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SUBCOMMITTEES:
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March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Golden Gate City Wastewater Lift Station Property Acquisition in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is Collier County, located at 3299 Tamiami Trail East, Naples, Florida 34112.

A recent study found that more than 60 percent of single-family homes in the Golden Gate area rely on septic tanks located in close proximity to potable water wells. Much of the existing water and wastewater infrastructure—constructed in the 1960s without proper pipe bedding on caprock—uses asbestos-cement water lines and vitrified-clay sewer pipes that have become brittle and increasingly prone to breaks. The Master Plan study outlines an efficient, phased approach to secure resources, funding, design, and construction needed to upgrade this infrastructure for the area's low- to moderate-income residents. The requested funding would be used to support land acquisition for this project, which will directly improve the health, safety, and welfare of Golden Gate residents.

This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds, as sanitary sewer construction and connection costs are often prohibitively expensive for households, and federal support would help alleviate those financial burdens on residents.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

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

Sincerely,



Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress