



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

May 23, 2025

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 Cool Corridors: Tree Planting and Workforce Development to Reduce Extreme Heat in Austin's Hottest Corridors Project in Fiscal Year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Austin, located at 301 West Second Street, Second Floor, Austin, TX 78701.

This funding would be used for planting trees along Austin's hottest corridors and those with the lowest existing tree canopy. This project will reduce exposure to extreme heat, create economic opportunities through workforce development, improve public health, and lower utility costs in these areas. Successful examples from Phoenix, AZ, Las Cruces, NM, Tampa, FL, and Adelaide, AUS, show that prioritizing strategic, community-focused tree planting on adjacent land maximizes both impact and cost efficiency. In these examples, tree planting lowered average surface temperatures, improved public health and air quality, and preserved municipal infrastructure for decades. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will improve public health and safety while offering the City and its taxpayers long-term environmental and economic benefits.

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

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

Sincerely,

Lloyd Doggett