

Washington, DC -- U.S. Representative Michael A. Arcuri (D-Utica) today announced \$5,007,000 in assistance for the Town of Lansing to develop a new sewer district through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal direct loan program.

"I am pleased to announce that the Town of Lansing will be able develop a new and adequate sewer system and to ensure clean water for area residents," said Arcuri. "Loan programs like this are crucial to helping our communities achieve economic development, clean up environmental pollution, and protect public health."

"We're pleased to help the Town of Lansing with this large and important project," said Patrick H. Brennan, State Director for USDA Rural Development in New York. "The new sewer system will improve service for more than 2,000 area residents and alleviate environmental concerns associated with inadequate septic systems."

The Rural Development loan will be used for construction costs to develop a sewer district in Lansing, eliminating ground and surface water pollution currently caused by inadequate on-site sewage disposal systems. This project will serve 2,718 residents.

The Rural Development Water and Waste Disposal loan and grant program is available to eligible applicants to construct or improve drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, and storm drainage facilities. Applicants must be public bodies, nonprofit organizations, and recognized Indian tribes. In 2006, the State of New York received over \$11 million in grants and \$20 million in loans to improve local water infrastructure.

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