



MEMBER AGENCIES

- City of Cloverdale
- City of Cotati
- City of Healdsburg
- City of Santa Rosa
- City of Sebastopol
- City of Ukiah
- County of Mendocino
- County of Sonoma
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- Town of Windsor

ANDY RODGERS Executive Director

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March 13, 2024

SENT VIA: EMAIL

The Honorable Mike Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
268 Cannon Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for the City of Santa Rosa's Community Project Funding request for the Llano Trunk sewer line project

Dear Congressman Thompson:

Serving as Executive Director for the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA), I am writing to express support for the City of Santa Rosa's Community Project Funding request for the Llano Trunk sewer line project, which aligns with the City of Santa Rosa's 2024 Federal Legislative Platform.

The Russian River watershed is a rich and diverse region of nearly 1,500 square miles of forests, agricultural lands and urban lands in Mendocino and Sonoma Counties. The mainstem of the Russian River flows 110 miles from its headwaters near Redwood Valley and Potter Valley to the Pacific Ocean near Jenner. The watershed is home to approximately 360,000 people, 238 streams and creeks, and 63 species of fish – three of which are listed as threatened or endangered: Chinook salmon, Coho salmon and Steelhead trout.

With your leadership, Congress approved, and President Biden signed into law the Water Resources Development Act of 2022, which includes an environmental infrastructure authorization for the City's water and wastewater infrastructure projects.

The City of Santa Rosa Water Department (Santa Rosa Water) delivers approximately six billion gallons of drinking water annually, to over 54,000 customer accounts, and operates the sanitary sewer system, serving over 49,000 customer accounts, for a population of over 178,000. Santa Rosa Water also operates the Santa Rosa Regional Water Reuse System, which serves approximately 230,000 residents in Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park, Cotati, Sebastopol, and unincorporated portions of Sonoma County. The hub of the reuse system is the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant.

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The Llano Trunk sewer line is identified in the Santa Rosa Water's Sewer Master Plan as the most critical wastewater infrastructure project because the trunk lines transport significant flow to the Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant via large diameter pipelines and are in environmentally critical areas, under paved roadways, and along sewer easements.

Santa Rosa's Regional Llano Trunk Line project is critical to strengthening the region's water resiliency, protecting our environment, and ensuring underserved areas are shielded from the devastating impacts of climate change.

Thank you in advance for considering the City's request. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, at cleanwater@rrwatershed.org or 707 508 3670.

Sincerely,



Andy Rodgers, RRWA Executive Director