April 26, 2021

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Glencarlyn Park Pedestrian Bridge in fiscal year 2022. The entity to receive funding for this project is Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation, located at 3700 W Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington, VA 22206.

The funding would be used to replace an important pedestrian bridge in Glencarlyn Park in Arlington, Virginia. The previous bridge was lost during an unprecedented flooding event in July 2019.

Of the six (6) pedestrian bridges lost in the flooding event, the most important one for connectivity is the bridge in Glencarlyn Park. This bridge connects the main park area, dog exercise area and neighboring communities to the west of Four Mile Run to the Washington & Old Dominion Trail (W&OD Trail). The bridge connection is important as both a commuter connection and for recreation and leisure walks on the W&OD Trail.

Bridge replacement is not a quick process – there are federal, state and local regulatory procedures that must be followed and completed as part of the design. The County’s streams and waterways are rigorously protected by federal and local laws aimed at protecting the Chesapeake Bay watershed. County projects are required to meet these standards without exception; therefore, the time required to develop approved drawings can be lengthy. In addition, each bridge is fabricated to fit the specific dimensions of the site, and repair or replacement of the adjacent section of trail may be necessary to achieve ADA compliance and repair damage caused by construction equipment.

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

Sincerely,

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress