



Louisville Metro Council

June 23, 2026

The Honorable Rand Paul
United States Senate
167 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
U.S. House of Representatives
216 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Morgan McGarvey
U.S. House of Representatives
1529 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Paul, Senator McConnell, Congressman Guthrie, and Congressman McGarvey:

As elected members of the Louisville Metro Council, we write to express our strong support for the **Ohio River Restoration Program Act (H.R. 5966 / S. 3796)** and respectfully urge you to support its advancement in Congress.

The Ohio River is one of our region's most vital natural resources. It serves as a source of drinking water for millions of people, including residents throughout Louisville Metro, supports commerce and industry, provides recreational opportunities, and sustains important ecosystems throughout the Ohio River Basin. For Louisville, the health of the Ohio River is directly tied to the health, economic resilience, and quality of life of our community.

For generations, the Ohio River has faced significant environmental pressures, including industrial pollution, stormwater runoff, habitat degradation, and legacy contamination. These challenges threaten water quality, aquatic life, public health, and the long-term sustainability of communities that depend on the river.

The Ohio River Restoration Program Act represents an important federal commitment to addressing these challenges through coordinated restoration, conservation, and water quality improvement efforts across the basin. By investing in habitat restoration, pollution reduction, infrastructure improvements, and scientific monitoring, this legislation would help ensure the river remains a safe and reliable resource for current and future generations.

Louisville has made meaningful local investments in sustainability, environmental stewardship, and water quality protections, but the scale of the challenges facing the Ohio River requires strong federal partnership. A dedicated restoration program would provide critical resources to accelerate progress and support collaborative solutions among states, municipalities, nonprofits, and community stakeholders.

Protecting and restoring the Ohio River is not solely an environmental issue—it is also a matter of public health, economic vitality, and infrastructure resilience. Clean, reliable water supports business growth, manufacturing, shipping, tourism, recreation, and property values, while helping communities better withstand flooding and other environmental challenges. Investments in restoration today can reduce long-term costs associated with pollution, environmental degradation, and infrastructure strain.

We respectfully ask you to support the Ohio River Restoration Program Act and champion efforts to secure meaningful federal investment in the future of the Ohio River Basin.

Thank you for your service and for considering this important issue.

Sincerely,

The Undersigned Members of the Louisville Metro Council

Josie Raymond D-10	Stuart Benson D-19	Keith B. D-25
APC	Stuart Benson D-20	Therese D-23
James D-5	Paula D-7	Jon D-12
K D-4	Stacy D-16	Kervin D-1
HF D-6	Rash D-13	Ed D-22
Debra D-21	Cristal D-14	for D-18
Barbara D-	Mandy D-18	for D-1
Markus D-17	D-23	J. D-15
Greg M. D-27		D-26