May 19, 2022

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for Connect to Protect – Septic to Sewer Conversions in Vulnerable Areas - El Portal & Miami Shores in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Department, located at 3071 SW 38th Ave Miami, FL 33146. This funding request will expand the sanitary sewer system to areas vulnerable to rising groundwater and served by septic systems. Of the 100,000+ properties served by septic systems in the County’s Water and Sewer service area, approx. 9,200 are vulnerable to compromise or failure from rising groundwater. This project will provide critical infrastructure in partnership with two municipalities that are within or adjacent to the Little River Adaptation Area, a low-lying community vulnerable to rising groundwater and flooding impacts from sea level rise. This funding would provide for a wastewater pump station in the Village of El Portal and Miami Shores Village to serve as a critical backbone for the future expansion of the system. Gravity line will also be designed and constructed to capture a maximum number of parcels, which is estimated at 100. Expansion will be prioritized for the areas adjacent to the C-7 Little River Canal and Biscayne Bay to maximize risk reduction from nutrient pollution. I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress