

#### May 1, 2024

# Final FY24 SRF and WIIN Grant Appropriation

The final Clean Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs) state allocation in the FY24 Budget was \$851 million with \$787 million in earmarks, while the final appropriation for Safe Drinking Water SRFs was \$494 million with earmarks adding an additional \$631 million.

Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) grants were funded at \$20 million.

#### **FY25 Budget Proposal and CWCC Funding Requests**

President Biden proposed a FY25 Budget that includes \$1.24 billion for the Clean Water SRFs, \$1.12 billion for the Safe Drinking Water SRFs, no funding for SRF related earmarks, and \$4 million for WIIN grants.

The Clean Water Construction Coalition (CWCC) is advocating for a minimum of \$4.49 billion for the Clean Water SRFs and \$4.37 billion for the Safe Drinking Water SRFs and \$20 million for WIIN grants. In addition, we continue to oppose the use of earmarks as a takedown from the water funding allocations in the Budget.

### **Budget Future Uncertain**

Budget hearings are currently underway but, because this is an Election year, the timetable for passage of the Budget is uncertain and it is likely Congress will pass a Continuing Resolution that will extend the process into next year.

## **House Republicans Target Spending**

Republicans in the House continue to push to limit spending and passed a Budget Resolution in March that would limit discretionary spending increases, slash the federal deficit, and create a multi-billion surplus over the next ten years.

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## **Other Legislative Issues**

Discussions on the STREAM Act are ongoing among Senate staff but details on the bill have not been shared. The CWCC continues to advocate for enactment of this bill that would provide \$300 million for water recycling, \$750 million for surface and groundwater storage and conveyance, \$150 million for desalination, \$100 million for drinking water, and \$250 million for environmental restoration.

The CWCC also supports Senate action on the Garamendi Amendment which passed the House in March. The amendment would let the EPA issue National Pollution Discharge Elimination Systems (NPDES) permits for 10 years, instead of 5 years, for public works facilities owned or operated by local governments.

Legislation was recently introduced that would increase the federal share for Water Funding Infrastructure and Innovation (WIFIA) funding from 80% to 90% for projects in disadvantaged communities and areas experiencing extreme droughts.

The Coalition is also lobbying for additional funding for alternative water source programs and mega recycling projects.

#### National Water Week Fly-in & CWCC Virtual Meeting

CWCC attended the Water Environment Federation's (WEF) National Water Week Fly-in activities in Washington, DC in early April which featured a number of interesting panels and included remarks from the Commissioner of the US Bureau of Reclamation.

During the Fly-in, the CWCC held a virtual meeting that included an update from our Washington lobbyist and an interactive discussion of various issues related to the water construction sector.

## **Key Advocates Report**

Included with this notice is Key Advocates' report from April 30, 2024 which provides more detail on these and other issues.

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