

C-16



## Town of Amherst

**Shawn A. Lavin**  
Deputy Supervisor

July 30, 2025

**Board of Commissioners**  
Erie County Water Authority  
295 Main Street, Room 350  
Buffalo, NY 14203

Dear Board of Commissioners:

On behalf of the Town of Amherst, I am writing to formally request a review and assessment of water pressure levels in the neighborhood encompassing Bellingham Drive, Garfield Street, and Amherston Drive. This request follows a growing number of concerns expressed by residents in the area regarding low or inconsistent water pressure, which has raised both quality-of-life issues and, more urgently, potential public safety concerns.

While residents have reported periodic reductions in pressure during daily household use, the more pressing issue raised by both constituents and members of our local fire services is the adequacy of pressure for emergency response operations. As you are aware, consistent and sufficient water pressure is essential not only for residential use but for ensuring the readiness of hydrants and water mains during fire suppression efforts.

Given the critical role the Erie County Water Authority plays in maintaining infrastructure and providing reliable water service to municipalities across the region, we respectfully request the following:

1. **A current assessment of water pressure levels** at various points throughout the Bellingham–Garfield–Amherston corridor.
2. **A summary of any recent maintenance, repairs, or upgrades** performed in this area that may affect water flow or pressure.
3. **An evaluation of system capacity and infrastructure condition** specific to this neighborhood, especially in relation to peak demand and emergency scenarios.
4. **Recommendations for remediation** should the pressure levels be determined insufficient, including any short- or long-term corrective actions the Erie County Water Authority may be able to take in partnership with the Town of Amherst.

The Town is committed to working collaboratively with ECWA to address any deficiencies and to ensure the ongoing safety and satisfaction of our residents. Our goal is not only to resolve current complaints but to proactively mitigate risks that could impede the effectiveness of emergency services.

We would welcome a written response by the end of August, along with any preliminary findings or recommendations your engineering or operations staff may be able to provide. Should a site visit or coordination meeting be helpful, our office would be more than willing to facilitate.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to working with you to ensure the continued reliability and safety of water service in the Town of Amherst. Please feel free to contact me directly at (716) 631-7013 or [slavin@amherst.ny.us](mailto:slavin@amherst.ny.us) with any questions or to coordinate follow-up.

Sincerely,

**Shawn Lavin**  
Deputy Supervisor