



Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

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Committee Assignment
ENV. & PUB. WORKSL WAYS & MEANS

To The Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, New York 14614

Subject: Increase and Improvement of Facilities in the Rochester Pure Waters District Entitled "RPWD - CSOAP Tunnel System Improvements" Project; Amend the 2026 Capital Budget to Add the Project; and Authorize Financing

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body approve a request to establish an Increase and Improvement of Facilities in the Rochester Pure Waters District (the "District") in the amount of \$4,800,000, consisting of a capital project entitled "RPWD - CSOAP Tunnel System Improvements;" amend the 2026 Capital Budget to add the project; and authorize financing.

The total Increase and Improvements of Facilities in the District is comprised of the "RPWD - General Collection System and Treatment Plant Improvements" project (\$2,500,000); the "RPWD - CSOAP Tunnel System Improvements" project (\$4,800,000); the "RPWD FEV WRRF - Biosolids Handling" project (\$2,000,000); and "FEV - Primary Scum Collection Improvements" project (\$1,000,000), for a total estimated cost of the Increase and Improvement in the amount of \$10,300,000. The "RPWD - General Collection System and Treatment Plant Improvements;" "RPWD FEV WRRF - Biosolids Handling;" and "FEV - Primary Scum Collection Improvements" projects are under consideration by Your Honorable Body as companion referrals.

The Increase and Improvement of Facilities is necessary to provide funding for the "RPWD - CSOAP Tunnel System Improvements." This project includes specific improvements to the CSOAP tunnel system that were identified by a multi-disciplined maintenance and engineering team under a long-range planning effort. Improvements include, but are not limited to, drop shafts, bridge structures, overflows, and appurtenances in all CSOAP tunnels. Improvements will include replacement, rehabilitation, and/or reconstruction of components of the tunnel system to maintain and improve hydraulic capacity and ensure structural integrity of the system and its appurtenances. The project is necessary to maintain the reliability and continuity of services to District customers.

The estimated cost of the improvements is \$4,800,000. The actual debt service obligation for the additional cost of the project, as projected in future years, could potentially result in an increase of \$2.24 to the future annual charges of the average District ratepayer. However, the actual impact is typically reduced through retirement of previous debt and other offsets to the District's capital charge levy. Based on an average water consumption of 60,000 gallons, the total annual charge for both operation & maintenance and capital to the District ratepayer in 2025 is \$362.01.

Portions of the project may become eligible for financing through the New York State Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund. It is therefore requested that the County have the ability to submit applications and take any necessary steps to utilize this financing vehicle if it becomes available.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Hold a Public Hearing for the proposed maximum amount to be expended for an “Increase and Improvement of Facilities in the Rochester Pure Waters District.”
2. Following the Public Hearing, adopt a resolution approving the “Increase and Improvement of Facilities in the Rochester Pure Waters District” at the maximum amount to be expended.
3. Amend the 2026 Capital Budget to add a project entitled “RPWD - CSOAP Tunnel System Improvements” in the amount of \$4,800,000.
4. Authorize financing for the project entitled “RPWD - CSOAP Tunnel System Improvements” in the amount of \$4,800,000, subject to the approval of the State Comptroller, if required.
5. Authorize filing of applications and execution of Project Financing Agreements and any other necessary documents by the County Executive or the Director of Finance – Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, for participation in the New York State Water Pollution Control Revolving Loan Fund under the applicable laws of New York State to finance all or a portion of the project.

This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5 (c)(1) (“maintenance or repair involving no substantial changes in an existing structure or facility”) and (2) (“replacement, rehabilitation or reconstruction of a structure or facility, in kind, on the same site, including upgrading buildings to meet building, energy, or fire codes unless such action meets or exceeds any of the thresholds in section 617.4 of this Part”) and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Funding for this project, consistent with authorized uses, will be available in the capital fund 2134 once the financing authorization herein is approved, and in any capital fund(s) created for the same intended purpose. The local funding for this project will ultimately be provided by the Rochester Pure Waters District user fees. No additional net County support is required in the current Monroe County budget.

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,


Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive