

LLOYD DOGGETT
37TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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RANKING MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
TAX POLICY

COMMITTEE ON
THE BUDGET

JOINT COMMITTEE ON
TAXATION



2307 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4865

300 EAST 8TH STREET, SUITE 763
AUSTIN, TX 78701
(512) 916-5921

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

May 10, 2024

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing
and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Transportation, and Housing
and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Redline Trail from Gracy Farms to Existing Walnut Creek Trail in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Austin, located at 301 West Second Street, Second Floor, Austin, TX 78701.

The funding would be used on construction of a North urban trail project, which leverages the existing connection to the Walnut Creek Trail to provide additional connectivity to Gracy Farms Lane, which is a boulevard that has both existing sidewalks and bike lanes in each direction. In addition to providing access to the Gracy Farms area, this connection is needed as part of the broader trail system to the Q2 stadium. The project provides the opportunity to separate cyclist movement out of vehicular traffic and leverage the existing grade separated crossing at Mopac. The project fits in with "The Big Loop" trail system that will fill gaps between existing trails to provide Austin with a 30-mile loop providing our community with a safe, all ages and abilities connection to jobs, education, amenities, and services. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this 30-mile loop will serve a broad number of users, connecting them to parks and open space as well as to home, school, work and other daily destinations via protected pathways, both alongside existing roadways and within parkland. When complete, the Loop will not only serve a recreational function, but a significant regional transportation one as well.

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

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

Sincerely,

Lloyd Doggett