



# HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES

## STATE OF MICHIGAN

### Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

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1. The sponsoring representative's first name:  
Donavan
2. The sponsoring representative's last name:  
McKinney
3. The cosponsoring representatives' names. All cosponsors must be listed. If none, please type 'n/a.' A signed letter from the sponsor approving the co-sponsorship and a signed letter from the member wishing to co-sponsor are required. Attach letters at question #9 below.  
N/A
4. Name of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
Jefferson-Chalmers WATER Project (The WATER Project)
5. Physical address of the entity that the spending item is intended for:  
762 Ashland Street, Suite #1 Detroit, MI. 48215
6. If there is not a specific recipient, the intended location of the project or activity:  
While there is an identified recipient, the funds will be spent in the Jefferson-Chalmers community, located in the far southeast corner of the City of Detroit. The boundaries include: City Limits (east), Conner/Clairpointe Avenue (west), East Jefferson (north), Detroit River (south). The community includes Census Tracts 5132, 5133 and portions of 5137.
7. Name of the representative and the district number where the legislatively directed spending item is located:  
State Representative Joe Tate, 9th District
8. Purpose of the legislatively directed spending item. Please include how it provides a public benefit and why it is an appropriate use of taxpayer funding. Please also demonstrate that the item does not violate Article IV, S 30 of the Michigan Constitution.  
Flood Protection is a health and safety matter and therefore, investments in shoreline resilience that will protect the Jefferson-Chalmers community will provide a public benefit to the residents and will not violate Article IV, Section 30 of the Michigan Constitution.

Approximately 85% of the Jefferson-Chalmers community are African American while just over one-third live below the poverty line. In October 2022, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) designated a 100-Year Floodplain that covers the entire community. The primary reason for the designation of the future threat of future Great Lakes rise, which have typically, impacts the community every 20-30 years. The last encroachment into the community following high Great Lakes levels was in 2019/2020.

In 2021, The WATER Project initiative was launched and a Domestic Nonprofit Corporation was organized in the State of Michigan last year. With the assistance of engineering professionals, The WATER Project has identified a \$41M flood protection project creating a parcel-by-parcel focused solution of shoreline resilience that establish a single line of defense against future high-water levels. This includes topographical changes, appropriately sized seawalls, rip-rap and natural shoreline on privately and publicly owned land along Fox Creek and its linked canals, in the northwest corner of Grayhaven's Port Lagoon channel and around the entry to Bayview Yacht Club/KAM Marine on Clairpointe and Avondale, near historic Maheras/Gentry Park.

9. Attach documents here if needed:

Attachments added to the end of this file.

10. The amount of state funding requested for the legislatively directed spending item.

2000000

11. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received any of the following types of funding? Check all that apply.

["Federal","State"]

12. Please select one of the following groups that describes the entity requesting the legislatively directed spending item:

Non-profit organization

13. For a non-profit organization, has the organization been operating within Michigan for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

14. For a non-profit organization, has the entity had a physical office within Michigan for the preceding 12 months?

Yes

15. For a non-profit organization, does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

16. For a non-profit organization, list all the active members on the organization's board of directors and any other officers. If this question is not applicable, please type 'n/a.'

Board members are Jay C. Juegensen, Blake Granuum, Traci Rubin and Daniel Piepszowski

17. "I certify that neither the sponsoring representative nor the sponsoring representative's staff or immediate family has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the legislatively directed spending item."

Yes, this is correct

18. Anticipated start and end dates for the legislatively directed spending item:

Approximately One (1) Year from Grant Agreement: Summer/Fall 2026 to Summer/Fall 2027

19. "I hereby certify that all information provided in this request is true and accurate."

Yes

# Jefferson-Chalmers WATER Project

Water Access, Technology, Education and Recreation

Keep Sewage out of Basements & Canals • Keep Stormwater out of the System • Keep Great Lakes out of the Neighborhood

## Jefferson-Chalmers Flood Protection Project

**Summary** – Identify \$41 million of resources necessary to support capital projects that would establish continuous protection at 580' above sea level that together, would remove Jefferson-Chalmers from a FEMA designated floodplain.

**Background** - In October 2021, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) established a new Floodplain and published Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) that detrimentally impacted ENTIRE Jefferson-Chalmers community. The Jefferson-Chalmers community is generally bounded on the north by East Jefferson Avenue, Detroit River to the south, Fox Creek at its east and Conner Creek to the west.

The impact of the decisions has limited the expenditure of Federal funds on critical community improvements including jeopardizing affordable housing projects, \$9 million US Environmental Protection Agency Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) investment in Alfred Brush Ford Park and access to US Department of Housing & Urban Development Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds intended to assist survivors of the National Disaster (MI-4607) declared following the June 2021 event.

This low-lying community's adjacency to the Detroit River combined with a series of interconnected canals and five islands have subjected it to an increased risk from climate. This includes the decades-long cycles of Great Lakes water levels which most recently caused flooding in the Summer of 2019. In addition, and as often as every two years, aging infrastructure unable to manage massive quantities of water due to the increase in intense rainfall causing streets and basements to flood as demonstrated in a disastrous way in June 2021. This condition is exacerbated by a topographical swale that bisects the community east to west along Essex Street.

Finally, the community sits at the receiving end of two extremely large watersheds that create its eastern and western borders – Fox Creek, which extends as far east as the Milk River and Conner Creek, which reaches into Macomb County. The Great Lakes Water Authority Conner Creek Combined Sewage Overflow (CSO) Facility is the largest in Michigan. It and the adjacent Freud Pumping Station were two of three stations that failed in June 2021 and other Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD) and GLWA underground conveyance systems literally surround the community and add to its risk.

While the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) July 2022 Lake St Clair Flood Risk Reduction Study for the Jefferson-Chalmers Neighborhood proposed three (3) optional approaches to flood protection, two (2) of which including stop logs, flood gates and flood walls, blocking access to and closing access to both Fox and Conner Creeks in the event of Great Lakes water levels rise. The USACE study also includes a variety of hard surface solutions across the nearly one-mile Detroit River shoreline while the GLRI Upper Detroit River Study proposes shoreline and habitat restoration where seawalls are failing and City of Detroit Department of General Services is proposing to convert manicured parkland to natural landscaping to reduce maintenance costs. The residents adamantly rejected this proposal and are only willing to pursue Option 2 which included construction of seawalls along Fox Creek's western edge.

**Proposed Flood Protection Project** – The Jefferson-Chalmers WATER Project, a community-based, community-driven and community-supported effort to find solutions to the interconnected water resource management challenges is advancing at \$41 million Flood Protection Project through a series of strategic investments linking existing assets to capital projects that will provide a single line of protection from future Great Lakes water levels. These projects were amongst 27 identified in a recently published Engineering Report, **SOLVING THE COMPREHENSIVE INTERCONNECTED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES IN THE JEFFERSON-CHALMERS COMMUNITY – THE COST OF CLIMATE.**



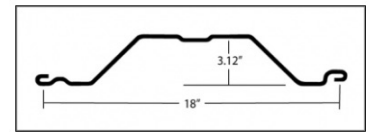
# Jefferson-Chalmers WATER Project

Water Access, Technology, Education and Recreation

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## Jefferson-Chalmers Flood Protection Project

Marais (Great Marsh). This proposal also includes raising seawalls along Fox Creek and its connected canals as well as along the Conner Creek shoreline currently within the Bayview Yacht Club property.



### Proposed Use of Funds

6	B2. Expand Habitat and Marshland in Riverfront Parks to Hold and Pre-Treat Stormwater Flood Protection and Shoreline Restoration	21,805,140.50	23,388,079.00
19	C1. Fox Creek and Linked Canals Seawalls	9,378,585.48	11,462,715.59
23	C6. Seawall Improvements in Bayview Yacht Club or Topographical Changes near Bay View Yacht Club	2,237,893.51	5,922,246.65
<b>Totals</b>		<b>33,421,619.49</b>	<b>40,773,041.24</b>

Note: Numbers reference Engineering Report noted earlier.

### Proposed Sources of Funds

HUD – CDBG-DR	10,000,000.00	
EPA – GLRI Habitat Restoration	9,250,000.00	
City of Detroit	1,250,000.00	
Wayne County Contribution	500,000.00	
State of Michigan (Received)	1,000,000.00	
State of Michigan (Requested)	19,000,000.00	
<b>Total</b>		<b>41,000,000.00</b>

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### Rational for State of Michigan Earmark/Direct Appropriation

Method #1		Method #2		Method #3		Method #4	
Gogebic County* (population)	14,361.00			2023 Michigan Surplus	9,200,000,000.00		
Allocation	20,000,000.00			Michigan Population	10,050,000.00		
Per Person	1,392.66			Per Person	915.42	Detroiters In Conner Creek Watershed	20,187.00
Jefferson-Chalmers (population)	6,729.00	Total Impacted in Fox Creek and Conner Creek Watersheds	26,916.00	Jefferson-Chalmers (population)	6,729.00	Total Impacted	26,916.00
Equivalent - Method #1	<b>9,371,213.70</b>	Equivalent - Method #2	<b>37,484,854.82</b>	Per Person of Windfall - Method #3	<b>6,159,880.60</b>	Per Person of Windfall - Method #4	<b>24,639,522.39</b>

Note: Equivalent to Gogebic County (Copper Peak Ski Jump, Ironwood, MI) (<https://www.uppermichiganssource.com/2022/03/28/copper-peak-ski-jump-set-receive-20-million-funding-renovations>)

Average of Four Methods:	\$19,413,867.88
<b>Request:</b>	<b>\$20,000,000.00</b>