

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

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MIKE BOST
12TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
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TRANSPORTATION &
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April 30, 2021

The Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro
Chairwoman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting \$2,620,128 for Alton, Illinois Flood Relief and Recovery in fiscal year 2022.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Alton, located at 101 East Third Street Alton, Illinois 62002.

The funding would be used for the City of Alton to provide flood protection for its retail and industrial businesses to allow them to continue operations in times of high water and help these businesses be more resilient and grow. The project is to construct a permanent flood wall along Sugar Alley between State Street and US 67 (Piasa Street). It will also construct valves in the combined sewer area along West 3rd Street and seal old, non-functioning connections to the Piasa Sewer. They will isolate storm sewer inlets on the streets by installing shut-off valves that can be closed during high river stages. Construct a permanent pump station near the 3rd Street fountain. Finally, the project will reconstruct Chessen Lane by performing ditching, replacing culverts and reconstructing the roadway to industrial area.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits. The City spent \$400,000 in 2019 building the wall, while still incurring \$4,000,000 in property damage with the knowledge that four of the top 10 flood events on record have occurred since 2013. These more frequent occurring floods are affecting 45 buildings (90% occupancy) and 23 residential units, 25 businesses and 2 public institutions along with 4 industrial businesses with employment over 330. The temporary flood wall has been keeping the surface water out of the businesses and a permanent flood wall will do the same along with addressing the sewer issues, while saving city man power and resources of building the flood wall every time the water comes up and allowing regular work to be accomplished.

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

Sincerely,



Mike Bost