

Office of the Mayor
Chokwe A. Lumumba, Mayor



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March 3, 2020

The Honorable Tate Reeves
Governor of Mississippi
550 High St.
Jackson, MS 39201

Dear Governor Reeves,

On February 12, 2021, I issued a proclamation declaring a civil emergency for the City of Jackson in anticipation of severe weather. As you are aware, the extreme weather conditions that occurred severely compromised our ability to produce and distribute water at our O. B. Curtis and Fewell water treatment plants, depriving residents and businesses of water. Nineteen days later, we are still in recovery. We appreciate your deployment of the National Guard to assist in the distribution of non-potable water to Jackson residents. However, this disaster, along with the winter freeze of 2018, has emphasized the critical need for immediate repairs and improvements to our water distribution system. We can no longer afford to wait on funds to repair and improve our aging infrastructure. We need funding assistance from the State and federal agencies now.

Accordingly, I am requesting emergency funding from the State and federal government to make the capital improvements necessary for the efficient operation of Jackson's water treatment plants and distribution network. These improvements are critical to our efforts to ensure that our residents and businesses are not deprived of clean water again. I have attached a list of needed improvements for our plants and distribution lines with an estimated cost of approximately \$47,000,000. Your assistance in obtaining the funding to complete these projects will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Chokwe A. Lumumba
Mayor, City of Jackson

cc: Lieutenant Governor Delbert Hosemann
Speaker of the House Philip Gunn
Hinds County Delegation
Congressman Bennie Thompson
Senator Roger Wicker
Senator Cindy Hyde-Smith