

District of Columbia
Intended Use Plan for
Safe Drinking Water Act
Base Funds
Federal Fiscal Years 2025 and 2026

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments of 1996 (Public Law 104-182) authorize a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program to assist public water systems to finance improvements needed to achieve or maintain compliance with SDWA requirements and to protect public health. Although the District of Columbia (“the District”) is defined as a State for the purposes of SDWA, Section 1452(j) exempts the District from establishing a State Revolving Fund program. Therefore, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides the District's allotment of Federal funds in the form of grants. The District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water) is the grantee for project grants while the DC Department of the Environment (DOEE) and its agent, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Office at Blue Plains, can receive funds for oversight and management of these projects.

EPA, DOEE, and DC Water have agreed to this combined Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 - FY 2026 Intended Use Plan (IUP). This Intended Use Plan outlines how the combined amount of Federal funding and required matching funds will be apportioned among program and project uses. The Federal Fiscal Year 2025 runs from October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025; and the Federal Fiscal Year 2026 runs from October 1, 2025 to September 30, 2026. This IUP will remain in effect until superseded by a new or amended IUP.

If identified under-funded Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) contracts arise, DC Water is reserving the ability to draw funds from the SWDA Base funding allotment, if required. Contract descriptions and contract amounts for proposed LSLR contracts can be found within the DC Water FY2025 – FY2026 IJA Lead Service Line Replacement Intended Use Plan, and Project Priority List. As such, we are including a description of the district’s lead history and lead replacement programs below for reference.

The District has a history of lead in drinking water because of its older housing stock and has 60 census tracts that have been identified. Achieving positive health outcomes are critical in the effort to address lead pipes and improve water infrastructure. At the beginning of the program an estimated 42,000 lead service lines (LSL) in the District. DC Water has committed to replace all lead service lines by rule required date. On June 3, 2021, the DC Water Board of Directors [approved Resolution 21-46](#), which approves the Lead Free DC (LFDC) Plan to implement the program and replace all lead, galvanized iron, and brass (if funded) services lines. DC Water has updated the LFDC Plan to comply with the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) requirements. Furthermore, DC Water LFDC prioritization model incorporates water quality and customer needs in the prioritization of LSL replacements using their project planning model. This prioritization model uses demographic and water quality data to prioritize LSL replacements for vulnerable populations most impacted by lead exposure and historically older communities that experience disproportionately poorer health outcomes.

DC Water's LFDC program consist of multiple lead service line replacement programs and has expanded the Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) program in FY 2025. The LSLR programs currently consist of:

- Capital Improvement Project and Emergency Repair Replacements (CIPERR)
- Lead Pipe Replacement Assistance Program (LPRAP)
- House by House Program (HBH)

LONG AND SHORT-TERM GOALS FOR THE USE OF DC GRANT FUNDS

Long-Term Goals

1. Provide safe and adequate supplies of potable water by correcting problems with and maintaining adequate facilities for drinking water storage and distribution. Emphasis is placed on projects designed to correct deficiencies, which pose a potential threat to public health.
2. Maintain compliance with SDWA drinking water standards or other requirements of the SDWA.

Short-Term Goals

1. Implement near term projects as identified in DC Water's Water System Facilities Plan.
2. At this time, there are no requirements to prioritize or establish a specific goal to fund "green projects" as defined by the EPA. "Green projects" were previously defined by EPA as meeting one of the following four categories: water efficient, energy efficient, green infrastructure, or environmentally innovative. However, should "green projects" become a requirement, as they have been in the past, project funding and prioritization may be affected to comply with this requirement. Absent any such requirement or agreement by DC Water, the District Department of the Environment, and EPA, the listed projects will be funded in priority order and on their readiness to proceed.

AVAILABLE FUNDS

The FY 2025 and FY 2026 DWSRF allotment have not yet been determined. But for purposes of planning, we have assumed the FY 2025 DWSRF allotment to be \$11,141,010 based on an estimate provided with the passage of the continuing resolution. For purposes of this IUP, we have assumed the estimated allotment for each of the two years. When the final allotments are determined and made available by EPA, the available fund amount will be adjusted accordingly. It should be noted that some previously grant funded projects may be completed for less money than anticipated. This may result in surplus grant funds becoming available for reuse. The use of any "carryover" or surplus grant funds that may be recovered during this period will be used to fund new unfunded projects or past under-funded projects in priority order.

If Congress authorizes any supplementary funds during this period, these funds would be directed in accordance with this Intended Use Plan, the Project Priority List and process described below unless otherwise modified by Congress or EPA.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

For FY 2025 and FY 2026, the available funding and expected usage is as follows:

Available Federal Funds	Grant Dollars
Estimated Recaptured Funds from previous years (Prior to FY 2025)	\$5,200,000
FY 2025 DWSRF	\$10,906,000
FY 2026 DWSRF (Estimated Allotment)	\$10,906,000
Total Estimated Federal Funds (FY 2025 – 2026)	\$27,012,000
Project Pool that may be submitted for grants during FY 2025 & FY 2026 (in priority ranking order)	
Water Pumping and Storage Facilities Upgrade Contract	
Bryant Street Pumping Station Improvements [FY'25]	\$10,000,000
Electrical Mechanical and Instrumentation Upgrade [FY'25]	\$13,000,000
Phase 1 – Fort Stanton Reservoir #1 Replacements [FY'25]	\$38,000,000
Phase 2 – Fort Stanton Reservoir #2 Replacement [FY'25]	\$20,000,000
Pressure Zone Improvement Program [FY'25]	\$40,000,000
Transmission Mains and Critical Valves Contract	
Critical Valve Replacement Year 3 [FY'26]	\$8,700,000
16-inch CI Reservoir Road Transmission Main Rehabilitation [FY'26]	\$25,000,000
16-inch CI Rock Creek Park Transmission Main Renewal [FY'26]	\$11,000,000
LDWM Replacement 8 [FY'26]	\$41,500,000
WSSC Interconnections Improvements – Phase I [FY'26]	\$6,000,000
WSSC Interconnections Improvements – Phase II [FY'26]	\$5,800,000
Fourth High Reno WSSC Interconnection [FY'26]	\$4,600,000
Fourth High Reno Standby Booster Pumping Station [FY'26]	\$11,600,000
Lead Service Line Replacement Contract	
Lead Service Line Replacements [FY'25-FY'26]	
Total Grant Project Pool	\$235,200,000
Grant awards may not exceed estimated, recovered, and available grant funds	

Note

As of this date, there are no other surplus grant funds available from previously funded projects. However, surplus grant funds may arise as existing grant funded projects are completed during FY 2025 and FY 2026. Any surplus grant funds recovered will be used to supplement allotted grant funds. The use of surplus or “carryover” funds will be directed toward either new unfunded projects or past under-funded projects in priority order or as may be agreed upon by EPA, DOEE, and DC Water.

Total Estimated Federal and Local Funds Available for FY 2025 – FY 2026	Funds
Estimated Federal Funds (Project Need) for DC Water Projects (80% grant)	\$188,160,000
Estimated Local Funds (Project Need) for DC Water Projects (20% match)	\$47,040,000
Total Available Federal Funds for FY 2025 and FY 2026	\$27,012,000

EPA allows DC Water to receive Federal Funds at the 80% level. These grants require a 20% local match.

DC Water will increase its local match level if sufficient Federal funds are not available for a project to be fully funded in order not to impede the project or its construction. As future Federal funds become available, DC Water may request additional funds to cover any shortfall in Federal funding. It should also be noted that DC Water's Capital Improvement Program is not wholly dependent upon Federal funding. Many DC Water projects proceed without any Federal funds.

SELECTION OF PROJECTS TO BE FUNDED

In 1999, EPA in conjunction with DC Water developed a Project Priority Rating System. The Project Priority Rating System uses a system to numerically score drinking water projects based upon their contribution to protecting public health, improving compliance with regulatory standards, and maintaining drinking water reliability, safety and environment. The ranking system includes a provision allowing for funding of lower ranked projects (i.e. for by-passing higher ranked projects) based on exigent circumstances and ability to implement the lower ranked projects relative to the higher ranked projects proposed to be by-passed.

The Project Priority List (PPL) is routinely updated to remove projects when grants are awarded, to reflect new estimated costs and schedules, and to include new projects. This FY 2025– 2026 PPL, is a two-year project funding plan and revises and supersedes the previously approved FY 2023 - FY 2024 PPL, which expired on September 30, 2024. The plan identifies expected projects to be funded during the FY 2025 – FY 2026 period. Projects are displayed on the PPL in priority order. The project with the highest priority rating score (i.e., the most important) is listed first. The remaining projects are listed in order of descending score.

A more detailed description of these and future water projects can be found online at DC Water's website under "District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority: Capital Improvement Program, Approved FY2018– 2027, Section V, Capital Programs".

https://www.dewater.com/sites/default/files/finance/budgets/2019/FY%202019%20Capital%20Improvement%20Program_revised%207-19-18.pdf