

A scenic photograph of a river flowing through a forest. The water is clear and flows over numerous large, smooth, light-colored rocks. The surrounding forest is lush with green trees and foliage. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT

CIFA

CONGRESSIONAL ADVOCACY

YOUR VOICE IN THE NATION'S CAPITOL

3

CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY

2023 was the third year in a row that CIFA was invited by a congressional committee to testify about the Clean Water and Drinking Water SRFs.

21

COALITION BUILDING

CIFA continues to build a diverse coalition of water and financing organizations to strengthen our advocacy for increased federal funding for the SRFs. This year, 21 organizations signed onto at least one of CIFA's coalition letters. More importantly, our efforts spurred advocacy by other organizations.

90+

COMMUNICATION

CIFA developed congressional testimony, comment letters, state earmark impact reports, and multiple educational tools to communicate the SRF perspectives on a range of legislation, from annual appropriations to implementation of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to expanding eligible uses and borrowers of the SRFs.

CIFA PRESS ON CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS

- States lose federal water funds as lawmakers redirect money to pet projects, *The Washington Post*, July 24, 2023
- Much is at stake in Congress' upcoming budget negotiations for state and local water agencies, *Route Fifty*, August 18, 2023
- States lose federal water funds to earmarks, *Route Fifty*, September 11, 2023

EPA+ ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNICATING SRF PRIORITIES

BIDEN-HARRIS BUDGETS

CIFA organized two coalition letters urging President Joe Biden to fully fund the SRFs at \$3 billion in 2024 and \$3.25 billion in 2025.

BUILD AMERICA, BUY AMERICA ACT (BABAA)

CIFA provided the Biden-Harris Administration and EPA with consistent and constructive feedback on the impact of rules and relief for new domestic procurement requirements on federally funded water infrastructure projects.

- Comment letter on the proposed BABAA rule proposed by the Made-In-America-Office
- Comment letter on revised BABAA for SRFs
- CIFA meeting with leadership of Made-In-America-Office
- Thought leader in water sector on BABAA

LEAD SERVICE LINE ALLOTMENT

CIFA advocated for greater transparency in development of the formula for calculating lead service lines in each state, which directly impacts the funding allotment.

- Letters to leadership about implementation of the new formula
- EPA preview of Drinking Water Needs Survey and Assessment for CIFA Members
- Multiple online meetings on policy and funding for lead service line inventories and replacement

SRF POLICIES

CIFA urged modernization of the 2003 Crosscutter Handbook to better align to current policies in a letter to EPA leadership and ongoing communication with EPA SRF staff.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

COMMITTED TO YOUR SUCCESS

CIFA's Commitment to High Quality Professional Development:

- **Engage:** Learn something new to innovate and improve your SRF.
- **Exchange:** Share expertise and experiences with your SRF peers.
- **Excel:** Connect with the SRF community to achieve excellence.

292

CIFA SUMMIT ON WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

- Record attendance of 292
- Engagement with EPA leadership and congressional staff
- PISCES-AQUARIUS Recognition Ceremony

469

CIFA SRF WORKSHOP

- Record attendance of 469
- More than 35 hours of high-quality learning experiences and knowledge sharing
- Opportunities to connect one-on-one with SRF peers and water sector professionals from around the nation

CIFA "MEET UPS"

CIFA introduced CIFA "Meet Ups" which are information meetings of the CIFA members to discuss hot button issues for the the SRFs.

- Inspector General Surveys and Projects
- Equivalency
- Lead Service Lines Inventories and Replacement Programs
- SRF Software