April 27, 2022

Hon. Rosa DeLauro  
Chairwoman  
House Appropriations Committee  
2413 RHOB  
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 Mount Ayr Downtown Revitalization Project in fiscal year 2023. They are requesting $1,789,100 in funding.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Mount Ayr, located at 200 S Taylor St, Mount Ayr, IA 50854.

The project will include the revitalization of Mount Ayr’s downtown. This is the commercial hub for Ringgold County as well as portions of surrounding counties and needs infrastructure improvements and replacements to stay attractive to both commercial entities and their patrons. This project will focus on the main square around the county courthouse. These four blocks are made up of existing brick streets that bring a historic value to the area. That said, these streets have deteriorated greatly creating both travel and drainage challenges.

The project will respect the brick history but by use of accents and focal points at and near intersections while improving drivability and ADA adherence with new PCC streets. Bump outs at intersections and near outdoor eating establishments and the theater will provide added gathering spaces and place making opportunities. Walk improvements may also be included in the 100 block of E Madison Street as this stretch of sidewalk is noncompliant and a safety hazard. New pedestrian walks with upgraded lighting will increase visual appeal as well as walkability of the area. These improvements will hopefully drive the redevelopment of several parcels and lead to investments by existing land/business owners.

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

Cindy Axne  
Member of Congress IA-03