

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1806

May 10, 2024

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

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the widening of I-10 in Fiscal Year 2025. The entity to receive such funding is the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, located at 1201 Capitol Access Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70802. Funds will specifically provide safety benefits to the intersection of I-10 and I-110 near the current Washington Street exit. This project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the current interchange configuration narrows I-10 East to a single lane of traffic as it merges with I-110, causing a major bottleneck that costs the local economy an estimated \$1 billion annually. Improvements to the roadway will result in a reduction in traffic of up to 18% and will provide freight mobility improvements to South Louisiana's critical port system, which is of national importance.

The project has a Federal nexus because the project purposes are authorized by 23 U.S.C. §133 (b)(2), the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program, which provides flexible funding for operational improvements for traffic management.

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

Sincerely,



Garret Graves
Member of Congress