



# 2018 Legislative Breakfast

LIWC.org

"Dedicated to a Pure and Plentiful Water Supply"

# Thank You For Your Continued Support



- Thank you to Governor Cuomo and the State Legislature for committing funding to study our sole-source aquifer and for proactive replacement of aging critical water infrastructure.
- The LIWC also acknowledges the efforts of the Nassau and Suffolk county legislatures for their continued support of the Long Island Commission for Aquifer Protection (LICAP) and commitment to bi-county cooperation for aquifer protection and management.

# Drinking Water Infrastructure Funding



- The LIWC appreciated the passage of the \$2.5 billion Clean Water Infrastructure Act of 2017.
- Even though the funding does not completely address more than \$38 billion in drinking water funding needs, passage of the act last year is a welcome step in the right direction.

# Drinking Water Infrastructure Funding

- The LIWC strongly supports S.3772B (Hannon) / A.5467A (Englebright) that would enable the "clean water bond act of 2018" to authorize the creation of a five billion dollar state debt for water improvement, subject to the approval of the electorate.
- The LIWC also strongly supports A5825 (Santabarbara) / S3775 (Amedore) that would make an appropriation to the Environmental Facilities Corporation for the purposes of providing emergency municipal drinking water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure grants for infrastructure projects where there is an imminent threat to the environment and/or the public health.



# The Regulation of 1,4-dioxane

- Depending upon the MCL level, 1,4-dioxane, treatment could be required on 1,685 wells in New York, costing an estimated \$2.5 billion plus annual operations and maintenance fees of nearly \$253 million.
- This could result in the doubling of water rates. Therefore state funding will be essential for water rate increase relief.



# Continue to Provide Adequate Funding to the NYSDEC Region 1 Water Division and NYSDOH Bureau of PWSP

- NYSDEC and NYSDOH both need proper funding to fulfill their regulatory mission for drinking water resource and public health protection.
- We note that the governor's office increased spending budget for the Department of Environmental Conservation by \$100 million, an increase of 9 percent. Thank you!
- It is unclear what level of financial support that the NYSDOH Bureau of Public Water Supply Protection will receive in the upcoming budget however we urge that sufficient funding be provided. This is very important as the state moves forward with the regulation of new compounds.



**We urge sufficient funding be provided for the NYSDOH Bureau of Public Water Supply Protection.**



# Monitoring Well Registration and Water Quality Data Sharing

- The LIWC supports legislation that would require all monitoring wells to be registered with the NYSDEC. In addition, it is requested that water quality results from all monitoring wells also be transmitted to the area's local water provider(s).
- Implementing a simple communication process to relay this information will have a profound impact on transparency and will further protect the quality of our drinking water.



# Clarify the NYS Superfund Law to Financially Protect Public Water Ratepayers

- The Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Site (IHWDS) program, created under the state Superfund Law, is the state's program for identifying, investigating and cleaning up sites where consequential amounts of hazardous waste may exist.
- Unfortunately, public groundwater suppliers cannot be reimbursed for wellhead treatment costs until a supply well has been impacted.
- Planning, design, regulatory approval and construction take considerable time (at least one to two years). Therefore, the planning and implementation process must begin immediately once a contamination threat is identified.
- Obtaining reimbursement once a contamination threat is identified is critical and protects our ratepayers, who should not bear the cost of any contamination cleanup.



We urge our state legislators to take prompt action to clarify the NYS Superfund law in this manner.



# Clarify the One-Call Notification System Law

- Water utilities are required by law to participate in a one-call notification system. “Call before you dig.”
- Municipalities and authorities that operate underground facilities are exempt from expenses—except water districts.
- Collectively, water districts are being charged tens of thousands of dollars annually for improper one-call system charges.
- These funds could be better spent upgrading district infrastructure.
- This water district taxpayer is ultimately bearing the cost.



**Legislation must be introduced to clarify the law to include water districts under the definition of a “Municipality”**

**Thank you for joining us today and  
being a part of the conversation!**

