

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the City of Cocoa Wastewater Infrastructure Expansion Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Cocoa, located at 65 Stone Street, Cocoa, FL, 32922.

The funding will be used to support the expansion of wastewater infrastructure necessary to accommodate rapid growth driven by the expanding space industry along Florida's Space Coast. This project will expand wastewater conveyance and treatment capacity in the northern portion of Cocoa, ensuring that the City can reliably serve several new large-scale employers that have chosen to locate in the area due to its proximity to launch facilities and the growing aerospace ecosystem. In addition, the improvements will support ongoing residential development that is necessary to accommodate the growing workforce associated with the space industry. Without this infrastructure expansion, wastewater capacity limitations could constrain economic development opportunities and delay projects that are vital to maintaining the Space Coast's leadership in aerospace innovation and launch operations. Expanding wastewater infrastructure is also critical to ensuring the City can continue providing safe, reliable, and environmentally responsible wastewater treatment services. As demand increases, modernizing and expanding system capacity will reduce stress on existing infrastructure, improve operational reliability, and ensure continued compliance with state and federal environmental standards.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this project represents a responsible investment in critical infrastructure that supports a nationally significant economic sector. The City of Cocoa provides essential wastewater services to a rapidly growing region of Florida's Space Coast, which plays a key role in supporting NASA missions, Department of Defense operations, and a growing commercial space industry. Expanding wastewater capacity will ensure that infrastructure keeps pace with the growth generated by these federally significant activities while maintaining environmental compliance and protecting public health. By proactively investing in infrastructure now, federal funds will help prevent more costly emergency upgrades in the future, support job creation in aerospace and advanced manufacturing, and enable continued residential development needed for the workforce supporting the nation's space industry. This investment strengthens economic resilience while

ensuring responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars through long-term infrastructure planning and sustainable growth.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Haridopolos". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mike Haridopolos
Member of Congress