

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4206

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
2362-B RHOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa De Lauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
2362-B RHOB
Washington, DC 20515

In re: FY26 Community Project Funding – Clay County State Route 52 New Construction

Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Clay County State Route 52 New Construction in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Tennessee Department of Transportation, located at Ste 700, James K Polk Bldg, 505 Deaderick St, Nashville, TN 37243. The funding would be used for constructing a 0.75-mile truck route on new alignment, bypassing the portion of existing State Route 52 that passes through downtown Celina, including a bridge over West Lake Avenue, four retaining walls, and on-site wetland and stream mitigation. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will divert truck traffic from Celina's central business district, create a safer and less congested route, and improve transportation access for businesses and industries in Clay County, which is identified as an economically distressed county by the Appalachian Regional Commission.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 23 USC 133.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,



John Rose
Member of Congress