



CITY OF FLORENCE

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March 5, 2026

The Honorable Michael Guest
Congressman, 3rd District of Mississippi
308B East Government Street
Brandon, MS 39042

Dear Congressman Guest,

On behalf of the City of Florence, Mississippi, I respectfully request your support in securing federal funding assistance for a critical water infrastructure project that will help protect public health and ensure the continued delivery of safe and dependable drinking water to our residents and businesses.

The City of Florence is seeking funding to rehabilitate our existing elevated potable water storage tanks, which are essential components of our municipal water system. These tanks provide storage capacity that maintains system pressure, supports fire protection throughout the community, and helps ensure consistent delivery of safe drinking water. Over time, however, the tanks have experienced deterioration related to age and long-term exposure to the elements. This deterioration includes failure of protective coating systems and structural wear that can compromise water quality protection and the overall integrity of the structures.

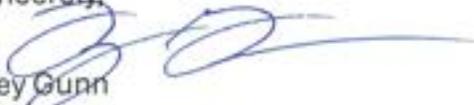
Recent professional inspections, along with review by the Mississippi State Department of Health, have identified specific deficiencies that must be addressed. The proposed rehabilitation project will include restoring the interior and exterior protective coatings, repairing structural components where needed, and upgrading the tanks so they meet current regulatory standards. These improvements will ensure the tanks remain in compliance with requirements under the Safe Drinking Water Act as administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Mississippi State Department of Health.

Completing this project will significantly strengthen the reliability of Florence's public water system. Rehabilitation will reduce the risk of contamination, maintain proper water pressure for homes and businesses, and ensure adequate fire protection capacity for the community. It will also extend the service life of this critical infrastructure and help prevent more costly emergency repairs in the future.

Federal investment in this project is justified because these storage tanks are vital to protecting public health and maintaining regulatory compliance. As a small municipality with limited revenue capacity, Florence cannot reasonably absorb the full financial burden of this capital improvement without placing a significant strain on our ratepayers. Federal assistance would allow the city to complete this essential work while maintaining affordable water service and strengthening the long-term sustainability of our system.

Thank you for your continued service to the City of Florence and the people of Mississippi's Third Congressional District, and for your consideration of this important request. I would welcome the opportunity to provide any additional information your office may need.

Sincerely,



Trey Gunn

Mayor, City of Florence, Mississippi



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March 5, 2026

The Honorable Michael Guest
Congressman, 3rd District of Mississippi
308B East Government Street
Brandon, MS 39042

Re: 2026 Rehabilitation of Existing Potable Water Storage Tanks
City of Florence, Mississippi

Dear Congressman Guest:

We respectfully request your support for the City of Florence project, 2026 Rehabilitation of Existing Potable Water Storage Tanks. This project is essential to the City's potable water system to protect public health and to help ensure compliance with the Safe Water Drinking Act. Over time, potable water storage tanks experience age-related deterioration which threatens water quality and system integrity. As a small municipality with limited local funds, federal funding assistance is vital to helping the City complete these improvements in a timely manner while also helping the City preserve affordable potable water service and safeguard the health of the citizens of Florence.

Should you have any questions or if additional information is needed, please let us know.

Very truly yours,

ENGINEERING SERVICE

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Parker", is written over the printed name and title.

Tim Parker, P.E.
President