



FAIRFIELD-SUISUN SEWER DISTRICT

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Solano Cty CAO

1010 Chadbourne Road • Fairfield, California 94534 • (707) 429-8930 • www.fssd.com

September 15, 2021

Birgitta E. Corsello
675 Texas Street, Suite 6500
Fairfield, CA 94533

RE: Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Fund

Dear Ms. Corsello,

On behalf of the Fairfield Suisun Sewer District, I am contacting you to respectfully request assistance from Solano County's Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Fund monies for our District's eligible pandemic-related expenditures, revenue losses, and additional recovery measures.

The District contracts with the City of Fairfield and City of Suisun City for sewer bill collection on the water bills. As of August 31, 2021, the cities of Fairfield and Suisun City had \$527,003 and \$167,232 of sewer bills delinquent beyond one billing cycle, respectively.

As you consider priorities for the \$87 million in Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, I ask that you consider transferring a portion of those funds to address COVID-19 response impacts to our District and to ensure continuation of the essential local services we provide to our shared constituency.

The federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) gives counties the authority to transfer Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Fund monies to special purpose units of state and local government for the *same eligible uses* as cities and counties. Among others, these uses include:

- pandemic-related expenditures,
- revenue losses,
- premium pay for essential workers,
- necessary investments in water, wastewater, and broadband services.

The Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District provides approximately 146,100 residents in the City of Fairfield and the City of Suisun City with sewer and wastewater services.

To date, the District has experienced \$694,235 in fiscal impacts eligible under the ARP's Section 9901, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds.

Like special districts statewide, we have been unable to access COVID-19 fiscal relief programs despite experiencing similar fiscal and operational challenges as cities and counties. Special districts were not included in state or federal Coronavirus Relief Fund allocations, nor were we granted direct access under the ARP. While the recently

Birgitta E. Corsello
Local Coronavirus Fiscal Recovery Fund
September 15, 2021
Page 2 of 2

enacted 2021-2022 State Budget provides some important new avenues for COVID-19 relief to California's special districts, the available assistance is dwarfed by need statewide, and in many cases is limited to specific uses. Our request takes all available funding into consideration. We have no remaining avenues to request relief and are not receiving other state or federal funding for these purposes; moreover, if we are not able to recover some funding, the District will be unable to effectively address negative economic impacts on households caused by the public health emergency.

We look forward to working with you and your staff on this issue and appreciate your consideration. Please contact me at tsortor@fssd.com and 707-428- 9151 to speak further about this request. I stand ready to be a resource and answer questions or provide additional information.

Thank you,



Talyon Sortor
General Manager

cc: Board of Supervisors