



**SPRINGFIELD WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 995, SPRINGFIELD, MA 01101**

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Contact: Katie Shea, Communications Specialist
Springfield Water and Sewer Commission
Tel: 413-452-1311
Email: katherine.shea@waterandsewer.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Springfield Water and Sewer Commission Featured in EPA Report to Congress

Integrated Wastewater Plan considered a model for utilities across the country

The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission (Commission) is pleased to announce it was recently featured in the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) *Report to Congress on Integrated Plans to Comply with the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2019*, submitted to Congress in July. The EPA's report highlights several communities from around the country that have put Integrated Planning (IP) into action. The Commission has been a leader in Integrated Planning, having issued the first Integrated Wastewater Plan (IWP) in the nation in 2014, and was included in the report to Congress as a model for other utilities facing similar challenges such as combined sewer overflows (CSO), aging infrastructure, and the need to keep rates affordable while maintaining water and wastewater services.

The Commission is well advanced in implementing its own IWP, which includes several large-scale projects that address multiple pressing needs such as CSO reduction, lack of resiliency, system redundancy, and infrastructure renewal. Construction is currently underway to complete the York Street Pump Station and Connecticut River Crossing Project, a cornerstone project of the IWP that directly addresses these needs. In addition, design is underway for the Locust Transfer Project, an IWP Phase 3 project, which is scheduled to begin construction in 2022.

The IWP has also put the Commission in a more competitive position for obtaining state and federal grants and financing opportunities, including recently securing \$251 million in low-interest financing for infrastructure projects through the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA). The Commission will also receive financing from the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRF). Through the IWP, comprehensive planning, and these strategic financing opportunities, the Commission will maximize funding to support the City of Springfield, and surrounding wholesale communities, in maintaining public health, service reliability, and environmental protection well into the 21st century.



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More Information

The Integrated Wastewater Plan is available on the Commission's website <https://waterandsewer.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/IntegratedWastewaterPlan.pdf>.

The [*Report to Congress on Integrated Plans to Comply with the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2019*](#) is available on the EPA's website, as well as an [excerpt from the report](#) featuring the Commission.

About the Springfield Water and Sewer Commission

The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission is an independent, regional public utility that provides drinking water and wastewater service to approximately 250,000 people in the lower Pioneer Valley. The Commission provides retail drinking water service to Springfield and Ludlow, and wholesale drinking water to Agawam, Longmeadow, and East Longmeadow, as well as emergency/peak service to Southwick, West Springfield, Westfield, 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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