LEGISLATIVE POSITION PAPER

SUPPORT FULL FUNDING FOR SAFE DRINKING AND CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING FUNDS

BACKGROUND

The nationwide need for investment in water and wastewater infrastructure is estimated between $400 billion and $600 billion over the next 20 years. One of the primary sources of federal funding for drinking water and waste water infrastructure are the highly successful, but chronically underfunded Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan programs.

Both Public and Private Studies Found Astounding Gaps Between Current Spending and Projected Needs. Modernizing and replacing aging water infrastructure may be the single largest public works endeavor in our nation’s history. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Clean Water and Drinking Water Infrastructure Gap Analysis found a $540 billion gap between current spending and projected needs for water and wastewater infrastructure (combined) over the next 20 years. Other public studies conducted by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), and a private study produced by an AGC partner, the Water Infrastructure Network, have similarly estimated the nation’s water infrastructure needs to range between $400 billion and $600 billion over a 20-year period.

Restore Funding to the Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Program Funds. The overall trend for funding the CWSRF and DWSRF programs in recent years has been declining federal investment. Congress must reauthorize and fully fund the CWSRF and DWSRF loan programs to ensure consistency and give communities the ability to leverage federal dollars and plan capital improvements in order to provide public health, safety and environmental quality.

CAWVPOSITION

The CAWV supports restoring full funding for the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan programs.

CAWV Congressional Fly-In, May 25, 2011