

Project Name:

Bigfork Water Sewer District West Trunk Sewer Project

Recipient:

The Bigfork Water and Sewer District

Address:

P.O .Box 1108, Bigfork, MT 59911

Amount Required:

\$3,000,000

Project Description:

The West Trunk Sewer Project is a critical investment in modernizing aging wastewater infrastructure serving the Bigfork community and protecting the water quality of Flathead Lake. Key portions of the existing system date back to the 1960s and are increasingly prone to failure, creating risks of sewer overflows and environmental contamination. This funding will support the replacement of deteriorating sewer mains, construction of a properly sized lift station, and targeted improvements to reduce groundwater infiltration into the system. These upgrades will improve reliability, support future residential and commercial growth, and ensure the wastewater system can meet current and long-term demand. Federal support will also help reduce the financial burden on local ratepayers while addressing a critical infrastructure need.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2601

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Bigfork Water Sewer District West Trunk Sewer Project

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Bigfork Water Sewer District West Trunk Sewer Project in Fiscal Year 2027

The entity to receive funding for this project is The Bigfork Water and Sewer District located at P.O. Box 1108, Bigfork, MT 59911.

The West Trunk Sewer Project is a critical investment in modernizing aging wastewater infrastructure serving the Bigfork community and protecting the water quality of Flathead Lake. Key portions of the existing system date back to the 1960s and are increasingly prone to failure, creating risks of sewer overflows and environmental contamination. This funding will support the replacement of deteriorating sewer mains, construction of a properly sized lift station, and targeted improvements to reduce groundwater infiltration into the system. These upgrades will improve reliability, support future residential and commercial growth, and ensure the wastewater system can meet current and long-term demand. Federal support will also help reduce the financial burden on local ratepayers while addressing a critical infrastructure need.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 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.

Sincerely,



Ryan Zinke
Member of Congress