



**SPRINGFIELD WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Commission Receives Competitive \$22M Loan for Wastewater Treatment Project

The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission (Commission) is pleased to announce it has been selected to receive a competitive \$21,989,339 loan for a critical upgrade to its Springfield Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility (SRWTF) from the Massachusetts Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF).

The Grit Removal Upgrade Project will add critical improvements to a key stage in the primary treatment of wastewater. Grit removal involves the removal of solids, such as dirt, wipes, and other debris that finds its way into the sewer system. This step occurs once the wastewater enters the plant, and before it moves on to the primary and secondary treatment stages.

The upgraded grit removal system will be able to remove finer grit particles, ultimately making primary treatment more efficient as wastewater moves through the process and requiring less maintenance. This will enable the wastewater treatment plant to respond to the increased inflows of combined stormwater and wastewater during storm events, reducing CSO discharges into the Connecticut River and providing more consistent treatment results.

The SRWTF treats wastewater from Springfield and six other surrounding communities. Bids for the project came in under-budget. Construction is expected to be underway in mid-August and project completion is expected in two years. The project is part of the Commission's [Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Renewal Program](#), a [portfolio](#) of over 20 projects taking place over the next 6 years to upgrade aging water and wastewater infrastructure. Low-interest financing from the SRF reduces borrowing costs and ultimately assists in accelerating project completion.

About the Commission

Established in 1996, the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission is an independent, public regional utility. The Commission serves 250,000 customers in the lower Pioneer Valley with safe and reliable drinking water and wastewater service. The Commission provides retail drinking water service to Springfield and Ludlow; wholesale drinking water service to Agawam, Longmeadow, and East Longmeadow; and emergency/peak service to Westfield, Southwick, West Springfield, Chicopee, and Wilbraham. The Commission provides retail wastewater service to Springfield and wholesale wastewater service to West Springfield, Agawam, Longmeadow, East Longmeadow, Wilbraham, and Ludlow.

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