

CITY OF VICTORIA

Victoria, MN



Est. 1915

May 1, 2025

Honorable Tom Emmer
326 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Emmer,

On behalf of the City of Victoria, I am writing to express our strong support for Laketown Township's request for Congressionally Directed Spending dollars. These funds are critically needed to assist in replacing the aging 201 sewer system currently serving properties near Lake Bavaria, Pierson Lake, and Reitz Lake.

As background, the original system was installed in 1983 using a Federal Clean Water Act "201 Grant." Its primary purpose was, and remains, the protection of water quality in these valuable regional lakes. This system, utilizing mounds, sand filters, and greywater collection, had an anticipated lifespan of approximately 20 years. Now, over 40 years later, these systems are significantly outdated and facing increasing maintenance challenges. Consequently, the current 201 greywater system is not a sustainable or adequate long-term wastewater treatment solution for these properties and poses a risk to the long-term health of the adjacent lakes.

Recognizing the need for action, Laketown Township proactively completed a comprehensive wastewater system study in June 2023. This study identified feasible options for replacing the deteriorating 201 systems with a modern sanitary sewer system, with an estimated total project cost of \$21.4 million.

The City of Victoria recognizes the regional importance of maintaining water quality and ensuring adequate wastewater infrastructure. Furthermore, this project holds direct significance for Victoria, as the necessary wastewater improvements include neighborhoods near Pierson Lake situated within the City of Victoria's designated future growth area. Replacing the outdated 201 system is therefore imperative not only for the long-term environmental health of our shared lakes but also for supporting planned development and providing essential services within our community's future footprint.

Therefore, the City of Victoria formally supports Laketown Township's request for funds to facilitate this essential project. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important regional infrastructure need.

Sincerely,

Dana Hardie
City Manager, City of Victoria