

MIKE BOST
12TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
RANKING MEMBER

TRANSPORTATION &
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1312

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March 24, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Chair Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$10,000,000 for the Centralia Water Treatment Plant Replacement project in Centralia, Illinois in fiscal year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Centralia, IL, located at 101 S. Locust St. Centralia, Illinois 62801.

The proposed water treatment plant will provide 6.0 million gallons per day, a new raw water main from the existing water treatment plant to the new water treatment plant, and arterial finished water mains to deliver water from the new water treatment plant to the existing distribution system. The new plant will consist of a rapid mix, flow splitter, solids, contact up flow clarifiers, gravity filters, clear well, high service pumps, chemical feed systems, water treatment plant process residual management and disposal, and a laboratory. The plant will be located on City property less than $\frac{3}{4}$ mile southwest of the existing water treatment plant. This property was purchased in 2005 for the water treatment process residue basins, which per Illinois EPA regulations would be added to the treatment process. These basins will be utilized with the new water treatment plant. The existing raw water supply from Carlyle Lake, with Raccoon Lake as a secondary "backup" source, is considered adequate to meet the future needs of the service population.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits. The City is a "regional" water supplier serving a population, based on 2020 Census, close to 31,000 people. The completion of the water system improvements is expected to benefit all users. The city of Centralia has a population of 12,061 and a daytime population of 14,136 working at about 300 businesses/organizations. In the city of Centralia, there are 23.8% of persons below the poverty line or roughly 2,870 people, which is about double the rate in Illinois (11.8%). Thirty-five percent of children under the age of 18 are living in poverty and nine of seniors over the age of 65 are living in poverty. The development and installation of this new water plant will not only help secure and spur economic growth but will help protect those that are most vulnerable. The proposed replacement water treatment plant project will provide 6.0 million gallons per day.

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 neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Bost". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Mike Bost
Member of Congress