



Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

May 7, 2021

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

OFFICIAL FILE COPY
No. <u>210181</u>
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County
Committee Assignment
ENV. & PUB. WORKS -L
WAYS & MEANS

Subject: Increase and Improvement of Facilities in the Rochester Pure Waters District - Frank E. Van Lare Wastewater Treatment Plant Electrical System Improvements, and Amend the 2021 Capital Budget and Bond Resolution 280 of 2019 to Provide an Increase in Funding

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 ("District") in the amount of \$4,500,000 consisting of the "Frank E. Van Lare Wastewater Treatment Plant Electrical System Improvements" project, and amend the 2021 Capital Budget and Bond Resolution 280 of 2019 to provide an increase in funding.

The total Increase and Improvement of Facilities in the District is necessary to provide additional funding for continuation of the "Frank E. Van Lare Wastewater Treatment Plant Electrical System Improvements" project (capital fund 1927). Improvements are required to improve the reliability and resiliency of the Frank E. Van Lare Wastewater Treatment Plant electrical system. Anticipated upgrades include phased repair and replacement of the plant's primary electrical system building, breakers, switches, transformers, switchgear, and busses, along with distribution cabling to major plant processes.

The estimated cost increase resulted from various unforeseen conditions uncovered during the design phase of the project. Petroleum impacted soils were encountered during design. These soils will be properly handled and disposed of during construction. Poor soil conditions were also discovered which greatly impacts the cost of the building foundations. Site inspections uncovered additional cabling at the end of its useful life that was not originally anticipated. The project was originally scheduled to bid in the spring of 2020. The change in bid schedule has impacted the cost of materials anticipated for the project. Additional Rochester Gas & Electric coordination is also required as the existing exterior substation equipment will be moved inside the substation to improve the reliability and protection of the electrical equipment.

The estimated cost of the improvements is \$21,000,000, with \$16,500,000 previously approved. The actual debt service obligation for the additional cost of the project, \$4,500,000, as projected in future years, could potentially result in an increase of \$1.76 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 typical District ratepayer in 2021 is \$235.70.

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 2021 Capital Budget to increase funding for the "Frank E. Van Lare Wastewater Treatment Plant Electrical System Improvements" project by \$4,500,000, from \$16,500,000 to \$21,000,000, for a total authorization of \$21,000,000.
4. Amend Bond Resolution 280 of 2019 to increase the total estimated project cost and financing for the "Frank E. Van Lare Wastewater Treatment Plant Electrical System Improvements" project, capital fund 1927, by \$4,500,000, from \$16,500,000 to \$21,000,000, for a total project authorization of \$21,000,000, 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.

The provisions of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act shall be complied with prior to Your Honorable Body undertaking, funding, or approving the action requested in this referral.

Funding for this project, consistent with authorized uses, will be available in capital fund 1927 once the additional financing authorization requested herein is approved and in any other capital fund(s) created for the same intended purpose. The local funding for this project will ultimately be provided by 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 Bello
Monroe County Executive

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