

June 6, 2025

The Honorable Linda Sanchez
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Linda Sanchez:

On behalf of the Orange County Sanitation District (OC San), I am writing to express our opposition to the proposed funding cuts to water infrastructure programs included in the Administration's Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Budget Request. In particular we are deeply concerned about the proposed \$2.46 billion reduction to the State Revolving Fund (SRF).

The SRF is a cornerstone of federal support for clean water utilities, enabling agencies like OC San to meet Clean Water Act mandates and deliver essential public health services. We respectfully urge Congress to fully fund the SRF and other critical water and wastewater infrastructure programs, preserving the strong federal partnership that has supported our sector for decades

Public clean water agencies are already facing significant challenges—from aging infrastructure and stricter regulatory requirements to emerging contaminants like Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). Continued federal investment is vital to ensure agencies can make the necessary upgrades to protect public health and the environment—while keeping rates affordable for the communities we serve.

It's also important to underscore the distinct purposes of the SRF and the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) program. The SRF provides ongoing state-based support for compliance and operational needs, while WIFIA is a competitive federal program designed for large-scale infrastructure projects. Both are essential, and funding one should not come at the expense of the other. We respectfully request your support for funding both programs at their fully authorized levels for FY 2026.

Thank you for your leadership and for your continued commitment to safeguarding our nation's clean water resources. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jennifer Cabral, Director of Communications, at (714) 593-7581 or JCabral@ocsan.gov.

Sincerely,



Ryan P. Gallagher
Board Chairman

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