



SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION

Silvia Stubbs	Commission Chair
Lori Maughan	Commission Vice-Chair
Jamie Harvey	Commissioner
Mack McDonald	County Administrator

March 12, 2025

The Honorable Congressman Mike Kennedy, M.D.
1626 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4402

Dear Congressman Kennedy,

On behalf of San Juan County, we respectfully request your support and advocacy for Community Project Funding (CPF) for a \$13,500,000 critical water infrastructure project in our La Sal community.

San Juan County, despite its small population of 14,358 residents, is the largest county by square mileage in Utah—larger than some U.S. states. Approximately 92% of the county falls under public or tribal lands, including the Navajo Nation (seven Navajo Chapters), the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, and the Piute Band.

This water infrastructure project will serve La Sal, a growing community of 270 residents located at the base of the Manti-La Sal Mountains. The area supports one of our major copper extraction industries but currently lacks a public water system, hindering economic development and workforce housing opportunities. The absence of reliable water infrastructure restricts safe and sustainable growth, limiting opportunities for families and businesses alike.

La Sal's median household income is \$33,628, well below the county median of \$52,108, with 16.3% of families and 22.1% of the population living below the poverty line. The cost of installing a water system is beyond the financial reach of this small community, making federal assistance essential to ensuring access to clean and reliable water.

This shovel-ready project has undergone engineering and feasibility studies, and water shares have been secured for a public system. The only remaining obstacle is securing the necessary funding to bring this vital project to fruition.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and your commitment to supporting the residents of San Juan County. We are prepared to provide additional information or discuss the significant impact this funding will have on our community. Your support in securing CPF for this project will make a meaningful difference in the lives of La Sal residents and the broader region.

Thank you for your time and advocacy.

Sincerely,

Silvia Stubbs
Commission Chair