



Strengthen Safe Drinking Water Enhancement Funding

**PROTECTION AND OVERSIGHT OF DRINKING WATER IS NOT MERELY A SERVICE;
IT IS A FUNDAMENTAL NECESSITY!**

FUNDING MUST KEEP PACE WITH COSTS

The cost of operations has increased by 31.85% since 2017, but state funding remains flat

NEW AND EXPANDED RESPONSIBILITIES ERODE FUNDING

- Emerging contaminant testing requirements
- Lead drinking water testing in schools
- Review and monitoring of infrastructure upgrades and water quality standards

INADEQUATE FUNDING EXACERBATES WORKFORCE SHORTAGES

Local governments struggle to offer competitive compensation to retain professional engineers

DRINKING WATER ENHANCEMENT FUNDING LAGS INVESTMENTS IN CLEAN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

NYS started investing \$500,000,000 annually beginning in 2017 through the Clean Water Infrastructure Act funding.

However, investments in Local Health Departments' Drinking Water Enhancement (DWE) funding experienced a 16% reduction between 2009 and 2013, and has remained at the 2013 levels since.

DWE funding supports monitoring and oversight activities protecting drinking water infrastructure and represents just 1% of New York's investment in clean water.

INVESTMENTS IN DRINKING WATER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMS WILL IMPROVE PROTECTIONS FOR NEW YORKERS

Increasing DWE funding will allow LHDs to:

- Assure that drinking water systems fully comply with regulatory mandates
- Conduct timely inspections and water quality testing
- Protect New York residents from emerging contaminants
- Hire and retain qualified engineers to perform required plan reviews

NYSACHO Requests: \$2.5 million investment in Drinking Water Enhancement Grant funding to ensure access to safe, clean drinking water by protecting the quality of oversight and compliance