Hon. Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
House Appropriations Committee  
2413 RHOD  
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Kay Granger  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1026 LHOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Raccoon River East Pedestrian Bridge. They are requesting $1,000,000 in funding.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of West Des Moines. The project will be located between Raccoon River Park, 2500 Grand Avenue, West Des Moines, Iowa 50265 and Walnut Woods State Park, 3155 Walnut Woods Drive, West Des Moines, Iowa 50265

The Raccoon River East Pedestrian Bridge will connect Raccoon River Park on the north side of the Raccoon River in West Des Moines to Walnut Woods State Park on the south. Part of West Des Moines’ Five Waters Project – an initiative focused on the Raccoon River Greenway corridor – the 650-foot pedestrian bridge is all about enhancing connectivity. The physical connection between two major parks is only the starting point. The bridge will ultimately connect the existing 65-mile city trail system on the north to proposed trails and the larger regional trail system south of the river. More broadly, the bridge will provide alternate transportation opportunities for residents living, working, and playing on both sides of the river. It will also enhance the connection of people with nature via an overlook in the middle of the bridge allowing visitors to engage with the river and the natural areas along it from a different perspective.

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

Cindy Axne  
Member of Congress IA-03