Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for the Spokane County Elder Road Reconstruction project in surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is Spokane County and the project is located at 1116 W Broadway Avenue, Spokane, WA 99260.

The funding is designated for reconstruction of a Rural Major Collector and add shoulders to the road for improved travel safety and reliability for agricultural goods and commuters in the southeast section of Spokane County.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to benefit the region as there have been several traffic incidents along Elder Road in the last 5 years. The addition of shoulders to this road way will provide emergency use to the traveling public and an added buffer to cyclists. Reconstruction of this road will improve safety and movement of agricultural goods and commuters. This is a well-traveled route used by farmers to transport agricultural goods as well as a recreational route used to access US 95, tribal casinos, and Lake Coeur d’Alene which makes this one of Spokane County’s highest priorities. Providing safer rural commutes saves money and resources on costs associated with emergency service deployment to rural areas as well as reducing costs associated with property damage.

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

Sincerely,

Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress