Tax-Exempt Municipal Bonds Sustain the District of Columbia’s Water Infrastructure

$389.1 million – The value of tax-exempt municipal bonds issued in the District of Columbia in 2016 to fund improvements to drinking water and wastewater infrastructure.

$165.3 million – Additional debt service costs the District of Columbia would incur over bond payback periods if interest earned on these bonds was fully taxable, a 25 percent increase.*

$14.8 million – Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund assistance the federal government provided to the District of Columbia in 2016. Fully taxing municipal bond interest would cost DC 11 times the value of this year’s SRF assistance.

Affordable investment in the District of Columbia’s water infrastructure should not be a consequence of tax reform.

AMWA and NACWA urge you to preserve tax-exempt municipal bonds.

*Based on Bloomberg data assuming uniform $50 million projects with 30-year loan maturities and “AA” credit ratings.