



2017

Budget Priority

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

THE PROBLEM

Aging water infrastructure, deteriorating pipes, struggling wastewater treatment plants and water main breaks have become commonplace throughout the state. Comptroller DiNapoli recently issued a report indicating the State would need an estimated \$80 billion to repair, maintain and replace drinking and wastewater infrastructure in New York over the next 20 years. In response to recent events and NYSAC's calls to address local water infrastructure needs the Governor has proposed the Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017 to improve municipal drinking water, improve wastewater treatment infrastructure, expedite the cleanup of hazardous waste that may impact drinking water, and support green infrastructure.

2017 EXECUTIVE BUDGET PROPOSAL

The Governor's State Budget includes a proposal to create a \$2 billion Clean Water Infrastructure Act to be funded at \$400 million per year over five years for municipal drinking water and waste water infrastructure improvements and source water protection.

There are 4 program proposals included within the Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017:

- 1) *State Funding for Land Acquisition Projects*
- 2) *Lead Service Line Replacement Grant Program*
- 3) *Cleanup & Abatement of Solid Waste & Drinking Water Contamination*
- 4) *New York State Regional Water Infrastructure Grants Program*

2017 LEGISLATIVE BUDGET PROPOSALS

The Assembly Budget allocates \$2 billion, \$400 million annually for five years, for various water infrastructure programs and specifies the types of projects eligible for that funding.

The Senate Budget modifies the Governor's proposal. They accept the proposed \$2 billion in funding, and propose the creation of the New York State Regional Water Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2017 (RWIIA) and provide \$5 billion in bonding authority, which will finance clean water infrastructure projects.

COUNTY SOLUTION

Counties support the Governor's proposal. Counties also support calls for the creation of a Safe Water Infrastructure Action Program (SWAP), to aid local governments for drinking water, sanitary sewer and storm water infrastructure. The program would be like that of the existing Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPs) with payment based on a formula calculating the amount of funding allocated in relation to the length and width of water infrastructure.