

Board of County Commissioners Sumter County, Florida

7375 Powell Road, Suite 200 • Wildwood, FL 34785 • Phone (352) 689-4400 • FAX. (352) 689-4401
Website: <http://sumtercountyfl.gov>



March 6, 2026

To Whom it May Concern

Re: City of Webster Support Letter
Wastewater System Improvements Project

Sumter County is pleased to offer this letter of support for the City of Webster Wastewater System Improvements Project. The City of Webster is proposing to rehabilitate an existing lift station, install a permanently mounted standby generator, and upgrade and elevate electrical service and controls above flood levels to improve reliability and resiliency.

The City of Webster service area is highly susceptible to flooding and storm-related damage associated with hurricanes and tropical storms. For this reason, strengthening system resilience and reliability is essential in the design and construction of modern wastewater utilities. The proposed improvements will enhance the system's ability to withstand extreme weather events while maintaining safe and reliable water service.

The County recognizes the importance of this project in ensuring long-term water quality, reliability, and capacity for the City of Webster service area. These improvements will significantly benefit residents, businesses, and the broader community by supporting sustainable growth and improved public health protections.

Please contact this office if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Kristy Russell, Director
Sumter County Economic Development

Debra K. Butterfield, District 1
(352) 689-4400
7375 Powell Road
Wildwood, FL 34785

Andrew Bilardello, District 2
Vice Chairman
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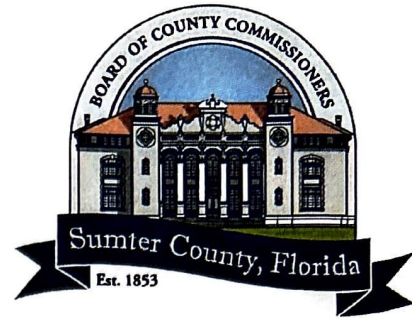
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215 East McCollum Avenue
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March 6, 2026

Honorable Congressman Daniel Webster
8015 E. County Road 466 Suite B
The Villages, FL 32162

Re: City of Webster – Support Letter for Federal Legislative Request

Dear Congressman Webster:

This letter fully supports the proposed wastewater system improvements for the City of Webster's Wastewater Department. During Hurricane Milton, the city's wastewater system was impacted from flood waters to their existing wastewater system. As a result, the city needs to repair existing lift stations and need by-pass pumps to plan for future storms and resiliency.

This funding will provide essential services for wastewater infrastructure, which will greatly benefit the community by ensuring reliable, safe, and sustainable utility services for residents and businesses.

The plans for the proposed improvements have been carefully evaluated and are consistent with all applicable local codes, land development regulations, and the current Comprehensive Plan for the City of Webster. The city is confident that these planning efforts will lay the foundation for long-term improvements to its municipal wastewater systems.

We appreciate consideration of this funding request and look forward to working together to strengthen the City of Webster's infrastructure for the benefit of the community.

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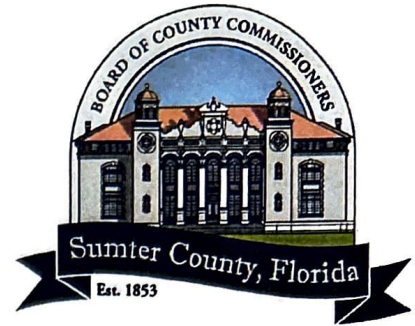
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Wastewater System Improvements Project

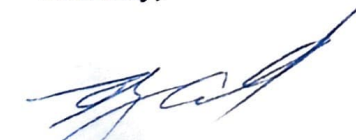
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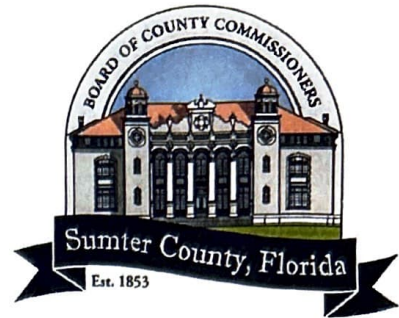
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Dear Congressman Webster:

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This funding will provide essential services for wastewater infrastructure, greatly benefiting the community by ensuring reliable, safe, and sustainable utility services for residents and businesses.

The plans for the proposed improvements have been carefully evaluated and are consistent with all applicable local codes, land development regulations, and the City of Webster's current Comprehensive Plan. The County is confident that these planning efforts will lay the foundation for long-term improvements to the City's municipal wastewater systems.

We appreciate consideration of this funding request and look forward to working together to strengthen the City of Webster's infrastructure for the benefit of the community.

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**Fiscal Year 2027 Appropriations
Community Project Funding (CPF) - Agriculture Request Form
Congressman Daniel Webster**

Organization Information

Organization Name: City of Webster

Street Address: 85 East Central Avenue, Webster, FL 33597

Phone Number: 352-793-2073

Website: <https://websterfl.com/>

Type of Entity (non-profit, university, government, etc.): Government – Public Body

Contact Information:

Point of contact at your organization who our staff may contact regarding this request

Name: Deanna Naugler, City Manager

Organization/Firm: City of Webster

Phone Number: 352-793-2073

E-mail Address: dnaugler@websterfl.com

Request Details

1) Request type: Community Project Funding FY27

a. Subcommittee: Agriculture

b. Agency: Rural Development

c. Account: Rural Utilities Service, Water and Waste Disposal Grants

d. Short Project Title: The City of Webster is requesting funding to replace two (2) lift stations.

e. Total Project Cost: \$2,048,220.00

Construction	\$1,495,052.00
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Engineering Services	\$328,911.28
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Administrative to include

Legal, Fiscal & Construction Interest	\$224,256.72
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f. Amount Requested: \$2,048,220.00

g. For Water and Waste requests only, provide relevant information, such as the number of 387 households and 26 businesses that would be served.

h. Breakdown of federal/non-federal share: \$2,048,220.00 Federal and \$0 Non-Federal

i. Whether the project has received Federal Funding previously, and if so, the source and amount: N/A

j. Project Priority (if non-federal sponsor is submitting more than 1 project): N/A

- k. **Has the recipient secured all necessary funds to complete the project, including non-federal cost share requirement:** This request will be the only funding source for completion of this project. If a cost share is required, the City of Webster will leverage funding through the USDA, Rural Development Water and Environmental Programs.
- l. **Complete Description of Project (limit 1000 characters, including spaces):** The City of Webster is seeking federal funding to strengthen the resilience and reliability of its wastewater collection system by rehabilitating and hardening two critical lift stations—Live Oak Subdivision Lift Station and Lift Station 5. Both facilities have experienced flooding, aging equipment failures, and vulnerable low-elevation electrical components, creating a high risk of service interruptions and sanitary sewer overflows during major storm events. The project will elevate and harden key infrastructure, modernize electrical and control systems, rehabilitate deteriorated wet wells and manholes, replace aging pumps and piping, and install dedicated bypass pumping systems to maintain operations during emergencies. These improvements will reduce hurricane-related failure risks, protect water quality, and ensure reliable wastewater service for surrounding neighborhoods while extending the useful life of essential public infrastructure.
- m. **If there are additional costs necessary to complete the project, have those been secured?** No additional costs are anticipated outside of the Project Budget estimate included in this request.
- n. **Explain why the project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds.** This project represents a responsible and efficient use of taxpayer dollars by proactively addressing aging and vulnerable wastewater infrastructure before failures occur. By rehabilitating and hardening two critical lift stations, the City of Webster will reduce the risk of costly emergency repairs, environmental contamination, and public health impacts associated with sanitary sewer overflows. Investing in preventative upgrades now will extend the useful life of existing infrastructure, improve system reliability during severe weather events, and reduce long-term operational and maintenance costs. This approach ensures federal funds are used strategically to protect essential public services, safeguard water quality, and strengthen infrastructure resilience for the community.
- o. **Explain why this project is a priority for Florida's 11th Congressional District.** The 11th Congressional District includes The City of Webster, a community that has experienced repeated flooding, aging utility infrastructure, and increasing strain from stronger, more frequent storms. Florida's statewide resilience planning efforts consistently identify flooding, lift station vulnerability, and wastewater system failures as high-risk issues requiring targeted investment. The City of Webster's lift station replacement project directly aligns with these priorities and complies with both the State of Florida Mitigation Plan and the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plans. Advancing this project is essential to protecting public health, reducing service disruptions, and ensuring the continuity of critical wastewater services during future storm events.

2) Account Specific Questions:

- a. For Rural Development projects, is the project for an eligible purpose and does it meet all eligibility requirements under current law? Yes**
- b. Does the entity plan to make grants to other entities from the funds provided and, if so, to whom? No**
- c. Why is the project a priority for the district? Briefly explain the community benefits.** For a rural or semi-rural community like Webster, these benefits are especially significant. A single lift station failure can affect the entire service area. Replacing the station now prevents escalating risks and positions the community for safe, sustainable growth.
- d. Has any funding for the project been included in any presidential budget and, if so, how much, in which fiscal year, and in which agency or agencies and program(s)?**
N/A
- e. Has the project received Federal funding before and, if so, how much, when, and from which agency or agencies and program(s)?** N/A
- f. Have you contacted the State Rural Development Office/State Conservation Office to discuss the project and confirm eligibility? Yes and a letter of support is included as part of this request.**



Rural Development
Community Programs

4500 NW 27th Avenue
Suite D-2
Gainesville, FL
32606-7010

Voice: 352.338.3440
Fax 352.338.3452

March 5, 2026

Deanna Naugler
Mayor, City of Webster
85 E Central Ave.
Webster, FL 33597

Subject: City of Webster Congressional Community Project Funding Question
FY 2027 CPF Grant

Dear Mayor Vigoa,

This email will serve as Rural Developments review of the project. Please ensure a copy of this email is provided with your application to your Congressional Representative.

1. Eligible Entity: City of Webster appears to be an eligible entity as a Public Body
2. Facility Population: The facility location appears to be in the City of Webster, which has a 2020 population of 778 and appears to be eligible.
3. Eligible Purpose: The purpose of the project is to improve water systems, which appears to be an eligible purpose under the program based upon the limited information provided for the project.

For WEP CPF/CDS funding in FY 2027, recipients will be required to provide a 25% non-federal cost share. Recipient cost-share can be provided through cash-on-hand, capital funding sources, or USDA programs, such as Water & Waste Disposal Loan & Grant Program.

Please be advised that if you are awarded a Congressional Directive Spending (CDS) and/or Community Project Funding (CPF) Grant you will be required to follow Rural Development requirements, below are some general guidelines for recipients:

- Recipient will be required to submit a complete application to USDA, Rural Development,
- Recipient will be required to submit an architectural/engineering report,
- Recipient will be required to submit an environmental report,
- The project must not have started construction prior to USDA, Rural Development approval
- Rural Development will monitor all aspects of construction including bidding documents, contracts and monthly construction meetings until the project is complete

This email will serve as Rural Developments review of the project, please ensure a copy of this email is provided with your application to your Congressional Representative.

To know whether the guidance has changed, we encourage you to maintain close contact with your congressional representative and they will be your best source of information on any aspects of the appropriations process.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Ken E. Johnson
Community Programs Specialist
Florida & US Virgin Islands State Office