

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 16, 2025

The Honorable Tom Cole  
Chair  
House Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the project named the "Fairfax County Street Tree Planting and Heat Island Reduction" in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Fairfax County Government, located at 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Va, 22035.

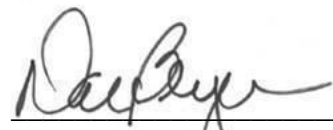
Fairfax County is launching the Street Tree Project, focusing on areas within Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) rights-of-way. The project aims to combat the heat-absorbing effects of pavement and asphalt. Priority will be given to communities and locations where the effects of urban heat islands are most prevalent. By planting new street trees, the initiative seeks to enhance greenery, improve resilience, and benefit residents in areas prone to and with lower tree canopy coverage.

Urban areas often experience higher temperatures due to the heat-absorbing properties of pavement and asphalt. By strategically planting street trees, the project aims to reduce the impact of urban heat islands, making the environment more comfortable for residents. Trees also provide shade, which not only improves the quality of life, but also contributes to the overall resilience of the area. By adding greenery to sidewalks and streets, the project helps combat extreme heat and promotes a healthier urban ecosystem. And trees play a crucial role in air quality improvement and stormwater management. By expanding the tree canopy, the project contributes to a healthier and more sustainable community.

This project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 42 U.S.C. 5305 (a)(1).

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

Sincerely,

  
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Donald S. Beyer Jr.