeting in DC concurrent with the ARTBA conference.

### **IN PERSON DETAILS:**

**CWCC Business Meeting**  
**Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> 4:00 – 6:00 PM**  
**Hyatt Regency Washington (400 New Jersey Ave NW)**  
**Capitol Room**

We will be endeavoring to get through business by 5:30, concluding with some pre-dinner refreshments and light fare. The hotel block for ARTBA has closed. DC is projected to be very busy but hotel rooms are still available. We recommend that if you are planning to attend you book as soon as possible.

It's important to note that the House and Senate officials began implementing a three-phase reopening of the Capitol to visitors and the general public. This opens the possibility for in person Hill visits in the Capitol building, subject to the discretion of each member. In addition, D.C. has dropped the city's requirement that people show proof of coronavirus vaccination before entering most businesses in the city. We will stay on top of the local situation and advise of any changes if they arise. You do not need to register for the ARTBA program to participate.

### **REMOTE PARTICIPATION DETAILS:**

**YOU WILL BE RECEIVING AN EMAIL INVITE  
TO PARTICIPATE REMOTELY VIA MS TEAMS**

Please **RSVP ASAP** to [kennedy@utcanj.org](mailto:kennedy@utcanj.org) and confirm which option you are exercising.

We will be finalizing our 2022 Priorities and will have a packet of information ready for you in DC for those that RSVP. We will also be including details for funding levels for the SRF and other programs of interest. We hope that this information will be useful whether you engage with your delegation members in person in DC or in your home states in person or remotely. What is most important is that they are delivered in a way that works best for your organization. All materials will be made available to all members in advance of May 16<sup>th</sup>.

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## PRESIDENT'S FY23 PROPOSED "WATER" BUDGET

On March 28, the President released his FY23 Budget. It includes \$1.638B for the Clean Water SRF, \$1.126B for the Safe Drinking Water SRF and \$4M for WIIN grants. Amounts are in addition to the SRF funding in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The Budget provides roughly \$4B for water infrastructure, an increase of \$1B over the 2021 enacted level. These resources would advance efforts to upgrade drinking water and wastewater infrastructure nationwide, with a focus on underserved communities that have historically been overlooked. The budget funds all of the authorizations in the original Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021, including the creation of 20 new targeted water grant programs and an increase of over \$160M above 2021 enacted levels for the Reducing Lead in Drinking Water grant program. The budget also maintains funding for EPA's State Revolving Funds (SRF) at 2021 enacted levels, which would complement the \$23.4B provided for the traditional SRF programs in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

## KEY ADVOCATES REPORT

Included with this notice is Key Advocates recent report which is current to April 29, 2022.

***\* Please note the inclusion of a listing of grantees for the programs below when announced so that Coalition members will know what projects in their state have received funding and could provide opportunities for jobs. The following programs will be monitored: Clean Water SRF, Safe Drinking Water SRF, EPA's State and Tribal Assistance grant program, USBR's Title XVI grant programs, and the Alternative Water Source Program if it gets funding in the final Build Back Better bill. \****

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