



AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION

Your Comprehensive
Public Works Resource

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September 16, 2020

The Honorable John Garamendi
U.S. House of Representatives
2368 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Garamendi:

On behalf of the American Public Works Association (APWA) and our more than 30,000 members, we are writing to thank you for introducing H.R. 8217, the WIFIA Improvement Act of 2020. This legislation will help provide additional financing for vital large-scale water infrastructure projects across the nation.

H.R. 8217 would allow applicants to the Environmental Protection Agency's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program to access 55-year loan terms for projects that have longer useful lifecycles. Doing so would give applicants additional flexibility in repaying the low-interest loans offered by the WIFIA program.

The WIFIA program is an essential tool used by communities across the country to meet the more than \$700 billion need for investment in our nation's water infrastructure. APWA has been supportive of the WIFIA program since its creation in 2014 and has worked to improve the program since that time. APWA and its members are supportive of efforts like the WIFIA Improvement Act to allow greater access and flexibility to necessary funding for investment in water infrastructure.

Each day public works professionals are diligently working to protect and maintain the critical infrastructure that is so essential to protecting our health and quality of life. Because of our shared commitment, APWA looks forward to continuing to work with you and your staff on this legislation to help public works professionals meet our water infrastructure challenges. If you have questions or comments regarding this letter or APWA's water priorities, please contact APWA Government Affairs Manager Sean Garcia at (202)218-6734 or sgarcia@apwa.net.

Sincerely,

Mary Joyce Ivers
President

Scott D. Grayson, CAE
Chief Executive Officer

PRESIDENT
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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
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