

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

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
H-305, the Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C. 20515

In re: FY 27 Community Project Funding - Hiwassee Road Improvement Project in Smith County, TN

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Hiwassee Road Improvement project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Smith County Government, located at 122 Turner High Circle, Carthage, TN 37030. The funding would be used for the widening and improvement of Hiwassee Road in Smith County. Currently, the road is narrow and not built to accommodate the level of traffic that will result from the connection to the new Highway 141 corridor and the travel demand between Smith County and Trousdale County. Expanding Hiwassee Road to two full lanes, paving the roadway, and adding proper shoulders will greatly improve ingress and egress for those who rely on this route for daily travel, commerce, and access to services.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it enhances overall safety, transportation efficiency, and emergency preparedness.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by subsection 1 of 23 USC 133 (b) Surface Transportation Block Grant Program.

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