

GREGORY F. MURPHY, M.D.
3RD DISTRICT, NORTH CAROLINA

COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

CO-CHAIR, DOCTOR'S CAUCUS



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3303

May 10, 2024

Chairman Tom Cole and Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$10,000,000 to fund a much needed social and economic infrastructure that will benefit the Town, the new Industrial Park and Main Street program. The funds are crucial for the Town to support and enhance downtown revitalization efforts including water/sewer services, signage, sidewalks, streetscape improvements and wastewater improvement treatment systems.

The Town of Aurora owns the 12.37-acre site containing the town's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The WWTP is a unique facility that utilizes the natural processes of wetlands to treat the town's wastewater. This system was implemented as a retrofit to the existing 2-cell lagoon facility in 1993 and has been providing tertiary treatment to meet the "secondary limit" requirements set by the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

The Town's existing wastewater treatment facility consists of a two-cell (series) facultative lagoon, a two cell (parallel) surface flow wetland, and a chlorinated gas room. The surface flow wetland system consists of two parallel cells with a total area of 1.28 acres with dimensions of 465 feet by 60 feet per cell (normal water surface). Each processing cell is gravity fed into the next, although a pump system is available to pump water from the second lagoon to the surface flow wetlands and from the wetland system to the chlorinated gas room. The effluent waters from the treatment plant are received by South Creek, a tributary of the Pamlico River, in the Tar-Pamlico River Basin.

There is a strong federal nexus as The federal Clean Water Act requires that local governments prevent the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the United States. The requested funding will enable the Town of Aurora to better meet that obligation for the foreseeable future. Additionally, Aurora is a Tier 1 high poverty area. Grant funds will generate economic development opportunities for job growth raising the citizens out of poverty.

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I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory F. Murphy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "G" and "M".

Gregory F. Murphy, M.D.
Member of Congress
3rd District, North Carolina