



Jefferson Water & Sewer District Receives \$2.95 Million State Grant for Critical Water Infrastructure Upgrades

(COLUMBUS, Ohio) — The Jefferson Water & Sewer District is one of 90 projects receiving state grants to address critical water and wastewater infrastructure projects in Ohio communities. In total, 64 counties will receive \$135 million.

The funding comes from Ohio Governor Mike DeWine’s Ohio BUILDS (Broadband, Utilities, and Infrastructure for Local Development Success) water infrastructure grant program, administered through the Ohio Department of Development.

This award will support Jefferson Water & Sewer District’s Water Treatment Plant Improvements Project that will include plant upgrades and the installation of new equipment, including a 300,000-gallon clearwell, 80,000-gallon recycled water tank, site and building improvements, new pumps, a new chemical feed system, and a certified laboratory. The project will be constructed in two phases and split between the 2024 and 2025 construction seasons with a total estimated cost of over \$7 million.

“From the first dollar awarded through this program to now, we’ve made hundreds of transformative investments in the future of our communities,” said Governor DeWine. “Having a strong water infrastructure not only safeguards the health and well-being of our residents, but it makes our neighborhoods more resilient and better prepares local leaders for sustainable economic growth.”

Today’s announcement is the fifth round awarded through the program, which opened in July 2021. In total, nearly \$500 million has been awarded to 343 critical infrastructure projects through the Ohio BUILDS water infrastructure grant program.

“This additional round of funding will help communities from one corner of the state to the next replace aging, overwhelmed infrastructure, ensuring that Ohioans have access to clean drinking water,” said Lt. Governor Husted. “These projects will not only greatly improve the quality of life for residents in these areas, but they also boost economic growth related to business expansion and housing development.”

In total, the program received more than 1,200 grant applications requesting nearly \$1.4 billion in funding.

“Businesses that choose to set up shop in Ohio do so, in large part, because of the generational investments we’ve made in local infrastructure,” said Director Mihalik. “Through the vision of Governor DeWine and Lt. Governor Husted, and the support of our state legislature, we’re creating more opportunities for communities large and small to be Ohio’s next great economic success story.”

Funds awarded today will help reduce or eliminate the local financial burden associated with critical infrastructure needs such as the construction of new water systems, the replacement of aging water lines, and the installation of new water mains. Grants will also fund projects to prevent sewer system backups and replace failing household sewage treatment systems with new sewers.

“Jefferson Water & Sewer District is grateful for the Governor’s vision and understanding of the importance of water infrastructure for local communities”, said JWSD Director Albert Iosue. “This investment by the State of Ohio will ensure that residents and business in Jefferson Township will continue to receive high-quality, safe, clean drinking water for many years into the future.”

The Ohio BUILDS water infrastructure grants are a continuation of Governor DeWine's H2Ohio initiative, which launched in 2019 to focus on ensuring plentiful, clean, and safe water for communities across the state.

Ohio BUILDS focuses not only on strengthening Ohio's communities through water infrastructure upgrades, but also supports other necessary investments in targeted solutions that impact quality of life such as broadband expansion, brownfield redevelopment, the demolition of blighted buildings, and more.

Additional information on the Ohio BUILDS water infrastructure grant program can be found on the [program webpage](#).

The Ohio Department of Development empowers communities to succeed by investing in Ohio’s people, places, and businesses. Learn more about our work at [development.ohio.gov](#).

Jefferson Water & Sewer District strives to provide high-quality, safe, clean drinking water and effective sanitary sewer collection and disposal services to customers within Jefferson Township at an affordable price. Learn more about JWSD at [jwsd.org](#).

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