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8TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
AND REFORM

CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL SECURITY

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC WHIP

Congress of the United States
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March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chair
House Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the a restoration of a bridge in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Town of Abington, located at 500 Gliniewicz Way, Abington, MA 02351. The funding would be used for creation of labs for the restoration of Memorial Bridge at Island Grove Park. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this shows the Town's commitment to maintaining our "Crown Jewel". The Town also needs to upgrade approaches on both sides of the bridge for ADA improvements to make it a safe route to access the park. The Town will be asked to add over 1000 housing units as part of the MBTA communities zoning act. In addition, the redevelopment of the old South Weymouth Naval Air Station, which includes approximately 180 acres of land located in Abington, will add additional housing units to the Town. It is now more important than ever to preserve the access to the park,over the Island Grove Memorial Bridge. The increase of housing units will mean the decrease in open space in Abington. The people who move to Abington in these new units may not have access to green spaces, in addition, green space will disappear with these new buildings reducing the existing open space areas in Town. This restoration would provide the access to a green space. This project is the best use of taxpayer funds, because it serves all the taxpayers. It is not strictly for Abington residents; the bridge provides access to people who come from all over the area to use the park and its facilities and attend several yearly celebrations at the park. If we have to close this bridge it would relegate access to the park from a small local road with limited parking and a more difficult pathway for those without accessibility permits.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2) and 5305(a)(5).

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

Sincerely,



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress