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October 26, 2016

Honorable Gina McCarthy
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20460

Administrator McCarthy:

On July 28, 2016, the Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC) was charged with giving input and recommendations on the development of a National Action Plan for Drinking Water (Action Plan). We are honored that the EPA is seeking our assistance to develop an action plan to ensure clean and safe drinking water.

In response to the agency's Drinking Water Charge, we are submitting our Report entitled, *Clean and Safe Drinking Water: EPA's Local Government Advisory Committee's Findings and Recommendations*, which puts forward a summary of our findings and recommendations to assist the Agency in creating a successful and robust plan for action (see enclosed).

In undertaking our charge, the LGAC convened a Forum on July 28, 2016 in Washington, D.C. We also held a series of public meetings on September 7th and 21st to hear from our colleagues across the nation about innovative ideas and actions for the EPA to consider in formulating a national plan. We acknowledge that developing a national plan for action is challenging and complex.

In our meetings we heard from intergovernmental organizations such as the U.S. Conference of Mayors; National League of Cities; National Governors Association; National Conference of State Legislators; Association of State Drinking Water Administrators; and the American Water Works Association. We also heard from many of our state and local elected and appointed officials who took time to participate and provide their insights.

Throughout our discussions we heard that providing clean, safe and affordable drinking water for all Americans has become increasingly complex. In addition, many would agree that we have reached a time of crisis in managing our nation's aging drinking water infrastructure. The Action Plan is a tool for strategic planning and actions in support of clean, safe and affordable drinking

water throughout the country. The LGAC report provides perspective and recommendations for effectively moving forward in partnership with local government and tribal leaders.

We commend the EPA for taking action now to ensure that our future of clean, safe and affordable drinking water is realized. We look forward to the development of the National Drinking Water Action Plan. We thank you, Administrator, for your personal leadership in guiding development of this Action Plan. The LGAC stands ready to assist.

Sincerely,



Mayor Bob Dixon
Chair



Ms. Susan Hann
Chairwoman
Protecting America's Waters Workgroup



Commissioner Robert Cope
Chairman
Small Community Advisory
Subcommittee



Councilor Jill Duson
Chairwoman
Cleaning Up Our Communities Workgroup



Dr. Hector Gonzalez, M.D.
Chairman
Environmental Justice (EJ) Workgroup