April 28, 2022

Dear Appropriations Committee Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting $5,000,000 in funding for the Rail to River Active Transportation Corridor program in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, located at One Gateway Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90012. The project location runs along Slauson Avenue from Crenshaw Blvd.

The Rail to Rail/River Project will improve multimodal connectivity in historically disadvantaged communities by constructing an active transportation project along Slauson Avenue from the future Metro Crenshaw/LAX Fairview Heights Station to the Metro A Line Slauson Station. This investment in a multi-use corridor for bicyclists and pedestrians will link together three north-south transit lines in Metro’s system, increasing mobility options, enhancing access to community-identified destinations, connecting with local Metro and municipal bus services located adjacent to and within one-quarter mile of the corridor, and provide a safer path of travel for the thousands of students, residents, and commuters who are anticipated to use the Project corridor daily for a variety of trip purposes. Upon completion, approximately five miles of Class I bike path infrastructure will be in place, and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists will be significantly enhanced.

This project is an excellent use of taxpayer funds because it will improve mobility in an area with a high transit-dependent population. It will also allow for 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