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MAYOR

CITY OF ATLANTA
DEPARTMENT OF WATERSHED MANAGEMENT
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Kishia L. Powell
COMMISSIONER

March 6, 2019

Chairman Peter DeFazio
House Transportation & Infrastructure
Committee
2134 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Representative John Katko
2457 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Chairwoman Grace F. Napolitano
Subcommittee on Water Resources and
Environment
1610 Longworth House Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Representative Don Young
2314 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Representatives DeFazio, Napolitano, Katko and Young,

On behalf of the City of Atlanta, Department of Watershed Management, we are writing to express our support and appreciation for your leadership in introducing legislation to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize appropriations for several Clean Water State Revolving Fund programs (H.R. 1497, 116th Congress).

The Department of Watershed Management is a regional water, wastewater and stormwater service provider serving 1.2 million people each day in a region and expected to grow by 50% in the next decade. In 1998, and 1999, the City of Atlanta, like many others, was issued two wet weather consent decrees. The City has worked diligently to invest over \$2 billion to comply with its clean water obligations, with another \$1.4 billion expected to be invested. These investments have resulted in a 97% reduction in sewer spill volume. Though the City was granted an extension to 2027 to comply with the second consent decree, making more room for greater investments to address failing water mains and a 25% water loss, there remains a significant funding gap for the more than \$8 billion in identified capital improvement needs to deliver core services.

As such, the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund are important funding sources for the Department of Watershed Management. The Department of Watershed Management supports HR. 1497. Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Kind regards,

Kishia L. Powell, Commissioner
Department of Watershed Management