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

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
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AND POULTRY

May 3, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair
House Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for Hamilton Park Phase II - Streetscape Improvements in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Waterbury located at 235 Grand Street Waterbury, CT 06702. The funding would be used to provide critical support toward pedestrian safety and streetscape improvements within Hamilton Park, the City's largest park. Funding will be used to narrow Hamilton Park Road from a two to one-way lane road that cuts through the recreational park. Additionally, funds would establish a new entrance gate at the East Main Street Entrance, a 25-car parking lot on Hamilton Park Road, in addition to paved multi-use trails and physical/visual beautification upgrades. This funding would progress the City's next phase of ongoing investments in Hamilton Park, as the Park's Pool & Promenade, Stone House, and Wetlands are undergoing redevelopment. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this project has a strong emphasis on accessibility; this funding will bolster alternative transportation options and streetscape improvements to residents' safety and access to Hamilton Park. Hamilton Park is located within Waterbury's East End Neighborhood in census tract 3513, and parallels tract 3512. Tract 3513 has a population of 5,542 with 55% identify in the BIPOC community. This is a low-income neighborhood, with median household income nearly twice as low as State's Average (\$48,471 vs. \$83,572). This neighborhood surpasses thresholds for socioeconomic and health burdens (BidenJustice40, 2021). This project is a priority in order to ensure environmental justice, safety, and access to recreational opportunities. The City is taking bold steps toward ensuring Park users accessibility and safety, simultaneously mitigating all traffic congestion and accidents.

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 blue ink that reads "Jahana Hayes".

Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress