

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 10, 2024

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

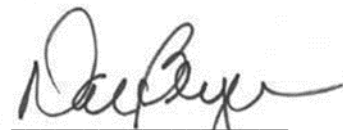
Dear Chair Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the “Roadside and Trailside Comfort Station at Gravelly Point” project in fiscal year 2025. The entity to receive funding for this project is Arlington County, located at 2100 Clarendon Blvd, Suite 302, Arlington, VA 22201. The funding will be used for design of a comfort station at the popular Gravelly Point picnic area along the George Washington Memorial Parkway, to improve the site for travel and tourism to the region.

Gravelly Point is one of the most visited areas of the parkway supported by traffic counts exceeding 330,000 vehicles per year. It is a rest area and tourism point ideally situated for access to transportation on the Mount Vernon Trail for pedestrians and bicyclists on its recreational trails, and access to views of the monuments of the National Mall in Washington D.C. and the planes taking off at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. In a recently conducted survey of trail users, this location was identified as having inadequate and substandard services such as restroom facilities and drinking fountains, which were identified as very important for visitors. Gravelly Point is currently served only by port-a-potties, and underserves thousands of weekend visitors. Individuals seek out this open space as it is adjacent to multiple transportation modes and recreational trails, serving traffic from pedestrians, bicycles, vehicles, and metro-rail riders. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would fund modern, permanent restroom facilities with bottle filling stations and a covered plaza, served by public water and sewer available via the adjacent airport, that will enhance public safety, reduce long-term maintenance, and increase visitor satisfaction for local residents visiting, tourists, and travelers to our nation’s capital. The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by 23 USC 201.

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

Sincerely,



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress