

U.S. House of Representatives
Rep. Sharice L. Davids
Kansas Third District

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for City of Ottawa Advanced Metering Infrastructure Water Meter Replacement in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is City of Ottawa, located at 101 South Hickory St., Ottawa, KS 66067. The funding would be used for the replacement of all remaining outdated residential and commercial water meters with Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) meters. This project modernizes the city's water utility system by transitioning from manual meter reading to a real-time, data-driven platform. AMI technology enables continuous monitoring of water usage, allowing both the utility and customers to quickly identify abnormal consumption patterns, including leaks. Industry data from comparable AMI deployments indicate water loss reductions of up to 15 percent and operational savings of 10–20 percent, driven by reduced manual readings, improved leak detection, and faster response times. This project directly supports water conservation by reducing non-revenue water loss, enabling real-time leak detection, and improving system efficiency. AMI implementation is expected to reduce overall water loss by up to 15 percent, preserving potable water resources and strengthening long-term drought resilience. By providing customers with timely usage data, the city empowers residents to proactively conserve water, lower costs, and reduce waste. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this project strengthens Ottawa's ability to manage its water resources responsibly while improving service reliability for residents and businesses.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress