

DARIN LAHOOD

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

March 27, 2026

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
1036 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

I am requesting funding for the Lee County Highway Department Facility project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the Lee County Highway Department, located at 1629 Lee Center Rd, Amboy, IL 61310. The funding would be used for the construction of a new highway department facility.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the existing Lee County Highway Department facility has reached the end of its functional service life and no longer supports safe, simultaneous deployment during severe weather, infrastructure repair, and emergency response operations. The Department maintains 220 miles of county roadway and assists 22 townships with 967 additional miles supporting more than 250 bridges. The facility's outdated configuration and proximity to flood plain conditions limit operational efficiency and long-term resilience. The proposed new facility will modernize essential public works operations, remove critical infrastructure from environmental vulnerability, and include a centralized Emergency Management Agency resource and storage building to improve disaster logistics and equipment staging, ensuring Lee County's rural communities have the resilient operational infrastructure necessary to maintain roadway safety and coordinate effective emergency response.

This project has a federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, 7 U.S. Code section 1926(a).

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Darin LaHood".

Darin LaHood
Member of Congress

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