



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 25, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-305, the Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Neal Creek Bridge Replacement Preliminary Engineering and Design Project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Hood River County located at 601 State Street, Hood River, OR 97031. The funding will be used to complete preliminary design and engineering to advance replacement of Neal Creek Bridge 27C09, a deteriorated 1975 bridge critical to economic activity in the Columbia River Gorge. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because preliminary engineering and design will lead to the replacement of the Neal Creek Bridge which will improve safety, reliability, and resilience for a critical rural transportation corridor serving residents, emergency responders, agriculture, logging operations, and freight movement.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 23 USC 133.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maxine Dexter'.

Maxine Dexter, MD
Member of Congress