April 26th, 2021

Dear Chair DeFazio and Ranking Member Graves:

I am requesting funding for the Lincoln Prairie Trail Bridge Replacement Project in the surface transportation reauthorization legislation.

The project sponsor for this project is the City of Pana and the project is located where an existing Lincoln Prairie Trail bridge runs over Flat Branch Creek, Taylorville, IL 62568.

The funding is designated for the removal and replacement of the existing bridge carrying the Lincoln Prairie Trail over Flat Branch. The existing superstructure and substructure will be removed, including all decking, beams, railing, piers, and piling. A new structure will be constructed in the same location, consisting of a single span steel pedestrian structure with pile bent abutments and timber decking and railing. Minor approach grading and paving will be performed, including aggregate base course, hot mix asphalt surface course, timber approach railing, erosion control, seeding and embankment stabilization.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits. The existing structure is currently closed due its extremely deteriorated condition and danger of collapse, eliminating the trail’s only crossing of Flat Branch. Replacement of the structure will restore full functionality of the trail as a non-motorized transportation route between Pana and Taylorville and ensure the safety of the general public using the trail. The project is supported by the City of Pana, City of Taylorville, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), and the Lincoln Prairie Trails Conservancy.

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

Sincerely,

Rodney Davis
Member of Congress