



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

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the City of Maquoketa East Grove Utility Replacement and Street Reconstruction Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Maquoketa, located at 201 East Pleasant Street, Maquoketa, IA 52060.

The funding for this project would be used to revitalize the E. Grove Street corridor, The \$4.7 million project involves essential underground utility reconstruction and a full street overlay to address longstanding disinvestment in a federally designated Qualified Census Tract. While the City has committed to covering 20% of the cost, federal support is necessary to complete the work without placing an undue tax burden on rural residents.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it aims to maximize taxpayer efficiency by synchronizing underground utility repairs with planned street reconstruction in the E. Grove corridor. This integrated approach, supported by a 2023 engineering study, addresses chronic water main breaks and poor pavement conditions in a single construction effort. By fixing failing infrastructure before laying new roads, the City avoids the future costs of excavating newly improved surfaces. Ultimately, this strategy improves service reliability for residents while ensuring public funds are used in the most cost-effective manner possible.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C.5305(a)(1), 5305(a)(2), 5305(a)(4), and/or 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mariannette J. Miller-Meeks".

Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.
Member of Congress