

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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MIKE BOST
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VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
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May 9, 2024

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

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

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting \$647,400 for the Marion Dew Drop Drive Extension in Marion, IL in fiscal year 2025.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Marion, located at 350 Tower Square Plaza, Marion, IL 62959.

The proposed project, which aligns with the City's development plans, would seamlessly connect Dew Drop Drive to IL-Hwy 13/East DeYoung Street. Dew Drop Drive in Marion currently terminates south of the intersection of Dew Drop and Patton Drive. The project would extend Dew Drop Drive south and then west along Parcel 07-18-234-005 / 1200 N. Taft Street, following the current field road until connecting into N. Taft Street. N. Taft Street, a vital part of the City's transportation network, has an existing entrance egress onto IL-Hwy 13/East DeYoung Street. Marion Aldersgate Church owns parcel 07-18-234-005 / 1200 N. Taft Street, and the City has already secured the right of way, demonstrating the project's feasibility and potential for swift implementation.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits. The project's benefits extend beyond improved traffic flow. Providing a second access point to IL-Hwy 13/East DeYoung Street, Dew Drop Drive, within Phase 10 of the famous and growing Morningside neighborhood development, would significantly enhance emergency response capabilities. The new entrance would be a crucial access point for emergency vehicles such as ambulances and fire trucks, ensuring faster response times and potentially saving lives. This solution is essential given neighborhood road congestion issues, especially during work commutes and school start/dismissal times.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in 23 USC 133(b)(1).

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

Sincerely,



Mike Bost
Member of Congress