



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 City of Dixon Community Center project in Fiscal Year 2027. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Dixon, located at 121 West 2nd St, Dixon, IL 61021. The funding would be used to modernize and expand the functionality of Dixon's community center.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the City of Dixon Community Center serves as the primary public recreation, childcare, and youth programming facility for Dixon and the surrounding rural region, and its current layout is operationally constrained in a way that limits the community's ability to meet growing demand. Following the closure of the community's only other structured afterschool provider, youth enrollment increased by more than 50 percent in one year, and the facility cannot accommodate further expansion under its current configuration. The Community Center provides licensed childcare for more than 100 working families in the county and without reliable childcare, parents reduce working hours, exit the workforce, or relocate. Modernizing the facility will expand childcare and youth programming capacity, improve ADA accessibility, and increase access to preventative health and wellness programming in an underserved rural community.

The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is consistent with purposes authorized in 42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(2), which provides for the construction of public works, facilities, and site or other improvements.

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