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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515-0915

May 1, 2025

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

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SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Environment Subcommittee Chairman

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Berman Road Improvement Project in fiscal year 2026. The entity to receive funding for this project is Okeechobee County, located at 304 NW 2nd Street, Okeechobee, Florida 34972. The funding would be used to restore, resurface, rehabilitate, and reconstruct approximately 21.67 miles of critical roadway in Okeechobee County, Florida.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because this road project is a critical component of Okeechobee's Strategic Plan and is located in two census tracts identified by the USDOT as Transportation Persistent Poverty and/or Disadvantaged Census tracts. The project has a federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by under title 23 of the United States Code. Eligible projects are described under Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code, as amended by title III of division A of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.

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

Sincerely.

C. Scott Franklin

Member of Congress