April 28, 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 Perry Downtown Improvements in fiscal year 2023. They are requesting $1,919,082.43 in funding. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Perry, located at 1102 Willis Avenue P.O. Box 545, Perry, IA 50220.

The City of Perry has a goal to bring about social, economic and ecological recovery and growth for its community, its residents, and its businesses. This diverse rural community of approximately 8,100 people has creative art displays throughout the community, is active in celebrating their Hispanic culture, has a great school system (including a community college), has an active recreational trail system, has continued to see job growth in the recent years and has seen natural weather disasters in the past few years. The current downtown area has seen drastic road deterioration, flooding issues, building fires, and the effects of the Derecho coming through the downtown damaging downtown buildings. The city is now taking significant steps to improve the infrastructure and beautification efforts to the entire downtown area.

This project will include a phased approach of 12 blocks of full roadway reconstruction, improvements to downtown parking areas and alleys, water quality improvement features, traffic signalization/signage, pedestrian sidewalks, and beautification efforts. This phase (Phase 1B) of this project consists of one block and one intersection of the downtown. All of the residents frequent the downtown area whether it is to enjoy the local restaurants, visit the bank, or simply to shop. The City of Perry currently has point cloud collected data on the areas identified in this project that will accelerate the overall project timeline. Using taxpayer funds on roadways will benefit the residents by improving the roads and sidewalks they are driving, walking or biking on, show community pride with the beautification efforts, and bring about new businesses creating new jobs to the community. Additionally, this project will focus on strengthening businesses that were directly impacted by the Derecho and COVID-19 Pandemic.

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

Cindy Axne  
Member of Congress IA-03