

**JAKE AUCHINCLOSS**

4TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

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The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Appropriations  
Room H-307, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for Somerset Emergency Dam Improvements.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Town of Somerset Water Department, located at County Street, Somerset, MA 02726.

The funding would be used to improve the Somerset reservoir dam, which was created in 1964, and is the primary source of drinking water for the town. The anticipated approach will be to provide greater capacity to accommodate larger storm events up to and including the ½ Probable Maximum Flood including raising the level of the dam crest to prevent overtopping during the SDF event. Per the Flood Control and Improvements to the Somerset Reservoir Dam study, it was found that raising the dam to El. 60 was sufficient to prevent overtopping during the SDF event with 0.0 feet of freeboard remaining at the dam. This correlates to 1.8 feet above the design top of dam (El. 58.2) and between 0.4 and 2.0 feet above the current / as-built top of dam (El. 52.0 – 59.6). If 0.2 feet water over topped the dam, this event would lead to erosion and dam failure and should flow runs along the toe of the dam causing erosion and destabilization of the dam. The proposed dam enhancements incorporate nature-based solutions. The enhancements will be designed to work with storm flow and better control and diffuse flow. Utilizing sod and stone to stabilize the earthen structures and require only annual mowing to maintain, similar to that which is currently utilized for the existing dam.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jake Auchincloss". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jake" being more prominent.

JAKE AUCHINCLOSS  
Member of Congress  
April 28, 2021