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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4611

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
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INDO-PACIFIC

MIDDLE EAST, NORTH AFRICA, AND CENTRAL ASIA

May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for Fairfax County Safe Streets and Roads for All – Springfield in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is Fairfax County Government, located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA, 22035.

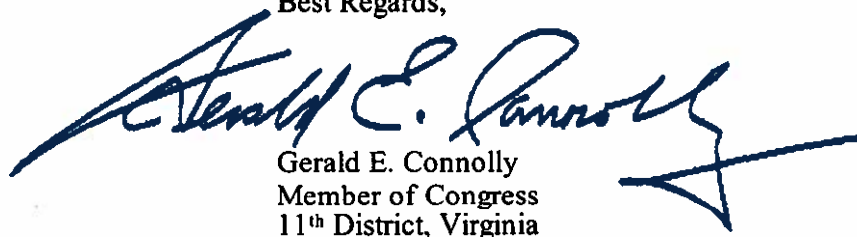
Project: Fairfax County Safe Streets and Roads for All – Springfield
Recipient: Fairfax County Government, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035
Amount: \$3,200,000

Background: This community project will implement six transportation projects in locations with high crash rates in underserved communities. The projects will include countermeasures with evidence of significant crash reduction. This project aims to reduce pedestrian and bicyclist injuries and fatalities by implementing numerous Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) proven safety countermeasures targeting three objectives of a Safe System Approach. (1) Safer People – Warning devices such as Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) encourage drivers to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk while the lights are flashing, which is safer, more responsible driving. Per FHWA's Proven Safety Countermeasures, RRFBs can increase motorist yielding rates by up to 98 percent. (2) Safer Roads – Implementation of projects such as pedestrian refuge islands, separated bicycle lanes, signalized crossings with leading pedestrian intervals and sidewalks create a safer roadway environment to mitigate human errors. (3) Safer Speeds – Context-appropriate implementation of projects can also create a traffic calming effect to promote safer traffic speeds. Improvements to multimodal safety are critical to reducing avoidable, serious accidents involving pedestrians and bicyclists. This is essential, as more and more Virginians walk, bike, and utilize transit to travel across the Commonwealth. This project is a good use of taxpayer dollars, because it will protect people from injury and save lives. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, vehicle crashes cost the United States more than \$340 billion annually, including \$30 billion or \$230 per person in additional taxes. Safer streets free up public dollars for other critical investments.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 23 USC 133(b).

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

Best Regards,



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress
11th District, Virginia