



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

Address: 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900, Boston MA 02114 | Phone: 617-292-5500

Maura T. Healey
Governor

Kim Driscoll
Lieutenant Governor

Rebecca Tepper
Secretary

Bonnie Heiple
Commissioner

2026 INTENDED USE PLAN For the DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND April 1, 2026



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is pleased to present the Calendar Year 2026 Intended Use Plan (IUP). The federal Safe Drinking Water Act requires Massachusetts to annually prepare an IUP – a plan identifying the intended use of funds in its Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). The State issues a Final IUP annually after a public review and comment period. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must receive the Final IUP before it awards its annual Capitalization Grant to the DWSRF.

The DWSRF is a federal-state financing program managed jointly by MassDEP and the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust (Trust) that provides subsidized loans and grants to improve and protect drinking water quality in Massachusetts. The DWSRF is funded with federal funding received through the EPA, which is supplemented by state matching funds, repayment of loans, and interest earnings.

The IUP details the intended projects, total project costs, and amount of funding being offered through the DWSRF. This year, MassDEP and the Trust are offering approximately \$434 million in financial support to wastewater projects across Massachusetts, subject to the availability of funding. Approximately \$167 million is being offered to finance 16 new construction projects, \$148 million is being offered to finance 13 previously approved multi-year projects, and \$443,000 is being allocated to fund four Asset Management Planning (AMP) Grants. Additionally, more than \$118 million in set-aside allocations are included in the IUP. A summary of the DWSRF financing can be found in the table below.

2026 Drinking Water SRF IUP Summary

Project Specific Offered Funding	2026 IUP Funding* (\$ in millions)
6 New Construction Projects	\$167.1
13 Previously Approved "Carry-Over" Projects	147.8
4 AMP Grants	0.4
<i>Project Specific Subtotal</i>	<i>\$315.4</i>
Set-Aside Allocations	
Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) Planning & Construction Loans	\$103.4
PFAS and Planning Loan Program	10.0
Emergency Project Reserve	5.0
<i>Set-Aside Subtotal</i>	<i>\$118.4</i>
TOTAL Drinking Water Offered Funding	\$433.7

**Totals may not add due to rounding*

A list of projects being supported in the IUP can be found in *Table 1* on page 36. A list of the AMP grant projects can be found in *Table 2* on page 38. Searchable and accessible versions of all tables can be found [on the 2026 IUP webpage](#). Projects included in the IUP were selected based on MassDEP's established rating system. MassDEP evaluates and ranks projects based upon the severity of the public health or environmental problem that is being addressed and the effectiveness of the proposed solution.

The public comment period for the Draft IUP was held from February 20, 2026 through March 24,

2026. MassDEP accepted written testimony and held a virtual public hearing on March 24, 2026 to receive oral testimony. A summary of public comments received can be found on page 42.

2026 SRF Program Discussion

The DWSRF is an essential tool that enables communities to deliver critical drinking water infrastructure projects in an increasingly challenging environment. Aging infrastructure, emerging public health risks, and the need to adapt to a changing climate continue to put extraordinary pressure on local communities that are tasked with addressing these needs in the face of rising construction costs, constrained resources, and economic uncertainty.

Like local communities, the DWSRF also faces challenges. The 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Job's Act (IIJA) provided unprecedented levels of federal funding for the DWSRF, resulting in a spike in projects supported through the program. However, IIJA funding is set to expire in 2026 and federal base grants have continued to decrease; this will result in less funding the SRF will be able to offer to communities in future IUPs. Additionally, a significant portion of the DWSRF's capacity will be allocated toward previously approved projects moving through their multi-year project delivery process in the upcoming years. With more resources needed to support these continuing projects, there will be less capacity available to support new projects in subsequent IUPs. Further, increasing project costs and larger, more complex projects, like PFAS remediation, are anticipated to put additional pressure on available resources.

MassDEP and the Trust are committed to leveraging federal and state resources to maximize public health benefits for Massachusetts communities, while maintaining strong financial stewardship. To that end, MassDEP and the Trust will continue to evaluate strategies to mitigate funding limitations and support DWSRF's short- and long-term goals as shown in *Section IV. Short- And Long-Term Goals*. The DWSRF uses the following administrative objectives to inform its policies and practices:

1. Utilizing funds in an efficient and timely manner: Failure to spend funds efficiently increases public health and environmental risks by addressing problems less quickly than they otherwise would have been addressed. It also jeopardizes future federal funding for Massachusetts. A key priority of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is ensuring funds are put to use in a timely fashion.
2. Maximizing the number of projects the fund can support: Balancing the need to continue to support previously approved projects with the need to provide consistent capacity for new projects ensures continued progress to address drinking water challenges.

Key Milestones

Compliance with SRF project deadlines is critical to the effective use of limited funding and the efficient administration of the SRF program. The table below provides an overview of key milestones designed to ensure projects are able to utilize funding when needed while ensuring timely replenishment of the SRF.

2026 DWSRF Milestone Timeline for IUP Project Awardees

Date	Deliverable
June 30, 2026	Communities must have appropriated the necessary local project funds
October 2, 2026	Completed project loan applications must have been submitted to MassDEP
December 31, 2026	Following receipt of completed project loan application package, MassDEP must issue a Project Approval Certificate (PAC), certifying the total costs of the project determined to be eligible for financial assistance, subject to PAC requirements
June 30, 2027	Executed construction contracts
June 30, 2029	Trust will contact community regarding process for permanent financing for repayment
January 2030	Permanent financing completed
July 15, 2030	First interest payment due from communities under their repayment agreements with the Trust
January 15, 2031	First principal payment due from communities under their repayment agreements with the Trust

Accommodations may be made for projects encountering limited delays due to circumstances outside of the project proponent’s control that can be remedied in an expeditious manner to keep the project on track. MassDEP and the Trust encourage project teams to identify any challenges to meeting deadlines as early as possible. A project on the IUP Project Listing may be bypassed if MassDEP and the Trust determine that the project will not be ready to proceed during the financing period. Project(s) bypassed may be replaced by the highest ranked priority project(s) on the Priority Project List (*Table 3* on page 39) that are ready to proceed, subject to the availability of funds. Additionally, projects without signed contracts by June 30, 2027 likely would not receive loan forgiveness.

Annual IUP Project Allocations

MassDEP and the Trust are committed to maximizing the number of projects they can support while maintaining financial stability in a declining revenue environment. The DWSRF will continue to implement an applicant cap of \$15 million for the 2026 financing period. Additionally, a project’s financing will be capped at the IUP project cost amount for that IUP year given the constraints on available resources. It is critically important for awardees to closely manage and control project costs. Refer to *Section V. (B) Applicant Cap & Carry-Over Costs* for more details on annual project allocations

MassDEP and the Trust recognize that estimating project costs can be difficult during periods of economic uncertainty and at times, bids are higher than the engineer’s estimates which are used in the Project Evaluation Forms that a project team submits when applying to the program. Therefore, requests for increases may be submitted for consideration after the bid has been received. See *Section I. Background – Application Process* for more details. All requests will be evaluated against available funding. The Trust and MassDEP are unable to provide assurances that the difference between the

engineer's estimate and the bid will be funded.

Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) Loan Program

Addressing lead remains a top priority for MassDEP and significant progress towards safeguarding public health and supporting compliance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions has been achieved through the DWSRF. To date, the DWSRF has committed \$43.7 million for Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) grants and \$58 million in LSLR construction loans. Funds for the LSLR grant program were exhausted in 2025. MassDEP and the Trust do not anticipate offering LSL Replacement grants going forward given funding constraints. To continue supporting communities and public water suppliers (PWS) in replacing lead drinking water infrastructure MassDEP is offering 0% interest financing with loan forgiveness for Lead Service Line Replacement Program. Applications for planning and construction loans are currently being accepted on a rolling basis while funding is available.

Although federal deadlines to replace lead service lines extend out to 2037 or beyond, financing is supported by the IIJA LSL Grant and there is a limited window to make project commitments. Lead service line removal projects are offered 0% financing with loan forgiveness through the IIJA; this funding is exclusively available for addressing lead service lines and does not compete with other expensive priorities including removal of emerging contaminants such as PFAS.

PFAS Loan Program

In January 2020, the SRF began a pilot program to offer 0% interest rate loans to help communities meet the requirements of the new Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) drinking water regulations. The program, as intended, resulted in an increase in PFAS projects across the state and a subsequent rise in 0% interest financings overall. To date, the Trust has committed to financing \$731 million in projects resulting in a projected total cost attributed to the 0% PFAS loan program of \$189 million in contract assistance funds. The program is now approaching the limit of what can be afforded using available funding resources. Given this constraint, the SRF is unable to offer the 0% interest rate for any 2026 IUP PFAS project loans. This includes both new and carry-over projects. Below market interest rates and loan forgiveness will still be available to eligible projects. Loan forgiveness will be funded using IIJA Emerging Contaminants Grant; MassDEP and the Trust intend to use 100% of the Emerging Contaminants Grant on loan forgiveness. These subsidies will continue to provide significant financing savings to communities. All PFAS carry-over projects on the 2026 IUP are projected to achieve debt service savings ranging from 27.4% - 41.8%.

2026 IUP Highlights

- **Federal Funding:** Massachusetts estimates the DWSRF will receive approximately \$78 million in federal funding from the EPA consisting of:
 - \$8 million from the EPA’s annual DWSRF capitalization allotment, known as the “Base Grant;” and
 - \$70 million in supplemental funding authorized through the IIJA.

Note the Federal Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriation for the Base Grant is not yet confirmed.

Using supplemental funds, Massachusetts anticipates being able to offer additional loan forgiveness for eligible projects on the 2026 IUP. The additional loan forgiveness is anticipated to be consistently applied to the IUPs covered under the IIJA federal grants, subject to the availability of funds. MassDEP, in consultation with the Trust, may amend this IUP as necessary based on EPA guidance to states on the implementation of the SRF program. The DWSRF anticipates IIJA funding will continue through 2026, which is when the program is set to expire.

For additional details on funding available for the 2026 IUP, refer to *Section V. (A) Sources and Uses*.

- **2026 DWSRF Financial Offerings:** MassDEP and the Trust are offering a total of \$434 million to support drinking water projects across the state, including:
 - \$167 million to finance 16 new construction projects;
 - \$148 million to support the continued finance of 13 previously approved multi-year projects;
 - \$443,000 to fund four Asset Management Planning (AMP) Grant projects; and
 - \$118 million in set-aside allocations to support LSLR planning and construction loans, drinking water planning loans, and an emergency reserve.

MassDEP and the Trust anticipate continuing to offer loan forgiveness to eligible projects. Refer to *Section III (A)* for additional details on DWSRF subsidies.

- **DWSRF Grant Programming:** The DWSRF program is offering one grant program in 2026: the Asset Management Planning (AMP) Grants: The IUP supports four drinking water AMP project proposals by providing \$443,000 in grant support. Additional details regarding these grants can be found in *Table 2* on page 38.
- **Small Systems:** The EPA requires that 15% of total IUP assistance be directed toward small systems serving a population fewer than 10,000. The total DWSRF funds expected to be available for 2026 is \$330 million. Fifteen percent of that amount is \$49 million. The IUP list contains 5 small system projects totaling approximately \$60 million, which exceeds the 15% requirement; therefore, Massachusetts expects to meet this requirement.
- **Previously Approved Project Carry-Over Costs:** With the influx of supplemental IIJA funding,

the Trust and MassDEP have been able to support an increasing number of projects and project costs since 2022. Many of these large project costs have been necessarily phased over several years, leading to an increase in “carry-over costs,” or costs extending beyond the project’s first year.

The IUP includes approximately \$148 million in carry-over costs to support 13 continuing projects. The Trust and MassDEP will continue to support these carry-over project commitments for projects programmed in previous IUPs and new projects programmed in this IUP.

A project’s carry-over cost should be based on the project’s projected needs for the year covered by the IUP. This ensures that funds are not unnecessarily tied up, limiting the DWSRF’s capacity to support new projects and increasing the risk that funds are not spent in a timely and effective manner.

Applicants should be aware that for future IUP’s, MassDEP and the Trust will review available funding and determine if multi- year project approval for new projects is possible.

- **Additional Subsidies:** The DWSRF will continue to offer loan forgiveness, as a percentage of principal, for Disadvantaged Communities that might otherwise be unable to afford to undertake a project.

IIJA raised the minimum Safe Drinking Water Act requirement for Additional Subsidy to Disadvantaged Communities from 6% to 12%, establishing an additional subsidy range of 12% to 35% for the annual DWSRF Base Grant. Congress also requires that states use 14% of the annual DWSRF grant for additional subsidy. Subsequently, Massachusetts expects to provide additional subsidy of 26% on its Base award in 2026.

New federal grants created by IIJA contain specific Additional Subsidy requirements primarily directed to disadvantaged communities. More details may be found in *Section III. (A) Additional Subsidy and Disadvantaged Communities*. Information about the Trust’s Annual Affordability Calculation may be found on the following webpage: [The Disadvantaged Community Program](#).

DWSRF is also offering Tier 1 loan forgiveness for projects with a renewable energy component regardless of Disadvantaged Community status, unless the community is already a Tier 2 or 3.

- **Encouraging Planning Efforts:** To encourage communities and public utilities to engage in planning activities, MassDEP is accepting planning loan applications on a rolling basis, subject to the availability of funds.
- **Federal Requirements:** A number of federal requirements apply to DWSRF projects, including but not limited to:
 - Single Audit Act (2 CFR 200 Subpart F)
 - Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) reporting
 - Federal environmental crosscutters (all projects)
 - American Iron and Steel (all treatment works projects, regardless of funding source)

- Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act (group of projects)
- Davis-Bacon Wage Rates

Additionally, Safe Drinking Water Act requires that states meet specific mandates or risk losing a portion of their federal grant. Failure to implement a Capacity Development Program and/or Operator Certification Program that meets federal guidelines will result in a state losing up to 20% of their Base Grant each year. MassDEP will comply with the capacity development authority, capacity development strategy, and operator certification program provisions.

Additional details regarding federal requirements may be found in *Section VII. Program Management (B-D)* of this IUP

- **SRF Interfund Transfers:** To better address specific state priorities, Section 302 of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments allows states the flexibility to move funds between the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and the DWSRF programs. Massachusetts will transfer funds from the CWSRF to the DWSRF program in the amount of 33% of the anticipated 2026 CWSRF base grant amount, IIJA supplemental grant amount and IIJA Emerging Contaminant grant amount. Massachusetts is transferring these funds to meet the increased demand for Drinking Water projects caused by the increased prevalence of PFAS in drinking water systems that must be remediated. Furthermore, Massachusetts reserves authority of future transfers of supplemental IIJA funds. Further details may be found in *Section V. (A). Sources and Uses Table* and *Section V. (F). Transfer of Funds Between CWSRF to DWSRF*.
- **PFAS Subsidies:** During the 2026 calendar year, PFAS remediation projects will continue to be eligible to receive additional subsidy in the form of loan forgiveness, contingent on the availability of funds.

MassDEP appreciates the efforts that project proponents have invested in the development of applications and recognizes their efforts to enhance and protect the public health of the Commonwealth.

I. DWSRF BACKGROUND

The Federal Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 authorized the award of Base Capitalization Grants for states to create individual DWSRF loan programs. These programs provide state-administered subsidized loans to finance publicly and privately owned community water supply projects. Under the DWSRF program, states provide a 20% match to the federal Base Capitalization Grant to create the loan fund. Projects to be financed are selected using a priority ranking system that prioritizes protection of public health and improved compliance together with affordability.

The DWSRF is jointly administered by MassDEP and the Trust. MassDEP manages the technical aspects of project development and implementation while the Trust manages the disbursement of funds and the sale of bonds to provide capital to the program.

Application Process

In May 2025, MassDEP launched the annual SRF project solicitation for new construction projects and Asset Management Planning Grants, for the 2026 calendar year's financing cycle. The notification can be found by clicking the following link: [2026 IUP Project Solicitation Notification](#). The applications, called Project Evaluation Forms (PEF), along with supporting documentation, were due by the end of July. The information provided in the PEF allowed MassDEP to evaluate and rank projects based upon the severity of the public health or environmental problem that is being addressed and the effectiveness of the proposed solution. For more information on the ranking system, please click [here](#).

In addition to the annual project solicitation period, MassDEP accepts loan applications on a rolling basis, subject to the availability of funding, for planning projects and LSL replacement planning and construction.

MassDEP accepts applications online through the use of an electronic system called the [eSRF portal](#). For those wishing to submit a project or loan application, please contact the SRF support team by email at SRFMADEP@mass.gov for access to the portal.

The Intended Use Plan/Project Priority List

Pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996, Chapter 78 of the Acts of 1998, and 310 CMR 45.00, MassDEP has developed its Calendar Year 2026 Intended Use Plan (IUP) Project Priority List (PPL). *Table 3* on page 39 details the PPL which includes all project applications for loan financing, ranked by priority. Service area population and the public water supplier ID for all projects are also included in *Table 3*. Information on public water suppliers can be found on [MassDEP's Public Water Supplier webpage](#). New projects listed below the red line in *Table 3* have been identified as PPL projects but are not being offered financing at this time given SRF funding constraints.

A project must appear on the PPL to receive financial assistance under the DWSRF program. A project on the IUP Project List may be bypassed if MassDEP determines that the project will not be ready to proceed during the financing period. A list of projects being offered financing are included on the IUP Project List in *Table 1* on page 36. Subject to the availability of funds, project(s) bypassed may be replaced by the highest ranked priority project(s) on the PPL that are ready to proceed.

MassDEP will not add projects to the IUP or the PPL beyond those that may qualify for funding through rolling programs funded through set-aside allocations.

Loan Interest Rates

All new projects receiving financial assistance from the DWSRF will be eligible for 2% interest rate loans or, in certain instances, below 2%. The Commonwealth subsidizes these loans, funding the spread between market interest rates and the awarded loan interest rates. Certain priority projects, such as lead service line replacement, may be eligible for 0% interest rate loans. A determination by MassDEP will be made as to the eligibility for 0% interest rate loans before the loan is permanently financed and put into repayment. The standard term for construction loans is 20 years; however, loans with a demonstrated useful life can be financed up to a 30-year term. Loans with a financing term in excess of 20 years receive a slightly higher interest rate based on market rates at the time of loan closing.

The interest rate for a 30-year loan has been 2.2% for the last four financings.

Communities that have earned the [Housing Choice](#) designation at the time of the SRF project solicitation are eligible to have their loan's interest rate reduced by 0.5% (for example from 2% to 1.5% for a standard term loan). However, under no circumstance can the interest rate fall below 0%. For example, if a community qualifies for a 0% interest rate loan for a nutrient reduction project, it cannot receive an added discount through the Housing Choice designation. Housing Choice initiative communities must also certify meeting the enterprise fund requirements noted in *Section III. (A). Additional Subsidy and Disadvantaged Communities*.

2026 DWSRF Program Deadlines

To be considered for financing priority, communities must have appropriated the necessary local project funds by **June 30, 2026**.

Completed applications must be submitted to MassDEP at the earliest possible time, but not later than October 2, 2026. A complete application must contain the local debt authorization and the required supporting documentation. Any project not meeting these deadlines will be removed from the IUP Project Listing. A project on the IUP Project Listing may be bypassed if MassDEP and the Trust determine that the project will not be ready to proceed during the financing period. Subject to the availability of funding, project(s) bypassed may be replaced by the highest ranked priority project(s) on the PPL that are ready to proceed. Following receipt of a complete loan application package, MassDEP must issue a Project Approval Certificate to the Trust no later than **December 31, 2026**, certifying the total costs of the project determined to be eligible for financial assistance. The Trust then proceeds to execute loan commitments.

Projects that cannot meet deadlines may be dropped from the IUP, potentially enabling projects that are ready to proceed to move forward. Additionally, projects without signed contracts by June 30 would likely not receive loan forgiveness.

MassDEP and the Trust encourage project teams to identify challenges to meeting deadlines as early as possible. A project on the IUP Project Listing may be bypassed if MassDEP determines that the project will not be ready to proceed during the financing period. Project(s) bypassed may be replaced by the highest ranked priority project(s) on the Priority Project List (PPL) that are ready to proceed, subject to the availability of funds. The PPL can be found in *Table 3* on page 39.

DWSRF Information and Resources

All SRF related documents, including this IUP, [the priority rating system](#), loan application forms, regulations, and IUPs from the previous year, may be found on the MassDEP website at: [State Revolving Fund \(SRF\) Loan Program](#)

II. CALENDAR YEAR 2026 PROJECT FINANCING

In calendar year 2026, MassDEP expects to finance 16 new construction projects and 13 carry-over projects totaling approximately \$315 million, subject to the availability of funding. Refer to *Table 1* on page 36 for a full listing of projects recommended for financing in 2026.

The DWSRF program is also funding four Asset Management Planning (AMP) grants. The AMP assists eligible entities with completing asset management plans for drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater systems. The program funds 60% of the project cost, up to \$150,000, as a grant from the Trust, with the remaining project costs to be funded by local contributions of cash, a combination of cash and in-kind services, or an SRF loan. This IUP supports four drinking water AMP project proposals with \$443,000 in grant funding. A list of funded AMP drinking water projects can be found in *Table 2* on page 38. The list of all AMP applicants can be found in *Table 4* on page 42. The AMP program guidelines and ranking criteria can be found [here](#).

Additionally, the DWSRF program is allocating approximately \$118 million in set-aside funds as follows:

- \$103 million in set-aside allocations to support the Lead Service Line and Replacement (LSLR) Program to help public water suppliers (PWS) achieve compliance with the federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. This year the DWSRF is offering 0% interest financing with loan forgiveness through its LSLR Program.

This LSLR Program supports PWS efforts to expedite the implementation of MassDEP-approved LSL replacement programs. Projects must include inventory and replacement of public and private LSLs in compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions and all SRF program requirements. Priority for financing will be given to systems with documented lead levels, particularly those exceeding the 90th percentile, and the PWS serving Disadvantaged Communities or small systems. MassDEP will review applications monthly while funding is available.

Applications for planning and construction loans are currently being accepted on a rolling basis while funding is available. Financing is supported by IJA funding and there is a limited window to make project commitments. MassDEP and the Trust do not anticipate offering LSL Replacement grants going forward given funding constraints.

- \$10 million intended to support Planning and Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) design initiatives, planning projects such as a Project Evaluation Report, Integrated Water Resource Management Plan, or other MassDEP sanctioned planning document that serves to fulfill the **MassDEP-approved required planning element**.
- \$5 million for an emergency reserve fund. The DWSRF maintains an emergency reserve to finance unanticipated problems of acute public health concern that may arise during the year and require immediate attention.

Applications for programs funded with set-aside allocations are accepted on a rolling basis, subject to the availability of funding.

To ensure communities continue to protect the health of our residents while maintaining low costs for consumers, the Commonwealth is pleased to offer subsidized financing in the form of loan forgiveness to our water suppliers for projects in this IUP that remove PFAS from drinking water. In doing so, the Commonwealth reserves its rights to assert claims and causes of action to recover funds from third parties, including product manufacturers, otherwise responsible for the PFAS contamination impacting the Commonwealth’s drinking water, groundwater, surface waters or environment in any manner.

MassDEP may cap project costs based on the scope of the project and the availability of funds.

III. DWSRF PROGRAM COMPONENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

A. Additional Subsidy and Disadvantaged Communities

The Infrastructure Investment and Job Act (IIJA) raised the minimum Safe Drinking Water Act requirement for Additional Subsidy to Disadvantaged Communities from 6% to 12%, establishing an additional subsidy range of 12% to 35% for the annual DWSRF Base Grant. In addition, Congress requires that states use 14% of the annual Base Grant for additional subsidy. Massachusetts, therefore, expects to provide additional subsidy of 26% on the Base Grant in 2026. IIJA also added three grants to fund DW projects, each with required additional subsidy as shown in the following table.

IIJA Additional Subsidy Overview

Federal Grant	Types of Projects Eligible for Additional Subsidy	Percent of Grant for Additional Subsidy
DW SRF Base Grant	DW Construction Projects	12% - 35% SDWA 14% Congress (*)
DW SRF Supplemental Grant	DW Construction Projects	49%
DW Emerging Contaminants Grant	Emerging Contaminant Construction Projects	100%
DW Lead Service Line Replacement Grant	Lead Service Line Replacement Construction projects	49%

(*) The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) establishes an additional subsidy range of 12% to 35% for the annual DWSRF Base Grant. Congress also requires that states use 14% of the annual DWSRF Capitalization Grant for additional subsidy. These percentages are added, resulting in an expected minimum subsidy of 26%, based on prior years.

Eligible construction projects in [Disadvantaged Communities](#) will receive additional subsidy, subject to the availability of funding, in the form of loan forgiveness. In *Table 1* on page 36, projects with a (PF) next to the applicant name are projects that the SRF program anticipates will receive subsidies. Massachusetts has established affordability criteria to identify Disadvantaged Communities, which serves as the basis of the distribution of loan forgiveness. The assignment of communities to an affordability tier is based on an adjusted per capita income (APCI) calculation. Tier rankings are calculated annually by comparing a community’s APCI as a percentage of the Commonwealth’s APCI. See the following table for the tier breakdown.

Non-PFAS Projects in Disadvantaged Communities Loan Forgiveness

Tier	Percent of State APCI	Minimum Loan Forgiveness
1	80% or greater, but less than 100%	6.6%
2	60% or greater, but less than 80%	13.2%
3	Less than 60%	19.8%

Information about the Trust’s Annual Affordability Calculation may be found on the following webpage: [The Disadvantaged Community Program](#)

For PFAS projects in Disadvantaged Communities appearing on the 2026 IUP, the loan forgiveness percentages will be set as listed below. The change in the loan forgiveness percentages is due to the increased demand for PFAS projects coupled with increasing costs associated with those projects.

PFAS Projects in Disadvantaged Communities Loan Forgiveness

Tier	Percent of State APCI	Minimum Loan Forgiveness
1	80% or greater, but less than 100%	3.3%
2	60% or greater, but less than 80%	6.6%
3	Less than 60%	9.9%

IIJA funding may increase the amount of loan forgiveness to Disadvantaged Communities beyond these standard offerings.

For purposes of the IIJA, Massachusetts has expanded the Trust’s existing three-tiered affordability based Disadvantaged Community program for the DWSRF to include “*Environmentally Disadvantaged Community*” designation for eligible projects, as determined by MassDEP, under the following criteria:

- An Environmentally Disadvantaged Community is a public water supplier that has lead in the water supply and/or lead service lines in the system, or a public water supplier conducting a planning and identification project to determine if there is lead in the system.
- The designation as an Environmentally Disadvantaged Community for a particular year will confer eligibility for additional subsidy provided only with funds made available by the IIJA for eligible projects on that year’s IUP that MassDEP has identified as mitigating the environmental factors detailed above. This designation will not confer eligibility for additional subsidy on any other projects by such Environmentally Disadvantaged Community.
- An Environmentally Disadvantaged Community is not eligible to receive loan forgiveness through the Disadvantaged Community tiered designation described above in addition to the Environmental Disadvantaged Community designation.

Projects that have a renewable energy component will qualify for Tier 1 loan forgiveness for the portion of the loan that is financing the renewable energy component, regardless of Disadvantaged Community

status, unless the community is already a Tier 2 or 3.

Loan forgiveness will be awarded to construction contracts that are executed by June 30, 2027, and may be limited to the lesser of the executed contracts or the IUP cost. Planning projects or PFAS design are not eligible for loan forgiveness.

In addition to meeting the [Affordability Criteria](#), under Chapter 259 of the Acts of 2014, *An Act Improving Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure*, applicants for additional subsidy are required to:

- Establish water enterprise funds (or equivalent separate restricted accounts); and,
- Not have made any transfers from such enterprise fund in the last 5 years to fund the community's general operating budget.

B. Small Systems

Congress requires that 15% of the total amount of DWSRF funds be dedicated to Small Systems, i.e., drinking water systems serving fewer than 10,000 customers. The total DWSRF funds expected to be available for 2026 is \$330 million. Fifteen percent of that amount is \$49 million. The IUP list contains five small system projects totaling approximately \$60 million, which exceeds the 15% requirement. Therefore, Massachusetts expects to meet this requirement.

C. Set-Aside Activities

Congress allows states to apply set-asides from the DWSRF Capitalization and IIJA Supplemental DWSRF grants to provide management of the program and technical assistance to PWS. MassDEP's objectives for DWSRF set-aside activities are included as *Appendix A*. For FY 2026, these set-aside activities include funds that will be earmarked for issues involving small water supply systems, local assistance for wellhead protection, capacity implementation, and program management and administration. *Appendix A* details how MassDEP intends to utilize these set-aside funds to implement the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

III. SHORT- AND LONG-TERM GOALS

The following are the goals that Massachusetts has set for its DWSRF:

Short-Term Goals

- Solicit projects and prioritize projects that assist the Commonwealth in maximizing the utilization of IIJA grant funds.
- Efficiently allocate and distribute IIJA funds.
- Execute the DWSRF Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) IIJA funding utilization plan.
- Increase flexibility for proactive planning with a rolling application process for planning projects.

- Assist PWS with complying with the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions.
- Safeguard public health by prioritizing and incentivizing projects that remediate PFAS or lead in drinking water.
- Finance eligible projects addressing unanticipated problems of acute public health concern that arise during the year and constitute an imminent public health threat.
- Implement assistance programs for small and very small private PWS that may need additional assistance with complying with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act.
- Provide targeted outreach and engage with communities across the Commonwealth about SRF program benefits, priorities, and opportunities to improve water quality, reduce project costs, and enhance resiliency.

Long-Term Goals

- Efficiently allocate and distribute funds.
- Identify and prioritize additional subsidy for projects in the IUP that serve Disadvantaged Communities.
- Provide and promote assistance to PWS with complying with Lead and Copper Rule Revisions.
- Ensure that water treatment projects financed through the SRF fully consider cost-effective energy efficiency measures and/or renewable energy strategies.
- Assist public water suppliers to finance projects to address the impact of climate change and resiliency concerns on the safe and continuous operation of the utility. Through its [Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan](#), the Commonwealth is encouraging resiliency and climate adaptation in the design and construction of water infrastructure.
- Promote systematic Asset Management Planning for drinking water utilities to achieve long-term sustainability, implementable climate change mitigation and resiliency measures, including cybersecurity, and deliver consistent service in a cost-efficient manner.
- Ensure that small PWS can participate in the SRF program by providing additional assistance.
- Promote public engagement and program transparency by publishing informative and readily accessible program materials and reports.
- Encourage regionalization and partnerships by awarding additional points in the ranking system for multi-community or regional approach to addressing environmental or public health problems.

IV. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

A. Criteria and Method for Distribution of Funds

Massachusetts seeks to finance projects that mitigate documented threats to public health and/or impacts to the environment. Details supplied through the PEFs help MassDEP determine the extent to which projects meet the goals of the program. All project proposals are reviewed and ranked utilizing the [DWSRF PEF Construction Ranking System](#). Projects that address compliance with a federal or state drinking water standard fall into the highest scoring Tier V project category and are prioritized for financing. Tier V projects, as well as those projects fall into the lower tiers, are then further prioritized using secondary categories outlined in the ranking system guidance. Using this process, the SRF develops the Project Priority List (PPL). The 2026 PPL can be found in *Table 3* on page 39 of this IUP. With input from the Trust, MassDEP identifies all the sources of funds and spending limits and develops the IUP Project Listing as shown in *Table 1* on page 36, which lists the PPL projects that will be offered financing.

To be receive financing, projects must meet state and federal eligibility requirements, be ready to proceed during the financing period, have appropriated local funds necessary to finance the entire project, and have a MassDEP approved planning element. An approvable planning element can be a Project Evaluation Report, Integrated Water Resource Management Plan, or other MassDEP sanctioned planning document. Projects proposing to replace LSLs must ensure that lines will be replaced to the users' meters to preserve priority ranking. Furthermore, no community can receive financial assistance unless it can demonstrate that it has adequate technical, financial, and managerial capacity, as approved by MassDEP. Eligibility includes consistency with the assurances described in this document and the requirements contained within MassDEP's financial assistance regulations - [310 CMR 45.00: The Drinking Water State Revolving Fund](#).

B. Applicant Cap & Carry- Over Costs

The Massachusetts SRF regulations (310 CMR 45) place a limit on any one proponent receiving any more than 25% of the available financing each year. Due to the limited amount of available funds relative to the number of worthwhile projects, and to extend financial assistance to as many highly ranked projects as possible, MassDEP is implementing an applicant cap of \$15 million for the 2026 financing period, applied to the total of new and carry-over projects.

Additionally, a project's financing will be capped at the IUP project cost amount for that IUP year given the constraints on available resources. It is critically important for awardees to closely manage and control project costs

MassDEP and the Trust recognize that estimating project costs can be difficult during periods of economic uncertainty and at times, bids are higher than the engineer's estimates which are used in the Project Evaluation Forms that a project team submits when applying to the program. Therefore, requests for increases may be submitted for consideration after the bid has been received. See *Section I Background – Application Process* for more details. All requests will be evaluated against available funding. The Trust and MassDEP are unable to provide assurances that the difference between the engineer's estimate and the bid will be funded.

MassDEP reserves the right to waive the applicant cap limitation if MassDEP and the Trust determine that one or more projects on the IUP Project Listing are not ready to proceed. If the applicant cap is

waived, communities may see an increase in financing for projects not fully financed on the IUP listing.

With the influx of supplemental IIJA funding, the Trust and MassDEP have been able to support an increasing number of projects and project costs since 2022. Many of these large project costs have been necessarily phased over several years, leading to an increase in “carry-over costs,” or costs extending beyond the project’s first year in this and subsequent IUPs.

The IUP includes approximately \$148 million in carry-over costs to support 13 continuing IUP projects. The Trust and MassDEP will continue to support these carry-over project commitments for projects programmed in previous IUPs and new projects programmed in this IUP.

A project’s carry-over cost should be based on the project’s projected needs for the year covered by the IUP. This ensures that funds are not unnecessarily tied up, limiting the DWSRF’s capacity to support new projects and increasing the risk that funds are not spent in a timely and effective manner.

Applicants should be aware that for future IUP’s, MassDEP and the Trust will review available funding and determine if multi- year project approval for new projects is possible.

C. Project Bypass Procedure

A project on the IUP Project Listing may be bypassed if MassDEP determines that the bypassed project will not be ready to proceed during the financing period, or if certain projects in disadvantaged communities or as a small system will need to be advanced to meet federal grant requirements. Subject to the availability of funding, project(s) bypassed may be replaced by the highest ranked priority project(s) on the PPL that are ready to proceed. **Complete loan applications not received by MassDEP by October 2, 2026, will be automatically considered for bypassing.**

Compliance with SRF project deadlines is critical to the effective use of limited funding and the efficient administration of the SRF program. Projects that cannot meet deadlines may be dropped from the IUP, potentially enabling projects that are ready to proceed to move forward. Additionally, projects without signed contracts by June 30, 2027 would likely not receive loan forgiveness.

The Trust and MassDEP will not add projects to the PPL/IUP beyond those that may qualify for emergency assistance, planning, PFAS design, or LSL replacement projects. MassDEP, considering any material program change that would require amendments to this IUP, will provide public notice and an appropriate comment period before issuing an amended IUP.

D. Types of Projects to be Financed

For an eligible borrower or grant recipient’s drinking water project to receive financial assistance from the Trust, the project must meet eligibility guidelines. Such eligible projects include, but are not limited to:

- Projects to address or prevent violation of public health standards, including projects to come into or maintain compliance.

- Projects to replace aging infrastructure, if such projects are needed to maintain compliance or further public health goals and requirements, including projects to rehabilitate or develop sources to replace contaminated sources, install or upgrade treatment or storage facilities, and install or replace transmission and distribution pipes to prevent contamination or improve water pressure to safe levels.
- Projects to consolidate and/or restructure a public water system.
- The planning or design for any project in one of the categories identified above.

Costs of construction that MassDEP determines as being necessary for the completion of the project are eligible for financing in the loan and can receive a subsidy under the loan, subject to the applicant cap. Costs for planning projects are eligible for financing during the 2026 financing period. Although costs for design are eligible under SRF regulations, only PFAS design will be funded during this financing period. MassDEP may limit the SRF loan for PFAS design to 10% of the total estimated cost of the PFAS mitigation construction project.

V. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

A. Source and Uses Table

The sources of funds available to the Massachusetts DWSRF include the federal Base grant, IIJA Supplemental grant, IIJA Emerging Contaminant (PFAS) grant, and IIJA LSL grant, state matching funds, and borrower loan repayments. The Trust leverages these funds by issuing SRF bonds in the capital markets. Total project financing offered in this IUP is approximately \$434 million of DWSRF eligible projects, and grants. This total is reflected below by adding the *project loans and grants* and the *minimum loan forgiveness* “Uses” line items from the below Sources & Uses table.

2026 Drinking Water IUP Sources & Uses

Sources	\$ Amount
2026 DWSRF Base Grant	\$8,263,000
2026 IIJA DWSRF Supplemental Grant	53,457,000
2026 IIJA Emerging Contaminants Grant	16,404,000
2022 – 2025 IIJA Lead Service Line Replacement Grant*	103,391,514
2026 Transfer from CWSRF	25,780,920
State Matching Funds	12,344,000
Leveraged Bond Funds	200,000,000
Other Program Funds	38,616,996
Total Sources	\$458,257,430
Uses	\$ Amount
Project Loans and Grants**	\$332,924,308
Minimum Loan Forgiveness	100,821,472

Administrative Costs	22,042,850
Set Aside Funding	2,468,800
Total Uses	\$458,257,430
<p><i>* See the below 2026 Lead Service Line Replacement Grant Sources & Uses table for a detailed breakout of LSLR programming.</i></p> <p><i>**Includes 2026 costs associated with DW projects being offered financing and does not represent the full program demand. There is approximately \$425 million in DW project costs associated with the unfunded projects listed on the Project Priority List (PPL) listed in Table 3 on page 39.</i></p>	

2026 Lead Service Line Replacement Grant Sources & Uses

Sources	Grants for Loans	Reallotment Amount	Total
2022 Lead Service Line Replacement Grant	\$54,441,420	\$8,743,000	\$63,184,420
2023 Lead Service Line Replacement Grant	23,253,000	8,176,000	31,429,000
2024 Lead Service Line Replacement Grant	34,565,550	13,202,000	47,767,550
2025 Lead Service Line Replacement Grant	34,037,000		34,037,000
Total Sources	\$146,296,970	\$30,121,000	\$176,417,970
Uses			
	\$ Amount		
Loan Commitments	\$69,326,456		
2025 Set Aside	3,700,000		
New Projects /Set Asides	103,391,514		
Total Uses	\$176,417,970		

B. Source of State Match

Based on the anticipated 2026 DWSRF Base and IIJA grants, the state matching funds in the amount listed above are provided to the Trust from the Commonwealth's Capital Plan prior to the receipt of the 2026 EPA grant awards.

C. Fee Income

Recipients of SRF loans are charged an annual administrative fee of 0.15% (15 basis points) against the outstanding loan principal to fund salaries and expenses of the Trust and MassDEP related to SRF project development and loan management. As of September 30, 2025, the Trust has a balance of approximately \$50.6 million in its Administrative Account. Additionally, the Trust may charge an amount not to exceed \$5.50 per \$1,000 as a loan origination fee to offset the costs incurred during its bond issuances. The Trust did not charge a loan origination fee for the last series financing. All fee income is DWSRF program income.

D. Program Administration

The Commonwealth intends to use the full 4% of the federal Base and IIJA Supplemental Grant funds for administrative support of activities related to the DWSRF. Use of those funds is detailed in the DWSRF Grant Application that the Trust files each year with the EPA and in the attached Set-Aside plan in *Appendix A*.

E. Anticipated Cash Draw Ratio

Massachusetts will draw 100% of the state match funds before drawing federal grant funds.

F. Transfer of Funds Between CWSRF and DWSRF

Section 302 of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments allows states the flexibility to move funds between the CWSRF and DWSRF programs, to better address specific state priorities. The EPA allows an equivalent of up to 33% of the DWSRF grants to be transferred between the CWSRF and DWSRF programs.

The level of federal grant funding of the DWSRF is insufficient to meet desired project financing. Transferring a limited amount of funds from the CWSRF to the DWSRF this year and in the future will help increase the overall capacity of the DWSRF and reduce the number of unfinanced projects with minimal impacts to the CWSRF IUP. Massachusetts will transfer funds from the CWSRF to the DWSRF program in the amount of 33% of the anticipated 2026 DWSRF base grant amount, IIJA supplemental grant amount and IIJA Emerging Contaminant grant.

G. Additional Subsidy Amounts

In 2026, Massachusetts intends to award a minimum of 26% of the Base Grant in additional subsidy to eligible projects. In addition, Massachusetts will provide the required additional subsidies for each of the anticipated 2026 IIJA grants as detailed in the following table.

Additional Subsidy Overview

Grant	Types of Projects Eligible for Additional Subsidy	Percent of Grant for Additional Subsidy	Eligible Recipients for Additional Subsidy	\$ Amount
DWSRF Base Grant	DW Construction Projects	26% ¹	Disadvantaged Communities	\$2,148,380
DWSRF IIJA Supplemental	DW Construction Projects	49%	Disadvantaged Communities	\$26,193,930
DWSRF IIJA Emerging Contaminant	DW PFAs and other Emerging Contaminant Construction Projects	100%	25% must be Disadvantaged Communities	\$21,817,320
DWSRF IIJA LSL Replacement	LSL Replacement Construction projects	49%	Environmentally Disadvantaged Communities ²	\$102,981,000

¹ Expected subsidy based on prior years. Note the Federal Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriation for the Base Grant is not yet confirmed.

VI. Program Management

A. Assurances and Special Conditions

MassDEP and the Trust have provided the required assurances and certifications as part of the Operating Agreement (OA) between Massachusetts and the EPA. The OA describes the mutual obligations among EPA, MassDEP, and the Trust. The purpose of the OA is to provide a framework of procedures to be followed in the management and administration of the DWSRF.

Title XIV of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 and subsequent regulations and guidance require that the Commonwealth certify compliance with or acceptance of a number of conditions. These include compliance with the applicable provisions of s. 1452, State Revolving Loan Fund, as follows:

- Environmental Reviews: DWSRF borrowers are required to meet the standards of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) or [the State Environmental Review Process](#). Some projects, owing to their relatively minor environmental impacts, if any, do not trip the threshold of the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) and are therefore not subject to the rigorous environmental review process set forth in MEPA. The Commonwealth reasons that these projects are categorically exempt from the NEPA review process as well. A planning level review of each of the eligible projects concludes that since these projects almost uniformly are the upgrade or rehabilitation of existing infrastructure, most will not usually require MEPA review. A final determination of project relevancy under MEPA cannot be made until the preliminary design phase of work is complete on each project.
- Binding Commitments: The DWSRF will enter binding commitments for 120 percent of each quarterly grant payment within one year of receipt of the payment.
- Expeditious and Timely Expenditures: The DWSRF will expend all funds in the DWSRF in a timely manner.
- Set-Aside Programs. The Commonwealth will conduct set-aside activities consistent with the plan provided as *Appendix A* to this document.

B. Federal Requirements

A number of federal requirements apply to DWSRF projects in an amount equal to the Base Grant and IJA Grants including:

- Single Audit Act (2 CFR 200 Subpart F)
- Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) reporting
- Federal environmental crosscutters (all projects)
- Project signage to enhance the public awareness of EPA Assistance ([“Guidelines for Enhancing Public Awareness of SRF Assistance Agreements,”](#) June 3, 2015).
- Ineligible Costs: any costs that are prohibited including but not limited to: 2 CFR 200.216,

- Prohibition on Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment.
- American Iron and Steel (AIS) (all construction projects)
- Build America, Buy America (BABA) Act (group of projects)

MassDEP and the Trust will identify the group of projects (projects receiving federal grants and reported in FFATA), that must comply with these requirements in the EPA grant applications. Frequently, the group of projects changes as projects move towards construction, usually due to attrition. If changes are made to the group of projects, appropriate amendments to the grant application will be made.

In addition, the Safe Drinking Water Act requires that states meet specific mandates or risk losing a portion of their federal grant. Failure to implement a Capacity Development Program and/or Operator Certification Program that are at least as stringent as the federal guidelines will result in a state losing up to 20% of their Base Grant each year. MassDEP will comply with the capacity development authority, capacity development strategy, and operator certification program provisions.

C. Davis-Bacon Wage Rates

The EPA's appropriation bill requires the application of Davis-Bacon prevailing wage rates to all drinking water projects funded in whole or in part by the DWSRF. MassDEP ensures that the required Davis-Bacon language is included in contracts and conducts field verifications of project compliance with the wage rate requirements.

D. American Iron and Steel (AIS) and the Build America, Buy America Act (BABA)

On November 15, 2021, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) made the AIS procurement requirements permanent for all DWSRF construction projects going forward. Furthermore, with the inclusion of the BABA, the IIJA extends the domestic sourcing requirements to DWSRF construction projects funded with federal capitalization grants going forward. Additionally, per the EPA, projects being co-funded by an SRF loan and a Congressionally Directed Spending grant are required to comply with the BABA Act. Additional details are available at the EPA [Build America, Buy America \(BABA\)](#) webpage.

E. Audits and Annual Reports

MassDEP and the Trust will comply with all the auditing and reporting requirements of the EPA. A single audit is conducted annually and reporting to the EPA is done through the Office of Water State Revolving Fund (OWSRF) data system (with data updated quarterly), the Annual Report, and FFATA reporting; for details visit the Trust's [Investor Resources page](#).

F. The MBTA Communities Act

The receipt of state funding is contingent upon the awardee being able to certify that it will comply with the Massachusetts General Laws, including G.L. c. 40A, § 3A, the MBTA Communities Act. Compliance with the MBTA Communities Act is determined by the Executive Office of Housing and Livable

Communities.

VII. Public Review and Comment

Notice of the availability of the Draft Calendar Year 2026 IUP/PPL and the related public hearing was made on February 20, 2026. [The 2026 Draft SRF Intended Use Plans and Public Hearing Notice](#) were published in the Boston Globe, on the Commonwealth's website, Mass.gov, and on social media. Additionally, the notice was sent out via email to municipalities, water utilities, and the environmental consultants who have assisted SRF project proponents.

MassDEP accepted written testimony and held a virtual public hearing to receive oral testimony on March 24, 2026. A summary of written comments and a transcript of the oral comments is included the IUP starting on page 42.

Any material program changes would require an amendment to this IUP. MassDEP would be required to provide public notice and an appropriate comment period before issuing an amended IUP.

APPENDIX A

2026 Drinking Water IUP

Drinking Water Set-Asides for the Base, Supplemental, and Lead Service Line Grants

I. Information on Set-Asides - Base Grant

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts plans to set aside an estimated \$1,735,230 of the Base Capitalization Grant for various non-construction related activities that are authorized in the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996. These activities are often vital to water systems so that they can develop and maintain the financial, technical, and managerial capacity to run their system effectively. A portion of the set-aside money will be used to develop and implement programs within state government necessary to implement the DWSRF and the SDWA Amendments of 1996.

The SDWA provides guidance for a variety of uses of the set-aside money. The set-aside money will be placed in separate accounts outside the Project Fund. The SDWA allows for transfers between the set-aside accounts and are the current best estimates of the funds required to complete the programs and projects described in the IUP. Transfers of funds between accounts and projects in accordance with EPA requirements will be made as necessary to accomplish the programs and projects described and efficiently and effectively use the available funds. The SDWA limits the percentage of the capitalization grant that can be used in each of these set-asides and whether the set-aside funds can be “banked” or reserved for future use. In cases where it is allowed, MassDEP reserves its authority to bank the balance of funds so they may be used in the future.

A. 4% DWSRF Administration

MassDEP anticipates applying for an estimated \$330,520 from the DWSRF Base Grant for DWSRF Program Administration. These funds will be combined with any remaining prior year funds to provide comprehensive DWSRF program assistance. Duties will include (but not be limited to):

- Manage DWSRF coordination of projects and liaison with the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust.
- Oversee administration and management of the DWSRF Priority List/Intended Use Plan process and fiscal administration aspects of the set-asides, such as grant application and fiscal reporting, and coordinate with the Drinking Water Program regarding set-asides.
- Support, conduct, and analyze SRF project applications and project reviews

4% Set-Aside Deliverables

Coordination of all DWP Source Protection and Technical Services Activities, Set-Asides, IUP, and Work Plan Sections that Reflect Drinking Water Program Needs and Priorities, Oversight of DWSRF Loans and Grants

4% Set-Aside Measures of Success

Drinking Water Source Protection and Technical Services Section activities that support Drinking Water Program goals and priorities and are coordinated with the DWSRF Set-Aside activities to achieve stated deliverables and measures of success that are consistent with Drinking Water Program objectives. Award of loans and grants in a timely manner.

B. 2% For Small Systems Set-Aside

MassDEP anticipates applying for an estimated \$165,260 from the DWSRF Base Grant for small systems technical assistance. These funds will be dedicated to staffing the support of the SDWA compliance and in providing technical assistance in support of Small System Capacity Development. FTEs will continue to be provided in the region to follow up with individual small systems on specific compliance issues and other system operation issues.

2% Set-Aside Deliverables

- On-site training and support to Public Water Suppliers.
- Perform TNC compliance assistance sanitary surveys and provide Groundwater Under the Influence evaluations.
- Technical assistance given to targeted systems that have specific SDWA treatment compliance issues.
- Technical assistance to public water systems on the Ground Water Rule.
- Reviews of technical reports related to water supply technology and analysis.
- Technical reviews of state initiatives such as disinfection byproduct treatment or groundwater disinfection.
- Supervision of technical staff and training programs for suppliers.
- Technical reviews of major water quality projects and public health data.
- Information for the public and for water suppliers on major water quality problems.
- Trainings on SDWA Topics.
- Training sessions (with credits) for Certified Operators.

2% Set-Aside Measures of Success

- Compliance issues are successfully addressed in the targeted systems.
- Completion of planned capacity sanitary survey visits.
- Effective technical assistance given as scheduled.
- Each training will be followed by an evaluation form to be filled out by participants to assess the efficacy of the training. Evaluation of the results will be considered as part of the contract assistance, and provided to the MassDEP staff responsible for implementing training initiatives and reporting on Capacity Development, for their assessment and future planning. Evaluation of all training and assistance will consider the success of recruiting recalcitrant and high-priority systems.
- Reports reviewed as scheduled.

C. 10% For State Program Management

MassDEP anticipates utilizing the 10% set-aside to fund project loans.

D. 15% For Source Water Protection and Capacity Development

MassDEP anticipates applying for an estimated \$1,239,450 from the DWSRF Base Grant for Source Water Protection and Capacity Development. The authorized activities under this set-aside can include land acquisition and conservation easement program, source water protection, wellhead protection, and technical and financial capacity implementation.

Wellhead Protection and Capacity Implementation

- Assist with source protection program activities related to groundwater sources, as well as operation of the UIC program (a.k.a. “Underground Source Water Protection Program”). Ensure consistency of this work among regions; coordinate with GIS and web-based programs; coordinate with other MassDEP programs; investigate available data for usefulness to groundwater protection; and develop relevant policies and procedures.
- Develop and maintain spatial data related to public water sources and potential contamination threats. Work with regional staff and resources to locate regulated facilities including locating information in files and making site visits to collect location information. Assist with GIS management.
- Assist in Zone II delineation (and re-delineation as needed) and other wellhead protection-related work.
- Provide technical assistance on source protection to public water suppliers and local officials, and assist with the source water assessment program and with protection of groundwater sources from contamination by septic systems. This includes providing system-specific protection recommendations.
- In accordance with the Capacity Strategy, provide technical assistance in implementing capacity development, including the ability to provide adequate quantities of source water.
- Provide assistance, primarily with protection of groundwater sources.

15% Set-Aside Deliverables

- UIC program operating under State Primacy
- Spatial data, maps.
- Zone II Reviews
- On-Site training and support to water suppliers
- UIC tracking and reports
- Outreach materials, technical assistance meetings, training for regions, and bylaw reviews
- Implementation of water conservation capacity improvement grant program.
- Implementation of Capacity Development program.
- Implementation of the Source Water Protection program.
- Implementation of the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) and the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI)

15% Set-Aside Measures of Success

- Improved source protection for ground water sources at state and local levels

- GIS databases are properly reviewed and maintained
- Reviews are conducted in a timely manner
- Contract oversight is effective
- Technical Assistance is appropriate and timely and leads to improved source and aquifer protection in the systems visited
- Methods to assure capacity to deliver adequate quantities of drinking water are developed
- Program goals meet MassDEP objectives
- Improved protection at the local level

E. 2026 IUP – Drinking Water Base Grant Set-Asides Budget

Drinking Water Base Grant Set-Asides Budget Estimated Grant Amount: \$8,263,000

	4% Admin.	2% Small System	10% State Program	15% Local Asst.	Total Set Asides
Salary	\$317,300	\$158,650	\$0	\$1,189,872	\$1,665,822
Travel	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	7,500
Supplies	720	1,610	0	2,078	4,408
Equipment		2,500			2,500
Contractual	10,000			45,000	55,000
Total	\$330,520	\$165,260	\$0	\$1,239,450	\$1,735,230

II. Information on Set-Asides - Supplemental Grant

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts plans to set aside an estimated \$16,571,670 of the Supplemental DWSRF Grant for various non-construction related activities that are authorized in the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996.

A. 4% DWSRF Administration

MassDEP anticipates applying for an estimated \$2,138,280 from the DWSRF Supplement Grant for DWSRF Program Administration. These funds will be combined with any remaining prior year funds to provide comprehensive DWSRF program assistance. Duties may include (but not limited to):

- Manage DWSRF coordination of projects and liaison with the Massachusetts Clean Water Trust
- Oversee administration and management of the DWSRF Priority List/Intended Use Plan process and fiscal administrative aspects of the set-asides, such as grant application and fiscal reporting, and coordinate with the Drinking Water Program regarding the set-asides.
- Support, conduct, and analyze DWSRF project applications and project reviews

4% Set-Aside Deliverables

- Coordination of all DWP Source Protection and Technical Services Activities
- Set-Aside IUP and Work Plan Sections that Reflect Drinking Water Program Needs and Priorities Oversight of DWSRF Loans and Grants

4% Set-Aside Measures of Success

- Drinking Water Source Protection and Technical Services Section activities that support
- Drinking Water Program goals and priorities and are coordinated with the DWSRF
- Set-Aside activities achieve stated deliverables and measures of success that are consistent with Drinking Water Program objectives.
- Award of loans and grants in a timely manner

B. 2% For Small Systems Set-Aside

MassDEP anticipates applying for an estimated \$1,069,140 from the DWSRF Supplemental Grant for small systems technical assistance. These funds will be combined with any remaining prior year funds to provide comprehensive technical assistance to small public water systems.

Duties may include (but not limited to):

- Staffing To Support Safe Drinking Water Act Compliance: In providing technical assistance in support of Small System Capacity Development. FTEs will continue to be provided in the region to follow up with individual small systems on specific compliance issues and other system operation issues.
- Contracted Services - Technical Assistance and Training: MassDEP will fund a contractor(s) to provide a variety of direct technical, financial, and managerial assistance to small drinking water system. Priority given to disadvantaged communities. Activities will focus on the Safe Drinking Water Act requirements and Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations and creating an environment of transparency with the Drinking Water Program Data. The proposed activities may include (but not be limited to): asset management planning, engineering assistance and evaluations, lead service line replacement planning, loan application assistance, emergency response, cybersecurity, leak detection, and well identification. Trainings may include Very Small System Operator Training, Cybersecurity, Annual Statistical Reporting, Lead and Copper Regulations Compliance, Emerging Contaminants, Cross Connection Control, Opening and Closing a Seasonal System, Regulatory Updates, pump and motor maintenance, rate setting, disinfection, sampling, and exam review. Trainings must meet the requirements established by Division of Licensure (DOL) and can include classroom, self-guided and online training.
- Contracted Services - Assistance for Small Community Water Systems and Non- Transient, Non-Community Systems – Cybersecurity Planning Program: MassDEP will use these set-aside funds to contract a qualified technical assistance provider to complete the following eligible cybersecurity projects working with the PWS:

- *Sanitary survey support and technical training:* Assist in the cybersecurity component of sanitary surveys at public water systems (for example, review of emergency response plans, cybersecurity assessment reports, and development of Cybersecurity Corrective Action Plan) and conduct technical trainings, as needed.
- *Cybersecurity assessment implementation:* Assist public water systems implement recommendations from an approved cybersecurity assessment.

MassDEP's technical assistance program will support the goal of supporting the cybersecurity of public water systems. This program will be managed and operated by MassDEP's Drinking Water Program. All activities are subject to change and are dependent upon the availability of funding.

2% Set-Aside Deliverables

- On-site training and support to Public Water Suppliers
- Perform TNC compliance assistance sanitary surveys and provide Groundwater Under the Influence evaluations
- Technical assistance given to targeted systems that have specific SDWA treatment compliance issues
- Technical assistance to public water systems on cybersecurity
- Training and technical assistance to public water systems on Lead and Copper Rule Improvement, service line inventory assistance, and lead service line replacement planning
- Reviews of technical reports related to water supply technology and analysis
- Technical reviews of state initiatives such as disinfection byproduct treatment or groundwater disinfection
- Supervision of technical staff and training programs for suppliers
- Technical reviews of major water quality projects and public health data
- Information for the public and for water suppliers on major water quality problems
- Trainings on SDWA Topics
- Establishment of an internship program
- Training sessions (with credits) for Certified Operators on topics including, but not limited to, Lead and Copper regulations, PFAS, emergency response, and cybersecurity

2% Set-Aside Measures of Success

- Compliance issues are successfully addressed in the targeted systems
- Completion of planned capacity sanitary survey visit.
- Effective technical assistance given as scheduled
- Each group seminar will be followed by an evaluation form to be filled out by participants to assess the efficacy of the seminar. Evaluation of the results will be considered as part of the contract assistance, and provided to the MassDEP staff responsible for implementing training initiatives and reporting on Capacity Development, for their assessment and future planning.

Evaluation of all training and assistance will consider the success of recruiting recalcitrant and high-priority systems.

- Reports reviewed as scheduled

C. 10% For State Program Management

MassDEP anticipates applying for an estimated \$5,345,700 from the DWSRF Supplemental Grant for small systems technical assistance. These funds will be combined with any remaining prior year funds to provide comprehensive technical assistance to public water systems. Duties may include (but not limited to:

- Contracted Services – Information Technology Services: Information Technology (IT) Contract Services will provide a variety of direct technical, financial, and managerial assistance to small drinking water systems. Priority is given to disadvantaged communities. Activities will focus on Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requirements and Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations and creating an environment for transparency with the DWP data. Specific duties include providing IT support for MassDEP's eDEP reporting system which captures electronic reporting of water quality reports and the Annual Statistical Report (inventory, staffing, source protection, water quantity), analysis and planning for the data system transition from WQTS to the EPA cloud based DE-SFTIES system, and the DWP Source Protection I-Protect System.
- Contracted Services – Small System Engineering and Design Support: Small System Engineering and Design Support to small public water systems impacted by emerging contaminants who are having challenges securing engineering services. While upfront costs to cover preliminary planning and design are an issue, there is also a lack of engineering firms available to assist. Through this new program, securing services through an RFP/RFQ process and identifying vendors available to provide much needed services to these small disadvantaged systems will enable the systems to move forward and be more competitive for the SRF program and grants, such as the Emerging Contaminant- Small and Disadvantaged Community grant.
- Contracted Services – SDWA Technical Assistance: Contract service through a UMass ISA to provide Safe Drinking Water Act Technical Assistance to public water systems for SDWA programs, including PFAS remediation, and PWS Capacity Development Support. Assistance will include developing technical guidance, procedures, and programs; performing review of system data; and mapping and identifying possible service connections, as well as outreach procedures and programs to ensure compliance with MassDEP technical, financial and managerial drinking water standards, policies and/or guidelines (e.g., permit application support, grant application support).

10% Set-Aside Deliverables

- Capacity building for small and disadvantaged PWS
- IT support for eDEP
- Planning for data system transition from WQTS to EPA's DESFTIES

- Engineering & design plans for small PWS
- PWS remediation planning
- Development of technical guidance
- Identifying and mapping service line connections
- Development of outreach
- Review of system data

10% Set-Aside Measures of Success

- Increase in readiness to proceed with projects for small and disadvantaged PWS
- Increase in EC-SDC funding for small and disadvantaged PWS
- Increase in SRF funding for small and disadvantaged PWS
- Smooth transition and utilization of EPA's DE-SFTIES data system
- Increase in number of lead service line connection identification
- Awareness of MassDEP programs and utilization by small and disadvantaged PWS

D. 15% -Source Water Protection and Capacity Development

MassDEP anticipates applying for an estimated \$8,018,550 from the DWSRF Supplemental Grant for Source Water Protection and Capacity Development. The authorized activities under this set-aside can include land acquisition and conservation easement program, source water protection, wellhead protection and technical and financial capacity implementation. Furthermore, MassDEP reserves its authority to bank the balance of funds so they may be used in the future.

- Wellhead Protection and Capacity Implementation: MassDEP will implement a variety of wellhead protection and capacity implementation efforts including:
 - Assist with source protection program activities related to groundwater sources, as well as operation of the UIC program (a.k.a. "Underground Source Water Protection Program"). Ensure consistency of this work among regions; coordinate with GIS and Internet programs; coordinate with other MassDEP programs; investigate available data for usefulness to groundwater protection; and develop relevant policies and procedures.
 - Develop and maintain spatial data related to public water sources and potential contamination threats. Work with regional staff and resources to locate regulated facilities including locating information in files and making site visits to collect location information. Assist with GIS management.
 - Assist in Zone II delineation (and re-delineation as needed) and other wellhead protection-related work.
 - Provide technical assistance on source protection to public water suppliers and local officials, and assist with the source water assessment program and with protection of groundwater sources from contamination by septic systems. This

includes providing system-specific protection recommendations.

- In accordance with the Capacity Strategy, provide technical assistance in implementing capacity development, including the ability to provide adequate quantities of source water. Provide Capacity Outreach.
- Provide assistance, primarily with protection of groundwater sources.
- **Contracted Services – Statewide Well Location Parcel Matching:** MassDEP will fund one or more contractors to conclude work associated with well completion report parcel matching and spatial data improvements to well locations in Massachusetts. Activities will focus on the Safe Drinking Water Act requirements and Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations in protecting the groundwater quality in the Commonwealth by acquiring as many accurate locations as possible for the remaining 30,000+ wells currently housed in the Well Driller database. All activities are subject to change and are dependent upon the availability of funding.
- **Contracted Services – Hydrogeological Services:** MassDEP will fund a contractor(s) to continue work associated with assisting the Drinking Water Program with SDWA source approval/hydrogeologic reviews. Activities will focus on the Safe Drinking Water Act requirements and Massachusetts Drinking Water Regulations in protecting the groundwater quality and quantity in the Commonwealth by reviewing the hydrogeologic components of New Source Approvals, Zone II delineations, Groundwater Discharge Permits near Public Water Supplies, and potential contamination threats to Public Water Supplies. These services will supplement the increasing workload of the MassDEP regional offices by offering additional hydrogeologic expertise. All activities are subject to change and are dependent upon the availability of funding.

15% Set-Aside Deliverables

- UIC program operating under State Primacy
- Spatial data, maps.
- Location verification of 165,000 wells
- Mapping of private well locations
- Public awareness of private well locations through a Well Location Viewer
- Zone II Reviews
- On-Site training and support for water suppliers
- UIC tracking and reports
- Outreach materials, technical assistance meetings, training for regions, and bylaw reviews
- Implementation of water conservation capacity improvement grant program
- Implementation of Capacity Development program
- Implementation of the Source Water Protection program
- Plan for implementation of the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR)

15% Set-Aside Measures of Success

- Improved source protection for ground water sources at state and local levels
- GIS databases are properly reviewed and maintained
- Number of webpage visits to mapped locations of private wells
- Reviews are conducted in a timely manner
- Contract oversight is effective
- Technical Assistance is appropriate and timely and leads to improved source and aquifer protection in the systems visited
- Methods to assure capacity to deliver adequate quantities of drinking water are developed
- Program goals meet MassDEP objectives
- Improved protection at the local level

E. 2026 IUP – Drinking Water Supplemental Grant Set-Asides Budget

Drinking Water Supplemental Grant Set-Asides Budget

Estimated Grant Amount: \$53,457,000

	4% Admin.	2% Small System	10% State Program	15% Local Asst.	Total Set Asides
Salary	\$1,775,823	\$544,434	\$3,177,667	\$5,196,996	\$10,693,920
Travel	\$7,500	\$4,000	\$7,500	\$5,000	\$24,000
Supplies	\$4,957	\$706	\$1,543	\$1,554	\$8,760
Contracts	\$350,000	\$520,000	\$2,158,990	\$2,816,000	\$5,844,990
Total	\$2,138,280	\$1,069,140	\$5,345,700	\$8,018,550	\$16,571,670

III. Information on Set-Asides - Lead Service Line Replacement (LSL) Grant

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts plans to set aside an estimated \$15,529,450 and \$3,700,000 respectively of the FFY2024 and FFY2025 Lead Service Line Grants for program support, and contract activities. These activities will support the public water suppliers' efforts to inventory and replace the lead service lines currently serving the residents of the Commonwealth.

MassDEP is contracting with one or more parties to provide technical assistance for small public water suppliers to support the implementation of lead service line replacement plans and capacity development as it relates to the LCRR and LCRI. Based on service line inventories submitted to MassDEP, there are 45 small public water suppliers with over 11,000 service lines made of lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or unknown. These public water suppliers consist of small water districts, mobile home parks, schools, and businesses. This program will assist these suppliers with identifying the service line materials and will be managed and operated by MassDEP's Drinking Water Program.

A. LSL Grant Budget – Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2024 Set-Asides

LSL Grant Set-Asides Budget
Estimated FFY2024 Grant Amount: \$50,095,000

	4% Admin.	2% Small Systems	10% State Program	15% Local Asst.	Total Set-Asides
Grant Program	\$2,003,800	\$1,001,900	\$5,009,500	\$5,009,500	\$13,024,700
Program Support				2,004,750	2,004,750
Contracts				500,000	500,000
Total	\$2,003,800	\$1,001,900	\$5,009,500	\$7,514,250	\$15,529,450

B. LSL Grant Budget – FFY25 2025 Grant Set-Asides

LSL Grant Set-Asides Budget
Estimated FFY2025 Grant Amount: \$34,037,000

	4% Admin.	2% Small Systems	10% State Program	15% Local Asst.	Total Set-Asides
Program Support				\$3,200,000	\$3,200,000
Contracts				500,000	500,000
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,700,000	\$3,700,000

TABLE 1
DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND
Calendar Year 2026 DWSRF Final Intended Use Plan

NEW PROJECTS

Rating	Applicant	SRF ID	Project	Project Cost	2026 IUP Cost
532	AUBURN WATER DISTRICT (PF)(EC)(SG)	19236	Church St Wells PFAS Removal Treatment Facility	\$15,360,000	\$15,000,000
531	MILFORD (PF)(EC)	19237	Milford Godfrey Brook WTP PFAS Treatment Upgrade	\$3,992,324	\$3,992,324
530	SEEKONK WATER DISTRICT (PF)(EC)(BG)	19213	WTF PFAS Treatment Upgrades	\$32,973,000	\$15,000,000
530	IPSWICH (EC)	19229	Ipswich Water Treatment Plant	\$49,600,000	\$5,000,000
529	SUDBURY WATER DISTRICT (EC)	19216	Sudbury Wells 4&6 PFAS Removal	\$8,412,000	\$8,412,000
529	NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH (PF)(EC)(BG)	19234	Hillman PFAS Water Treatment Facility	\$16,752,000	\$15,000,000
528 *	MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA (EC)	19241	Lincoln Street Well PFAS Treatment	\$13,440,000	\$13,440,000
528	MIDDLEBOROUGH (PF)(EC)	19218	Mizaras PFAS Treatment	\$7,250,000	\$3,404,775
528	MIDDLEBOROUGH (PF)(EC)	19217	South Middleborough WTP	\$39,050,000	\$3,404,775
527	CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT (H)(PF)(EC)(SG)	19278	PFAS Removal Treatment Facilities	\$26,338,000	\$15,000,000
526	HANOVER (EC)(SG)	19310	Hanover WTPs PFAS Treatment	\$18,833,000	\$15,000,000
524 *	GROVELAND (PF)(EC)(SG)	19272	Wells 1, 3 & 4 Water Treatment Plant	\$44,553,900	\$15,000,000
522 *	LUNENBURG WATER DISTRICT (PF)(EC)(SG)	19235	Lancaster Avenue Water Filtration Plant	\$41,000,000	\$15,000,000
521	NORWELL (EC)	19276	Washington Street WTP	\$19,720,000	\$7,500,000
516 *	MIDDLETON (EC)	19239	Water Main Extension to Serve PFAS Impacted Homes	\$6,675,000	\$6,675,000
515 *	DUDLEY (PF)(EC)	19225	Eagle Drive Neighborhood Water Main Extension	\$10,250,000	\$10,250,000
TOTAL OF NEW PROJECTS				\$354,199,224	\$167,078,874

(Count: 16)

(Average Rating: 526.)

* - Small System

(BG) - Base Capitalization Grant

(D) - Dropped by Applicant

(EC) - BIL DWSRF Emerging Contaminants Grant

(H) - Housing Choice Communities

(PF) - Disadvantaged Community, eligible for Principal Forgiveness. All eligible projects are anticipated to receive subsidy.

(RE) - Potential Renewable Energy Projects

(SG) - BIL DWSRF Supplemental Grant

- Projects contains Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy and/or meets EPA's definition of a Green Project

(<https://www.epa.gov/greeningepa/energy-and-emissions-epa>)

**TABLE 1
DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND
Calendar Year 2026 DWSRF Final Intended Use Plan**

MassDEP PRIORITY PROJECTS

Applicant	SRF ID	Project	Project Cost	2026 IUP Cost
EMERGENCY SRF SET-ASIDE	2978		\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000
LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT SRF SET-ASIDE	16595		\$103,391,514	\$103,391,514
PLANNING SRF SET-ASIDE	13574		\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
TOTAL OF MassDEP PRIORITY PROJECTS			\$118,391,514	\$118,391,514

(Count: 3)

MULTI-YEAR CARRYOVER AND STATUTORY PROJECTS

Applicant	SRF ID	Project	Project Cost	2026 IUP Cost
ATTLEBORO (PF)(EC)	16764	Wading River Water Treatment Plant	\$34,641,850	\$4,641,850
BARNSTABLE (H)(PF)(EC)	16849	Straightway & Hyannisport PFAS Treatment Facility	\$45,114,487	\$15,000,000
BELLINGHAM (H)(PF)(EC)	16813	PFAS Treatment at Hartford Avenue WTP	\$31,202,189	\$1,202,189
BRAINTREE #(RE)(PF)(EC)	7258	Tri-Town Regional Water Treatment Plant	\$55,212,683	\$7,712,683
CHELMSFORD WATER DISTRICT (H)(EC)	16698	Chelmsford WD PFAS Treatment	\$43,000,000	\$13,000,000
DRACUT WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT (EC)(PF)	19115	PFAS Water Treatment Plant Expansion	\$19,400,000	\$4,400,000
FOXBOROUGH	19121	Oak Street PFAS Water Treatment Upgrades	\$16,500,000	\$6,500,000
HOLBROOK #(RE)(PF)(EC)	7259	Tri-Town Regional Water Treatment Plant	\$19,904,296	\$4,704,296
IPSWICH	19012	Ipswich Water Treatment Plant	\$33,803,000	\$10,000,000
MIDDLEBOROUGH (PF)(EC)	16735	East Grove Street Water Treatment Plant	\$30,690,450	\$8,190,450
RANDOLPH #(RE)(PF)(EC)	7260	Tri-Town Regional Water Treatment Plant	\$39,780,862	\$7,480,862
SCITUATE (H)	7348	Surface Water Treatment Plant	\$67,213,348	\$15,000,000
SPRINGFIELD WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION (PF)(RE)(W)	12550	Replacement of Water Treatment Plant – Phase 2B	\$213,131,170	\$50,000,000
TOTAL OF MULTI-YEAR CARRYOVER AND STATUTORY PROJECTS			\$649,594,335	\$147,832,330

(Count: 13)

TOTAL OF FINAL INTENDED USE PLAN	\$1,122,185,073	\$433,302,718
---	------------------------	----------------------

TABLE 2
DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND
Calendar Year 2026 DWSRF ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROJECTS

ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROJECTS

Rating	Applicant	SRF ID	Project	Project Cost	Grant Amount
100*	HILLCREST WATER DISTRICT	19306	Water System Asset Management Plan	\$174,336	\$104,602
92	LOWELL	19334	LRWU WATER DISTRIBUTION ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN	\$250,000	\$150,000
75	CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT	19288	COMM Water Department Asset Management Program	\$152,300	\$91,380
74	BELLINGHAM	19257	Bellingham Water Asset Management Program	\$161,800	\$97,080
TOTAL OF ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROJECTS				\$738,436	\$443,062

(Count: 4)

TOTAL OF PROJECT PRIORITY LIST **\$738,436** **\$443,062**

* - small systems

**TABLE 3
DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND
Calendar Year 2026 DWSRF Project Priority List**

NEW PROJECTS

Rating	Applicant	PWSID	Pop.	SRF ID	Project	Project Cost
532	AUBURN WATER DISTRICT (PF)(EC)(SG)	2017000	12255	19236	Church St Wells PFAS Removal Treatment Facility	\$15,360,000
531	MILFORD (PF)(EC)	2185000	30379	19237	Milford Godfrey Brook WTP PFAS Treatment Upgrade	\$3,992,324
530	SEEKONK WATER DISTRICT (PF)(EC)(BG)	4265000	14704	19213	WTF PFAS Treatment Upgrades	\$32,973,000
530	IPSWICH (EC)	3144000	13090	19229	Ipswich Water Treatment Plant	\$49,600,000
529	SUDBURY WATER DISTRICT (EC)	3288000	18416	19216	Sudbury Wells 4&6 PFAS Removal	\$8,412,000
529	NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH (PF)(EC)(BG)	4211000	28863	19234	Hillman PFAS Water Treatment Facility	\$16,752,000
528	MIDDLEBOROUGH (PF)(EC)	4182000	15350	19217	South Middleborough WTP	\$39,050,000
528	MIDDLEBOROUGH (PF)(EC)	4182000	15350	19218	Mizaras PFAS Treatment	\$7,250,000
528 *	MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA (EC)	3166000	5170	19241	Lincoln Street Well PFAS Treatment	\$13,440,000
527	CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT (H)(PF)(EC)(SG)	4020002	50000	19278	PFAS Removal Treatment Facilities	\$26,338,000
526	HANOVER (EC)(SG)	4122000	14984	19310	Hanover WTPs PFAS Treatment	\$18,833,000
524 *	GROVELAND (PF)(EC)(SG)	3116000	6743	19272	Wells 1, 3 & 4 Water Treatment Plant	\$44,553,900
522 *	LUNENBURG WATER DISTRICT (PF)(EC)(SG)	2162000	7145	19235	Lancaster Avenue Water Filtration Plant	\$41,000,000
521	NORWELL (EC)	4219000	11495	19276	Washington Street WTP	\$19,720,000
516 *	MIDDLETON (EC)	3184000	7255	19239	Water Main Extension to Serve PFAS Impacted Homes	\$6,675,000
515 *	DUDLEY (PF)(EC)	2080000	5515	19225	Eagle Drive Neighborhood Water Main Extension	\$10,250,000
458	BROCKTON (PF)	4044000	105643	19223	Aquaria Desalination Plant Purchase	\$55,000,000
443	NEW BEDFORD (PF)	4201000	101079	19293	Phase 3 Quittacas WTP Upgrades	\$8,125,000
441	BROCKTON (PF)	4044000	105643	19224	Silver Lake WTP Upgrade	\$3,000,000
438	LOWELL (H)(PF)	3160000	115000	19322	Raw Water Pump Station and WTP Improvements	\$28,584,000
431	AUBURN WATER DISTRICT (PF)	2017000	12255	19338	Two PFAS Removal Treatment Facilities	\$14,800,000
431	HAVERHILL (PF)	3128000	63235	19264	Radial Collector Well	\$24,955,000
430 *	HADLEY (PF)	1117002	4871	19335	Mount Warner Well Rehabilitation	\$12,040,000
430 *	SOUTHFIELD WATER COMPANY (PF)	1203002	80	19336	SOUTHFIELD WATER COMPANY SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS	\$466,925

**TABLE 3
DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND
Calendar Year 2026 DWSRF Project Priority List**

NEW PROJECTS - continued

Rating	Applicant	PWSID	Pop.	SRF ID	Project	Project Cost
428	GRAFTON WATER DISTRICT (H)	2110000	10925	19215	Trinity Ave & Follette St Wells: New Central WTP	\$34,629,000
426	WESTON	3333000	11941	19268	Weston Water Storage Tank Replacement	\$39,648,270
425	PEMBROKE (PF)	4231000	18251	19219	Glenwood Road Water Treatment Plant Upgrades	\$32,812,000
424	SALISBURY (PF)	3259000	20000	19294	Well 6 Construction	\$2,409,871
423 *	BARNSTABLE FIRE DISTRICT (H)(PF)	4020000	5400	19279	Barnstable Fire District Well 3 and 4 WTP	\$15,646,750
234 *	SPENCER (PF)	2280000	7037	19270	Meadow Road WTP Improvements	\$2,552,750
234	NORTHAMPTON (H)(PF)	1214000	29571	19211	Water Transmission Main Replacement	\$12,036,000
234	RANDOLPH (PF)	4244000	34362	19248	Randolph - New South Main St. Storage Tank	\$11,235,085
232	MWRA	6000000	2660000	19315	CP-3 NEH	\$32,120,000
231	WAYLAND	3315000	13196	19238	Wayland MWRA Interconnection & Treatment Upgrades	\$41,590,195
228 *	QUABBIN SUNRISE COOPERATIVE INC	1309001	65	19227	Replacement of Distribution System on F Street	\$773,260
226	METHUEN (H)(PF)	3181000	53059	19301	Granite St. Pump Station Upgrades for Redundancy	\$3,635,000
226	AQUARION WATER COMPANY OF MASSACHUSETTS - MILLBURY (PF)	2186000	11326	19325	Jacques Wells Water Treatment Facility	\$9,850,000
226 *	AYER (H)(PF)	2019000	8479	19332	Spectacle Pond New Well PFAS Treatment	\$9,600,000
225	FRANKLIN (H)	2101000	33399	19226	Hillside Tanks No.1 and No. 2 Replacement	\$10,403,000
225	KINGSTON (PF)	4145000	14712	19255	Trackle Pond Well #2 and Pump Station	\$7,504,016
220	RANDOLPH (PF)	4244000	34362	19305	Deer Park Water Main Replacement	\$4,925,000
216 *	COHASSET	4065000	7555	19246	Water Treatment Plant Residuals Management	\$5,761,800
213	BILLERICA (H)(PF)	3031000	42119	19333	Fox Hill Booster Pump Station Design	\$875,000
TOTAL OF NEW PROJECTS						\$779,177,146

(Count: 43)

(Average Rating: 400.33)

- * - Small System
- (BG) - Base Capitalization Grant
- (D) - Dropped by Applicant
- (EC) - BIL DWSRF Emerging Contaminants Grant
- (H) - Housing Choice Communities
- (PF) - Disadvantaged Community, eligible for Principal Forgiveness. All eligible projects are anticipated to receive subsidy.
- (RE) - Potential Renewable Energy Projects
- (SG) - BIL DWSRF Supplemental Grant
- # - Projects contains Energy Efficiency, Renewable Energy and/or meets EPA's definition of a Green Project (<https://www.epa.gov/greeningepa/energy-and-emissions-epa>)

TABLE 4
DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND
Calendar Year 2026 DWSRF ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROJECTS

ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROJECTS

Rating	Applicant	SRF ID	Project	Project Cost
100*	HILLCREST WATER DISTRICT	19306	Water System Asset Management Plan	\$174,336
92	LOWELL	19334	LRWU WATER DISTRIBUTION ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN	\$250,000
75	CENTERVILLE-OSTERVILLE-MARSTONS MILLS FIRE DISTRICT	19288	COMM Water Department Asset Management Program	\$152,300
74	BELLINGHAM	19257	Bellingham Water Asset Management Program	\$161,800
57 *	WEST WARREN WATER DISTRICT (GMNM)	19233	West Warren Water AMP	\$175,000
53 *	EAST BROOKFIELD (GMNM)	19285	Water System Asset Management Plan	\$61,000
52 *	SPENCER (GMNM)	19299	Spencer Asset Management Plan	\$72,000
51 *	STERLING (GMNM)	19302	Facility Asset Management Plan, Sterling, MA	\$135,000
50 *	CHERRY VALLEY AND ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT (GMNM)	19298	CVRWD Asset Management Plan	\$84,500
48 *	SOUTH GRAFTON WATER DISTRICT (GMNM)	19329	SGWD Foundational Asset Management Program	\$91,910
43	DENNIS WATER DISTRICT (GMNM)	19290	Distribution Asset Management Plan	\$250,000
41 *	AUBURN (GMNM)	19303	Elm Hill Water District AM Inventory and Planning	\$92,387
39	LONGMEADOW (GMNM)	19311	Longmeadow Water Asset Management	\$146,400
	NEEDHAM (GMNM)	19309	Water System Asset Management Plan	\$250,000
TOTAL OF ASSET MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROJECTS				\$2,096,633

(Count: 14)

TOTAL OF PROJECT PRIORITY LIST **\$2,096,633**

* - small systems
(GMNM) - Grant Metrics Not Met

Summary of Responses to Testimonies Received via Email and Correspondence for the 2026 Draft Intended Use Plan

Date: 3/12/2026
Commenter: Christopher Gallagher, P.E., Director of Public Works, Town of Foxborough
Subject: CW and DW PFAS Loan Program
Comment Summary: Testimony urges MassDEP to continue providing 0% interest financing for the full balance of funding for all PFAS carryover projects that were originally approved under that program structure.
MassDEP's Response: Not directly related to the approved IUP project list. Testimony was reviewed with no change to the discussion within the IUP document.

Date: 3/16/2026
Commenter: Donna Jewell
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/16/2026
Commenter: Lucia R. Butler
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/16/2026
Commenter: Grace Lawson
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony expresses concern over the water situation in Bridgewater.
MassDEP's Response: Not directly related to the approved IUP project list. Testimony was reviewed with no change to the discussion within the IUP document.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Pat Neary
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Summary of Responses to Testimonies Received via Email and Correspondence for the 2026 Draft Intended Use Plan

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Cristin Romano
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Erik Moore
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Crystal Choolfain
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Persa Kulas
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Laurie J. Clifford
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: The Hutchinson's
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Summary of Responses to Testimonies Received via Email and Correspondence for the 2026 Draft Intended Use Plan

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Lorraine Uhlig
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: R. Martin
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Kathye Secher
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Kelly Meehan
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Barbara Johnson
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Kathy A. Casey
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Summary of Responses to Testimonies Received via Email and Correspondence for the 2026 Draft Intended Use Plan

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Cynthia Robbins
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Patricia McKenna
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/17/2026
Commenter: Kristina Saunders
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/18/2026
Commenter: Joan Neumeister
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/18/2026
Commenter: Aja Cooke
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/18/2026
Commenter: Christopher T. Daly
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Summary of Responses to Testimonies Received via Email and Correspondence for the 2026 Draft Intended Use Plan

Date: 3/18/2026
Commenter: Dianne M. Boyd
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/19/2026
Commenter: Louise Conroy
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/19/2026
Commenter: Marie Hayes
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/19/2026
Commenter: Robert Derocher
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/20/2026
Commenter: Heather Breault
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/21/2026
Commenter: Christine Smith
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Summary of Responses to Testimonies Received via Email and Correspondence for the 2026 Draft Intended Use Plan

Date: 3/22/2026
Commenter: Dawn Gallahue
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony to request that Bridgewater be prioritized for emergency water infrastructure funding in the 2026 cycle.
MassDEP's Response: Not applicable to IUP.

Date: 3/23/2026
Commenter: Chad Kershaw, PE for Patrick Hill
Subject: DW-19223 & DW-19224 Aquaria Desalination Plant Purchase & Silver Lake WTP Upgrade
Comment Summary: Letters from City of Brockton as testimony for DWSRF-19223 – Aquaria Desalination Plant and DWSRF-19224 – Silver Lake WTP Upgrades. Aquaria Desalination Plant and the Silver Lake WTP Project should be reconsidered for the draft 2026 DWSRF IUP.
MassDEP's Response: This project was reviewed and there is no change.

Date: 3/24/2026
Commenter: Josie Ahlberg for Adam Chapdelaine, MMA
Subject: CW / DW PFAS Loan Program
Comment Summary: Letter from Adam Chapdelaine, Executive Director & CEO of Massachusetts Municipal Association. They express their strong concerns with the decision to sunset the zero percent interest loan program for PFAS remediation projects.
MassDEP's Response: Not directly related to the approved IUP project list. Testimony was reviewed with no change to the discussion within the IUP document.

Date: 3/24/2026
Commenter: Mary E. Danielson
Subject: DW-13960 Water System Asset Management Plan
Comment Summary: RESCORING REQUEST: Letter and supporting Attachments from Mary Danielson, PE Project Manager requesting a reevaluation of the project's scoring.
MassDEP's Response: This project's PEF score was reviewed and there is no change.

Date: 3/24/2026
Commenter: Jennifer E. Gilbert, PE for Sean Van Deusen, Longmeadow DPW Director
Subject: DW-13993 Longmeadow Water Asset Management
Comment Summary: RESCORING REQUEST: Letter and supporting Attachments from Sean Van Deusen, Longmeadow DPW Director requesting a reevaluation of the project's scoring.
MassDEP's Response: This project's PEF score was reviewed and there is no change.

Summary of Responses to Testimonies Received via Email and Correspondence for the 2026 Draft Intended Use Plan

Date: 3/24/2026
Commenter: Andy Starvaski
Subject: DW-13876(R) Lancaster Avenue Water Filtration Plant
Comment Summary: His testimony states that Lunenburg is not ready to commit and move ahead with any Drinking Water Plan. He is asking the MA DEP to bypass this request and not allow it to move forward.
MassDEP's Response: Testimony was reviewed with no change to the IUP project list.

Date: 3/24/2026
Commenter: Jess Richard
Subject: DW-13991 Water System Asset Management Program
Comment Summary:
MassDEP's Response: This project's PEF score was reviewed and there is no change.

Date: 3/24/2026
Commenter: Thomas Holder, Wayland DPW Director
Subject: DW-13886 Wayland MWRA Interconnection & Treatment Upgrades
Comment Summary: RESCORING REQUEST: Letter and supporting Attachments associated with Wayland's formal appeal of the 2026 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan ranking.
MassDEP's Response: This project's PEF score was reviewed and there is no change.

Date: 3/24/2026
Commenter: Andrew Lalashius
Subject: DW-13873 West Warren Water AMP
Comment Summary: RESCORING REQUEST: Letter and supporting attachments from West Warren Water District's Superintendent for a reevaluation of the project's scoring.
MassDEP's Response: This project's PEF score was reviewed and there is no change.

Date: 3/24/2026
Commenter: Jennifer A. Pederson MWWA
Subject: DW
Comment Summary: Testimony recommends: 1. Reconsider the elimination of 0% interest rate loans for PFAS remediation projects in the 2026 IUP.2. Reengage stakeholders to evaluate alternative approaches to sustaining 0% financing, including adjustments to contract assistan
MassDEP's Response: Not directly related to the approved IUP project list. Testimony was reviewed with no change to the disussion within the IUP document.

Public Review and Comment Summary

Transcript of the 2026 Draft Intended Use Plans Public Hearing for Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, Held Virtually via Zoom on Monday, March 24, 2026, at 1:00 PM

Public Hearing Officer: Kaitlyn Connors, Director of Division of Water Investment, Mass DEP

Assistant to Public Hearing Officer: Gregory Devine, Environmental Engineer, Mass DEP

Commentors:

13:07:07 [Thomas Holder] : Tom Holder, Town of Wayland, DPW Director

13:12:35 [Barbara Turkington] : Barbara Turkington, Lunenburg Resident

13:14:41 [Andrew Starvaski] : Andrew Starvaski, Lunenburg Resident

13:19:56 [Abigail Charest] : Abigail Charest, Town of Wayland, Town Engineer

13:22:11 [Mark Ells, Barnstable] : Mark Ells, Barnstable Town Manager

13:25:50 [John Fortune]: John Fortune, Lunenburg Resident

13:27:46 [Jennifer Pederson] : Jennifer Pederson, Mass Water Works Association, Executive Director

13:31:53 [Fred Russell] : Fred Russell, Town of Billerica, DPW Director and Nick Evans, Wastewater Superintendent

13:34:28 [Patrick Hill] : Patrick Hill, City of Brockton, DPW Commissioner

13:38:27 [Joan Pease] : Joan Pease, Lunenburg Resident

13:44:33 [Cate Fox-Lent] : Cate Fox-Lent, City of Chelsea, Public Works Commissioner

13:44:36 [Michael Wegerbauer] : Michael Wegerbauer, Town of Wayland, Board of Public Works

[Kaitlyn Connors] 13:00:16

Good afternoon, everyone. It's just about 1 o'clock. I still see some folks trickling in, so we're going to give it maybe another minute, before we officially...kick things off. Thanks for your patience and thank you for being here with us today. All right, there's still a few folks joining, so bear with us as we get everyone in. Welcome, everyone. We're still trying to get everyone into the meeting, so hold on, just...a minute or so longer. Thanks for your patience. All right, so it looks like most folks have...entered into the meeting. And we do... Thank you, Greg. We do, in fact, have critical mass, so I think we can get started.

Good afternoon, everyone. Thanks for being here today. My name is Caitlin Connors, and I'm representing MassDEP at today's virtual hearing. On the SRF's 2026 draft intended use plans. Please note that this virtual hearing is being recorded. I believe it started recording now, is that correct, Greg? Just want to confirm we're good to go?

[Gregory Devine] 13:03:11

We are good to go.

[Kaitlyn Connors] 13:03:12

Excellent. So, before we begin, I'd like to provide a brief overview of how the hearing will proceed and share a few housekeeping matters. To minimize background noise, all attendees have been placed on mute. We ask that everyone remain muted during the hearing to reduce background noise. There will be an opportunity to provide oral testimony, at which point we will unmute those who wish to speak. If you have joined online and would like to provide oral testimony. Please enter your full name and affiliation in the chat box located in the Zoom control panel. Thanks to those of you who have already done so. Uh, if you're joining by phone today, we will unmute callers one at a time and ask for this information and provide an opportunity. For those callers to testify as well. If you're facing technical difficulties, please alert us through the chat function. However, we ask that you do not use the chat function to provide testimony. With me today is Greg Devine of MassDEP, and Greg will be calling on individuals who have indicated in the chat that they would like to provide testimony. And with that, I will now officially begin the hearing. Um, it is 1.04 PM.

So, this is a public hearing for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. My name is Caitlin Connors, and I'm the Director for the Division of Water Investment at MassDEP, and I'm the hearing officer on this matter today. You are reminded that this hearing is being recorded. We are here today at...1PM, or 1.04 PM, on Tuesday, March 24th, 2026. On a virtual public hearing to accept testimony concerning the 2026 Draft intended use plans for the clean water and the drinking water state revolving funds.

On February 20th, 2026, MassDEP published the draft IUPs and provided notice of their availability. In compliance with Mass General Laws Chapter 38, the Public Hearing Notice was published in the Boston Globe, and in Mass DEP's website. Outreach was conducted by email and social media. The draft intended use plans list by priority ranking, those projects that Mass DEP is recommending for financing. Please note that MassDEP will not be responding to the testimony during this hearing. All testimony received during the public comment period will be taken into consideration before finalizing the intended use plan. The public comment period closes at the conclusion of this hearing. In a moment, we'll begin to unmute those who have identified themselves as wishing to provide oral testimony. We will also prompt the phone participants to identify those who wish to testify.

Each speaker may speak once. Comment should be limited to those related to the draft IUPs. To ensure all who wish to testify are able to do so, we encourage participants to keep oral testimony to roughly 3 minutes. In order to allow everyone the opportunity to speak, I may limit each person's time. Before you proceed to provide your testimony, please state your full name and affiliation. When providing testimony, please be sure to identify the applicable project name and SRF ID number if appropriate. We also encourage those testifying to speak clearly and distinctly. And with that, I will now open the oral testimony and turn it over to Greg to begin inviting speakers to provide their comments.

[Gregory Devine] 13:06:55

Okay, thank you, Kaitlyn. Our first speaker today will be Tom Holder, Town of Wayland.

[Tom Holder] 13:07:07

Good afternoon. Everybody hear me, okay?

[Gregory Devine] 13:07:11

Yes.

[Kaitlyn Connors] 13:07:11

Yes, loud and clear.

[Tom Holder] 13:07:12

Great. My name is Tom Holder. I am the DPW Director in Wayland. I am referencing, um, the Wayland MWRA interconnection, and Happy Hollow PFAS Treatment Facility. Uh, labeled drinking water 13886. I thank you for the opportunity to provide a clearer picture of Waylon's situation and propose solution. I believe there are a number of folks attending this hearing on behalf of Whalen, including Don Millett, our water superintendent. Mike Wegebauer, the Vice Chair of the Board of Public Works, and Kirsten Ryan of Kleinfelder Engineering. We submitted written testimony earlier today of what I am speaking of this afternoon.

With the 20 part per trillion PFAS maximum contamination level. We are presently needing to treat one of our groundwater supplies, the Happy Hollow Wellfield. With the federal MCL reduction to 4 parts per trillion, the three remaining supplies will exceed that MCL. The curve...

[Kaitlyn Connors] 13:08:25

Tom, one moment, you were muted. Are you able to unmute yourself?

[Tom Holder] 13:08:30

How does this sound?

[Kaitlyn Connors] 13:08:31

Much better, thank you, sorry about that.

[Tom Holder] 13:08:32

When...Uh, I'm trying to... when did you lose me?

[Kaitlyn Connors] 13:08:36

Maybe, uh, I don't know, 10 seconds ago?

[Tom Holder] 13:08:40

Okay, I'll just, uh...I just want to make sure we don't miss anything.

[Kaitlyn Connors] 13:08:43

Yeah.

[Tom Holder] 13:08:44

Um, with the 20 part per trillion PFAS maximum contamination level, we are presently needing to treat one of our groundwater supplies. The Happy Hollow Wellfield, um, with the federal MCL reduction of 4 parts per trillion, the 3 remaining supplies will exceed that MCL. The current ion exchange treatment system at our Happy Hollow Supply is a lease system and is permitted with mass DEP as a temporary pilot system. It is housed in a temporary fabric enclosure and is located within a floodplain. It is not intended to be, nor can it become, a sustainable solution to our PFAS contamination. In knowing this, Whalen has performed an extensive evaluation of alternatives that will allow us to maintain PFAS compliance. This thoughtful evaluation has resulted in the current approved plan to construct a new treatment plant at the Happy Hollow Well Field and make a permanent connection to the MWRA water system to supplement the local supply during high demands. We are presently at the 60% design threshold and are intending to bid and construct the solution beginning a year from now. So, in essence, we are...to be shovel-ready on the SRF timeline. As evidence of our dire situation, we have had to construct an emergency connection to the MWRA to supplement our local supplies when aged and outdated equipment fails as it regularly does. As I speak, this afternoon, the Happy Hollow Treatment System is offline due to repairs, and the MWRA emergency connection is operating. This connection has had to be used for about 123 days over the past 2 years. It can only be activated upon MassDEP issuing an emergency declaration along with a formal vote of the MWRA Board of Directors. Each time we have a need for the supplemental MWRA water, these mentioned mass DEP and MWRA formalities need to occur. Whalen cannot meet elevated demands of any single source goes offline. Whalen cannot meet even average day demands if either of its two largest sources go offline Wayland must pump its sources excessively without sufficient rest periods. It would appear that our project evaluation form submitted last year may have been misunderstood to not meet the criteria of a Tier 5 project and therefore did not receive the associated 500-point ranking. Our written testimony submitted earlier provides clarifying evidence that we meet Tier 5 criteria, namely that three of our four sources, our three largest, all need PFAS mitigation. I spoke of the Happy Hollow Source, which only meets Finnish Water MCLs through the operation of a failure-prone temporary system. We have one source with finished water with all samples exceeding 10 par per trillion of the PFAS-6. We have two sources with more than half of its samples exceeding 80% of the federal 4 par-per-trillion for PFOA and PFAS. I would like to assure decision makers that Wayland's project of a new treatment plant and permanent MWRA connection do indeed address compliance associated with federal and state standards, correct a contamination issue, and furthermore, reduce PFAS levels to below regulated standards.

We would very much like to be reconsidered as a Tier 5 project, be assigned that appropriate rating. And furthermore, be categorized to receive the extremely important SRF loan. I thank you for your consideration. And if, you know, appropriate, I'm...willing and happy to answer any questions that you may have. Thank you.

[Gregory Devine] 13:12:24

Thank you, Tom. Um...Our next participant will be...Barbara Turkington from Lunenburg.

[Barbara Turkington] 13:12:35

Hello, thank you. I am a resident of Lunenburg, as was just mentioned. My name is Barbara Turkington. I'd like to speak to the readiness of the Lunenburg Water District to proceed with the use of any SRF funding. Lunenburg Water District's application for SRF...is premature.

The Lunenburg Water District does not own the property around the Hickory Hills Well, which is listed in their application. They have an easement which was granted in 1993, which is for a small portion of Zone 1. Their ability to enforce Zone 1 restrictions may be limited due to an open legal question concerning partial extinguishment of the easement. This is a hurdle which impacts Lunenburg Water District. To begin this project for which SRF funding may be allocated.

In addition to the lack of readiness, the water source proposal has not been updated to meet current needs. In May of 2024, the Lunenburg Water District presented this exact same proposal to the Water District voters. And the voters overwhelmingly voted against this loan by a two-thirds vote. Nothing has changed in the proposal. And it's unlikely that the Water District voters will approve the same plan they rejected in 2024. This means that SRF funds, if allocated to the Lunenburg Water District, will most likely not be used. These funds could be allocated and better put to another to use by another town. Thank you for allowing my comments.

[Gregory Devine] 13:14:23

Thank you. Our next participant is Andrew Starvaski, Resident, Town of Lunenburg.

[Andrew Starvaski] 13:14:41

Thank you. My name is A.S. Andrew Starvaski, I'm a resident of Lunenburg, Mass., I'm a water user, I'm a rate payer, and a water district voter. Thank you for this opportunity to address the Mass DEP today. I'm talk... I'm addressing you about the Lunenburg Mass. clean drinking water treatment facility DW13876. The Lunenburg plan before you today does not represent an agreed-upon treatment plan. In fact, the Lunenburg Water District Commissioners are still evaluating and debating on the best path forward. They have made no final decisions on what Lunenburg's way forward should be and are still seeking water users' input via a survey. They're investigating the most appropriate technical way forward, how to treat Lunenburg's drinking water, and nothing, nothing has been finalized on. In fact, the plan in front of you today is the very same plan that the Lunenburg Water District submitted 3 years ago and was voted down. The plan submitted to the DEP is without the approval, or even the knowledge of the Lunenburg Water District's Commission. And it's against their specific direction not to submit a plan for drinking water funding this year. The plan you are considering today was never intended to be submitted by the Lunenburg Water District commissioners. This very day, the district does not have an executable plan to move forward. I'm specifically speaking because on the May 14th, 2025, Lunenburg Water District meeting, the commissions were still debating on the path forward. And they had decided not to request SRF funding that year. They stated we are not ready to

push forward for funding. And to quote the May 14, 2025, Lunenburg official meeting minutes from that meeting, quote, It was agreed that the WADA district would hold off this year applying for funding while investigating all options after the public has responded to the survey, end quote. I'd like to point out that Superintendent Francis McNamara was present at this meeting and agreed with the Commissioner's decision. But despite this, but the superintendent McNamara ignored the Commissioner's direction, and without their knowledge or approval, unilaterally and improperly directed the engineering firm of Tighe and Bond to prepare and resubmit the previous rejected 3-year-old proposal for consideration today. It was not until 5...Five months later that, at the December 3rd, 2025, meeting, when the commissioners were still discussing a way forward, that Superintendent McNamara finally inform the Lunenburg Water Commissioner that he already submitted an SRF request without their knowledge. To quote Mr. McNamara, you guys, the Lunenburg Water Commissioners, you guys aren't aware of this, but I've already applied for SRF funding. And upon hearing this, the commissioners appeared confused on exactly what undecided proposal the superintendent had submitted. After even more discussion, the superintendent then states, he has no idea if it will pass and maybe we'll get lucky. Maybe we'll get lucky. What I've just stated is not opinion. There's a matter of public record. Lunenburg has no approved plan and is not ready to move ahead, and the commissioners did not approve, or even were aware, of this project being submitted. This is gravely concerning to me, and I think to you as well. A Massachusetts water superintendent circumventing his own water commissioners' specific direction and knowingly submitting a plan that is not ready...or approved by the commissioners and not ready to be implicated. Implemented, excuse me. This is not only unethical, it shows a complete disregard to the DEP's procedures. And it's in complete disregard to every other Massachusetts community that's legitimately seeking funding and has an approved plan that's ready to move out. Once again, the plan you have before you today was never intended by the Lunenburg Water Commissioners to be submitted this year. It is outdated, unauthorized, not supported by the voters, and to this very day, I want to underscore the Lunenburg Water Commissioners do not have any agreed-upon plan. I'm asking the MassDEP to bypass this request. Do not allow it to move forward and tie up valuable funds, \$41 million, that could be better utilized by other communities that have an approved plan, that are better suited to use these limited funds. Thank you very much for listening to me today.

[Gregory Devine] 13:19:47

Our next participant is Abigail Charest, Town Engineer, Town of Wayland.

[Abigail Charest] 13:19:56

Hi, how are ya? Uh, good afternoon, and thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name's Abby Charest, I'm the Wayland Town Engineer. I'm here on behalf of the Town of Wayland regarding our water and wastewater Asset Management Plan application. That's PEF number CW-14012. Additionally, I sent in a letter detailing, uh, these comments yesterday. First, I want to acknowledge and thank Master EP for its continued support of municipalities. Working to improve critical infrastructure, we truly value this program. However, after reviewing the scoring for our application, we were surprised to see several evaluation criteria receiving a score of 0. Even though the required information was included in our submissions, specifically our application clearly included a detailed project narrative, comprehensive scope of our work addressing all five required asset management components. And a thorough cost breakdown with a task-level detail in-kind services. For example, the scope of work outlines asset inventory, condition assessment, level of service development, risk

and criticality analysis, lifecycle cost evaluation, and a thorough cost breakdown. Um, which includes a Tesla, um, I'm sorry. Which includes, um, the level of service for development, the risk and criticality analysis, life cycle cost evaluation. And the long-term funding strategy, along with the final asset management plan report. Because of this, we are respectfully requesting a review of those scoring categories to ensure that all submitted materials were fully considered based on our review, correcting these areas would result in a score increase from 39 to 89. This project is an important step for Wayland. It will help us better manage our infrastructure, prioritize investments and ensure long-term financial stability for our water and wastewater infrastructure. Uh, we respectfully request an SDEP reevaluate the identified categories and adjust the scoring to accurately reflect the materials submitted. Thank you.

[Gregory Devine] 13:22:04

Our next participant is Mark Ells, Town Manager, Town of Barnstable. Mr. Ells

[Mark Ells, Barnstable] 13:22:11

Thank you, and good afternoon. Um, as identified on Mark Ellis, Barnstable Town Manager. Well, I just want to note that our Director of Public Works, Dan Santos, submitted a letter to Michelle Higgins, relevant to specific project comments. Um, I will not be reading those into the record. I wanted to take the time, much like the previous speaker, to thank you all. Um, for the... the efforts, whether you're in Boston or in the region. And specifically, Michelle is always there for, um, to answer questions as we move through. Um, you know, this somewhat cumbersome process to secure funds. I think you're all aware, it's probably why we're here, that this is one of the only um, you know, opportunities for communities to secure funding for their clean water and water supply projects. Barnstable's been an active participants, it's the creation, in 1991, um, as a form of Public Works Director and now Town Manager. I think I have a unique perspective on it. I also want to thank...you all for continuing the discussion of how to navigate this fiscally, challenged period of time. I think as much as... much of what will be discussed today relates to technical um, aspects. Uh, certainly the challenges that DEP and the state of Massachusetts have relevant to continuing this this... these funds for...prioritize projects, um, is critical in all of our abilities to move forward. The involvement, certainly, of our community and others in those in those discussions with DEP has been, um, you know, greatly expanded. And we appreciate that. We see it reflected in your draft 2026, we certainly have many questions moving forward into the next 5 years. As Barnstable alone has almost \$600 million worth of projects that they hope to come to Mass DEP, um, you know, SRF program to finance. Um, specifically on Cape Cod, you're aware that you know, we also have the Cape and Islands Trust Fund, which since it's its creation several years ago, is contributing 25% principal subsidy against eligible projects, eligibility determination being listed in the IUP. So, it is critical, that we collectively, communities and DEP, for all, whether you're on Gape Cod or anywhere in the Commonwealth, continue these discussions. Identify the means to subsidize um, you know, to the degree necessary in achievement of the priorities that our state and we...State establishes we, um, adopt and bring forward to you in our requests. Um, as we move forward from here. So, I... I came to say thank you, I came to say we... we remain available, both technically, financially, and any other way, and as town manager, um, personally available for this. So, thank you all, and please take a look at the, uh, the actual comments that Director Santos provided relevant to specific projects. Thank you all. Have a good day.

[Gregory Devine] 13:25:43

Our next participant is John Fortune, Resident, Town of Lunenburg.

[John Fortune] 13:25:50

Good afternoon, John Fortune, Lunenburg speaking on...DW14876. I'd like to confirm the previous speaker Starvaski's statements that the Lunenburg Water District district commissioners were not aware of the SRF proposal being submitted. I spoke to one of those commissioners personally, and when I told them the SRF request was for just 2 of the 3 well fields we have in town, uh, he adamantly disagreed. He said the commissioner's plan was to include all three from the very beginning. I then said to him, then you didn't look at the SRF submission, because I went in uh, and it includes only two of the well fields. This exact plan failed 2 years ago because our current well sources exceed the town's needs, and all the current state requirements. This SRF submission main intent is to restart a previously mentioned failed well that has not been in use for nearly 15 years. As mentioned, it does not...that well does not even have a protected Zone 1. Most of the Zone 1 is on adjacent private property. And the Lunenburg Water District has no rights to force compliance with Zone 1 restrictions on those properties. To spend nearly \$50 million on a partial plan not previously vetted by the commissioners or the voters, to restart a failed well, just trying to get SRF funding, does not seem compelling enough to change the minds of those same voters who overwhelmingly disapprove this plan, two years ago. If the new EPA PFAS requirements hold up in court, and Massachusetts adopts and provides funding for those requirements, that's when the Lunenburg Water District should present a plan to the voters to adequately provide water to the town and then go for SRF funding. Thank you.

[Gregory Devine] 13:27:41

Our next participant is Jennifer Pederson, Mass Water Works Association.

[Jennifer Pederson] 13:27:46

Uh, thank you. My name is Jennifer Pederson, I'm the Executive Director of Massachusetts Water Works Association Mass Water Works represents public water systems across the Commonwealth that are responsible for delivering safe, reliable drinking water to millions of residents. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I did also submit written comments. We appreciate the effort by MassDEP and the Clean Water Trust to manage the SRF in what is clearly a very challenging funding environment. We recognize the competing demands on the program and the difficult trade-offs that come with that. That said, we did want to share some concerns regarding the decision to eliminate 0% interest loans for PFAS remediation projects, in the 2026 IUP, PFAS treatment projects are not discretionary. They are required to meet state and federal standards, often on aggressive timelines, and they come with significant costs. The availability of 0% financing has been a key tool for communities as they work to move these projects forward, and secure local approval. While we understand that other forms of subsidy will remain available, 0% financing provides a level of certainty that is particularly important at the local level. Without it, communities may face additional challenges in advancing these projects in a timely and affordable way. We are also hearing from some members that have already begun educating their communities on the need to address PFAS, with the

expectation that 0% financing would be part of the package. Changes at this stage can create real challenges locally, erode confidence in the water system, and over time can make it more difficult to build support for infrastructure investments. We understand that this change is driven by broader SRF capacity constraints, but from our perspective, reducing financial assistance does not solve that problem. It shifts the burdens directly onto ratepayers. As we have consistently emphasized, the Commonwealth is facing significant and growing infrastructure needs, and additional investment not reduce subsidy is needed to meet them. If the cost of providing 0% loans is contributing to those constraints. We believe the focus should be on increasing investment through increased appropriation to contract assistance in the state budget, an additional capitalization through the Mass Readies Act. Additionally, we believe continued advocacy to the congressional delegation, particularly as IJJA funding, is set to expire, is critically important. I also want to touch briefly on the lead service line funding. If there are remaining IJJA funds available, we strongly encourage MassDEP and the Trust to consider reinstating the grant program. As we saw previously, participation increased significantly when funding was offered as grants rather than loans.

That approach may be most successful in ensuring those funds are fully utilized within federal timelines, while helping communities meet their compliance obligations. Finally, Mass Water Works strongly encourages MassDEP and the Trust to issue the draft IUP as early as practicable, but no later than December 31st, as specified in 310 CMR 4505. Public water systems must navigate local approval processes often tied to town meeting or municipal budget cycles, that requires sufficient lead time to secure borrowing authorization, advance design, and prepare complete applications. When the draft IUP is released later than December, it compresses these already tight timelines and can delay or even jeopardize otherwise ready projects. In closing, the SRF remains the cornerstone of drinking water infrastructure financing in Massachusetts. At a time when costs and regulatory demands are increasing, maintaining strong and predictable financial assistance tools is essential to ensuring timely compliance and protecting public health. We thank MassDEP and the Trust staff for the important work you do for this program, and we look forward to continuing to work with you to find solutions that support both program sustainability and ratepayer affordability. Thank you for your time.

[Gregory Devine] 13:31:43

Our next participant, Fred Russell, Public Works Director, Town of Billerica.

[Fred Russell] 13:31:53

Good afternoon, um... Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak. Um, I'm speaking about the town of Billerica Brown Street Forest Main Rehabilitation Project, SRF funding ID number 19319. Um, I had also submitted some written correspondence, as well as, um, State Representative Mark Lobato, and Town Manager Chris Jelen on our behalf. Uh, so to begin, the town of Berick is Brown Street Sewer Pump Station, um, the force main is in critical need of replacement. The forest main was constructed nearly 50 years ago, was recommended for replacement for the town's Comprehensive Boy Wastewater Management Plan. In 2011. It plays a critical role in the town's sewer infrastructure, conveying approximately 30% of the town's wastewater flow 3 miles from Brown Street Pump Station, almost 2 miles of it, which lies within the MBT right-of-way, less than 20 feet from the Lowell Branch commuter rail mainline, a critical transportation route in and out of Boston. The force may experience two catastrophic failures within the MBTA right-of-way, in June of 2020 and in March of 2021, negatively impacting both rail lines operations and the environment as the

commuter rail traffic was interrupted. And adjacent wetlands were contaminated by the resulting SSO. The town absorbed an excess of \$1 million in repair costs for these failures and engineers determined that the force main was in danger of additional failures in the near future due to severe corrosion and pipe age. It became apparent that the town could not rely on this force main any longer in its current condition as a long-term wastewater conveyance pipeline. Any future failure will result in environmental damage and major disruption to the state's commuter rail transportation system. Now, um, although this project was included in prior intended use plans through 2024, it was not carried forward into the 2025 or 2026 plans. The project appears on the draft calendar year 2026 intended use plan with a rating of 433, just 3 projects below the IUP, given the past and potential impacts to one of the state's critical transportation routes and the environment. The town respectfully requests that this project be included in the 2026 IUP. I want to, again, to thank you for the opportunity to speak. And I also want to thank the, uh, the trust staff for all the hard work they do. Thank you.

[Gregory Devine] 13:34:20

Our next participant is Patrick Hill, Public Works Commissioner, City of Brockton.

[Patrick Hill] 13:34:28

Good afternoon, everybody. I'm presenting for the City of Brockton for DWSRF project number 19223 for the purchase of the Aquaria desalination Plant, which is a...PFAS-free, underutilized source here in the South Coast. It's important to note that this purchase is not just for the City of Brockton, but more of a regional purchase. Because we will be providing, or we're looking to provide, PFAS-free water, not only to Brockton, but to other communities that are tied into the pipeline. Last year, there was an extensive study done with the Old Colony Planning Council, which determined two things. One, that the most reasonable solution to the region, the 13 communities that it looked at, was to... to...for the City of Brockton to make the acquisition of this plant and to provide water, not just for water quality purposes, but for other issues, um, within those communities. Under its current standing, the City of Brockton owns the entire capacity that comes out of the plant, which has made use of the plant almost impossible for other communities. We have currently engaged with the Town of Bridgewater, as I'm sure most of you know. They've been suffering from...some substantial discolored water, and they have other organic issues within their water system. The water quality issue there has impacted them in a couple of negative ways, one being that they, uh...certainly have upset their residents, but it has basically paused all the new growth in construction in their town. We also know that includes a skilled nursing facility, um, that the... that is ready to with permitting, and some campus upgrades at Bridgewater State University. So we recognize... the city recognizes that not only is this a...acquisition, yes, for the city, but it will have a regional impact. It's not just Brockton, it's not just Bridgewater, but other communities have also reached out to us as well. Communities like East Bridgewater, communities like Pembroke, communities like Avon, um, all people that are struggling not only with water quality issues, but with growth issues. The realization is that there is not substantial groundwater to support wells or new wells in any of these other communities anymore. And this plant, under its current capacity, could...alleviate a lot of those issues and spur new growth in these other communities. Brockton is just looking to be a partner. And we recognize that this is the third, or I would like to recognize that this is the third time that this project has died, number one, under the funding line. We strongly urge...the... the SRF...folks in... and the state folks to take a long look at this project and the positive impact it has in the region, not just to Brockton, but in the region.

We have a very expensive feasible source that could be used, uh, we're just looking for a little assistance from the state so that we can provide water to the rest of the region. Thank you.

[Gregory Devine] 13:38:03

Our next participant is Joan Pease, Town of Lunenburg. Joan, I'm sorry, could you bring yourself off of mute and start again? That's great, thank you

[Joan Pease] 13:38:27

Joan Pease, Lunenburg, Massachusetts. Um, water customer, I'm speaking to DW14876. Not only do I agree wholeheartedly with the past speakers from Lunenburg, John Fortune, Andrew Starvaski, and Barbara Turkington, but I, myself, was invited to attend the May 14th, 2025, Water District Commissioner's meeting by a commissioner. And at that meeting, I personally heard the commissioner state that they are not ready to apply for SRF funds this year. It's not only in the minutes, I witnessed it. And then, on December 3rd, the Commissioner's meeting, the superintendent did indeed state, oh, you guys don't know this, but I applied. Not only did the commissioners not know it, but the Water District voters did not know it. That's inappropriate. And it seems kind of...I'll just stop there. In addition to that, one of the criteria for SRF funds is that it be a primary water source. This application for the two wells will actually reduce the water supply in Lunenburg by 30%. Eliminating our primary well of Keatings. So I feel the plant... the pro... uh...the plan to apply does not meet the primary well consideration. And lastly, there are legal hurdles, the area around the well is only partially covered by an easement. Some of the area around the well is not covered by any...uh, legal document, which gives the water... the water district any ability to control activities on it. And the easement does have some legal questions as to partial extinguishment due to a history of non-enforcement. Thank you for this opportunity to speak, and I hope the DEP will consider this. Um, testimony. Last time they awarded the money to Lunenburg, it was voted down overwhelmingly, not by a small group, by over two-thirds of the voters that day. Thank you very much.

[Gregory Devine] 13:41:01

Our next participant is Cate Fox-Lent Public Works Commissioner, City of Chelsea. Yes.

[Cate Fox-Lent] 13:41:12

At the moment, my name is Kate Fox-Lent. I'm the Commissioner of Public Works for the City of Chelsea. I am speaking today on CW19312, and I... today, I just want to provide some additional context for our application, which is, Chelsea is a CSO community, and when these stormwater overflows occur, the water quality impacts directly affect the state-owned Mary O'Malley Park. Which is one of the very few places in Chelsea where residents can actually access the water directly, um, where people may cool off, where people fish. It's, you know, the water quality is critically important in this area. It also directly affects our neighbors across the river in East Boston. Chelsea has put in a lot of thought and work into addressing our CSOs. We have put together a 50-year plan to eliminate CSOs through complete sewer separation that we are diligently working through. In 2018, we started one project, uh, upstream section of Chelsea 4, which is the overflow of interest here, to do

separation, we followed that up with a second project started in 2024, and this current project that's been proposed is the final step that will connect all of the improvements. In those prior projects to the MWRA interceptor, and finally achieve separation that will, in fact, redirect, uh, just the sewage into the treatment, pipeline, and just the stormwater out to the river. So, this is a critically important project to really realize those prior improvements. And over the past decade, construction costs have increased significantly. This is also the deepest part of the system, which makes it complicated to construct and... and consequently more expensive. So, with a project estimated to be over \$15 million, this will be the largest project that Chelsea has undertaken to date, and we really can't do something like this without a large program like the SRF. So, I am mostly saying, uh, thank you to MassDEP and Clean Water Trust for recognizing the importance of this project. We hope it will remain on the IEP, and um...you know, this will be a huge step for the future of Chelsea. Thank you.

[Gregory Devine] 13:43:44

in reviewing the list, Director Connors, everyone has...who's indicated that they would like to participate has done so.

[Kaitlyn Connors] 13:43:53

Great. I just want to make sure that everyone who's on and wanted to speak, has done so. Um, if...if you would like to speak, please enter your name in the chat now. Otherwise, um...I can move to close the hearing, but I do want to give folks just...Just a moment. I think there's one more.

[Gregory Devine] 13:44:21

Um, we have an additional... yes. Mr. Wegebauer, Town of Wayland.

[Michael Wegerbauer] 13:44:33

Great, thank you. Can you hear me?

[Gregory Devine] 13:44:35

Yes.

[Michael Wegerbauer] 13:44:36

Great. Well, I think, uh, Tom and Abby both did a great job of presenting, um, the reasons why we feel that we...should be scored higher, and uh...just in terms of background, we spent about 5 years, volunteers, elected volunteers, staff, consultants, engineers to, um, explore a very wide range of, um, options to deal with PFAS in Wayland. And we've come up with what we think is a very good dual-source solution to replace the temporary solution we currently have in place. And, um, that... that solution and design went to town meeting. Um, last year, and it was approved. And, uh, we're hopeful

this year to go forward, uh...for approval of the construction. We have, ideally, SRF funds as a primary funding source. Um, that's all I had to say.

[Kaitlyn Connors] 13:45:42

Great, I'll put the call out one last time for anyone who's on the call. Whether it be virtually through Zoom or on the phone, to indicate...you'd like to speak.

[Gregory Devine] 13:45:59

We do not have any telephone participants, no one to unmute.

[Kaitlyn Connors] 13:46:04

Okay. Great. Well, with that, I'd like to thank everybody for attending today's public hearing. We truly value all the feedback that we've received, and...As indicated at the top of this meeting, all written commentary, oral testimony that we've received during the public comment period um, will be considered, while we finalize the IUPs. So, thank you all again for the interest in the program and attending today's hearing. The final intended use plans will be posted on MassDEP's website when ready, and we'll send out a notification when that occurs, and with that, I think, uh, we can officially close the hearing. It is...1:46, a big thank you again to all attendees, and thank you to folks on the SRF and Trust team. For all your help in this process. Thanks, everyone.