April 27, 2022

Dear Appropriations Committee Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting $2,150,000 in funding for the Destination Little Ethiopia program in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is Community Partners, located at 1000 N. Alameda Street, Ste. 240, Los Angeles, CA 90012.

Destination Little Ethiopia is a vision for transforming the Little Ethiopia corridor in Los Angeles, CA into an active, dynamic hub for the community, in addition to highlighting this unique and vibrant community. This project consists of two components of street improvements: signature improvements and infrastructure improvements. Signature improvements include implementing amenities such as decorative crosswalks and gateway signage. Infrastructure improvements include prioritizing safety through curb extensions, midblock crossings, and high-visibility crosswalks. This project is important for the community because it will play a key role in transforming streets along the Little Ethiopia corridor into safe, accessible, and vibrant public spaces for all.

This is an excellent use of public funds because the project seeks to address challenges related to accessibility to and within a vibrant community in Los Angeles. Vehicle traffic in and around the Little Ethiopia corridor create hazardous conditions for pedestrians. This project would add significant safety elements to the corridor while also celebrating the contributions of the Ethiopian community in Los Angeles. It will also bolster transportation options with a lower greenhouse gas emission profile, thereby contributing to the fight against climate change.

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

Sincerely,

Karen Bass
Member of Congress