

Please do not take all the funding out of the Public Works Assistance Account. This is crucial funding to build required infrastructure for roads, water, sewer and more for your constituents. What you're hearing from your constituents is their concern over affordability for housing, rent, food costs and utilities. By taking this funding, the State would make utility bills go up needlessly. Here's why: cities rely on this funding to complete critical infrastructure projects efficiently and effectively. Without this account, all these projects across the State will become more expensive because cities will have to use the open market to fund them, adding additional dollars to the project total. Communities can't simply ignore these projects when they're critical to public health, safety and transportation. By making it more expensive to complete projects, those costs have to be passed on to the public, through things like higher utility rates. That is the exact opposite of making housing more affordable. Everyone pays for utilities whether directly or through rent. Most people in the public won't follow this thread of funding, so we're asking you to please take a look at it and realize that this aspect of the bill is not in the best interest of your constituents.