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Joe Courtney
Congress of the United States
2nd District, Connecticut

June 4, 2021

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The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$2.5 funding for Enfield Rail Station Public Facilities Roadway Access, Sidewalks, and Parking Lot Improvements in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Connecticut Department of Transportation, located at 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06131. The project is located on Commerce Street in Enfield, CT, 06082.

The proposed project will support the Enfield Rail Station in Enfield, CT, which will be a new stop along the successful *CTrail* Hartford Line. The Enfield Station Public Facilities Roadway Access, Sidewalks, and Parking Lot Improvements will support the integration of a train station into a multi-use building with commercial and residential uses. The project will address how commuters enter the station. Access to the station will require a “road diet” on Main Street and the realignment of Commerce Street. The station will have dedicated commuter parking areas separate from the surroundings. A roundabout will be added to Commerce Street to provide a necessary turn around to allow commuters’ station access. Sidewalks will be added along Commerce Street and will be replaced on Main Street to complete pedestrian access to the station and tie the station to the immediate community. Pavement on both Commerce Street and Main Street will also be upgraded to complete this work.

This project will contribute to Transit Oriented Development and economic revitalization in the Thompsonville section of Enfield, CT and will contribute to the overall Rail Station project, which will increase ridership on the Hartford Line and provide access to jobs throughout the region. The part of Enfield that this project will impact - Thompsonville - is Census-designated place with a Median household income (in 2019 dollars) of \$46,257 - significantly lower than the State of Connecticut's Median household income of \$78,444. Additionally, 23.8% of those in Thompsonville live in Poverty, compared to the statewide rate of 10%. Thompsonville is an economically distressed area and this project will provide revitalization to a distressed region, support transit-oriented housing development, and support increased job opportunities for residents in Thompsonville through the addition of a new public transportation hub.

Additionally, as of 2019, CTfastrak between Hartford and New Britain has been open and operating and the Hartford Line passenger rail service is open and operating at nine stations. CTDOT is adding Enfield as an entirely new Hartford Line Station.

This project supports residents of low-income housing. Specifically, the project supports the Enfield Housing Authority's four moderate rental housing program units, which are all located within walking distance to the proposed project location. The project will also provide transit access to HUD low-income housing apartments - the Freshwater Pond apartments - located within walking distance from the proposed project location.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



JOE COURTNEY
Member of Congress